

## SMAA Meeting Minutes

**Date: Wednesday 13 March 2024, 6pm at 38 Castle Street**

- 1) **Welcome and apologies** - Present – Ann, Mags, Angie, Richard (IE), Jeff, Neville  
Apologies – Christine, Deborah,
- 2) **Last minutes and matters arising**
  - Rent / plot sizes – new rent agreements have now been circulated by STC.
  - Direct Debits – These are possible with our SBS account. Mags and Jeff to meet to look into this.
  - We have rejoined Broughton Road Allotment Association
- 3) **Treasurer's report** – Jeff reported we have £1087 in the bank. This includes £300 for the small shed. We are going to buy 20 bags of compost to sell on at cost and a voluntary donation. Angie and Derek have now bought compost so this is available at the hub for cost + any donation members want to make.
- 4) **Secretary's report** – membership is steady and we currently have 32 members.
- 5) **Skipton Town Council links and feedback**
  - **Next meeting** with STC is Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April, 11.40am at the Hub. Issues to raise:
  - **Break ins** – there is concern about perimeter security and about the gates which are easy to climb over. Mags to check if we can arrange DOT marking for tools soon.
  - **This year's Tenancy Agreement** clause about tenants being responsible for ensuring that any person present in the allotment garden with or without the tenant's permission does not suffer personal injury or damage to his/her property. We think this clause has been in previous agreements but in light of the recent break ins does this make tenants responsible if anyone is injured (point m). Mags to check with NSALG re allotment tenants rights here and Jeff to raise this at the meeting
  - **Paths** – which are in poor condition and a trip risk in some places. Could we look at joint action for repairing these – ie. STC do the work but we could try to source grant funding
- 6) **Hub**
  - **Break ins** – not sure what we can do. Mags – reported to police and we have a crime number. Angie to remove anything of value, Jeff to check insurance cover if we decide not to relock shed. Jeff has now checked our Zurich hub insurance and we are covered for fire, damage and injury but not theft unless shed is locked. Derek has now repaired the gate and lock and the shed is secure.
  - **Opening for spring/summer** – we decided to start the hub rota from 1<sup>st</sup> May. Angie 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month, Ann 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat of the month, Jeff 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat of the month. This will leave some Saturdays to fill so I'll leave a rota at the hub for all to fill in what they can.
  - **Open afternoon** – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm – plans to be confirmed but this is a chance for a get together and seed swap. All welcome!!
- 7) **AOB**

Rents. STC are moving to a pay pre metre rental for plots. There was a suggestion for people to measure their plot to check if rent for 2025 – 6 is accurate  
Richard has seen the rat man at the allotments but he wasn't the usual person. We've had no reports of rats recently.

**Date and time of next meeting - Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May, 6pm at the Hub. All welcome!**