

## SMAA Meeting Minutes

**Date: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2024, 6pm at 38 Castle Street**

- 1) **Welcome and apologies** - Present – Ann, Mags, Angie, Jeff, Derek, Richard, Christine.

Apologies - Chris

- 2) **Last minutes and matters arising**

- DOT marking – still waiting for possible date from the police for this. **Mags to email Emma**
- WhtsApp – Mags to do now we've got forms back
- Corporation tax – Jeff has looked into this now. We don't need to take any action.

- 3) **Treasurer's report** – we have £1064 in the bank, including £300 for the new shed. When Christine leaves we will need a new 3<sup>rd</sup> signatory for the bank. To do when needed.

- 4) **Secretary's report** – We have 29 members including 4 new members which is good. Seed orders are due by 1/10/24 then Mags will send these up. There is a saving of 7.5% for the association if we return forms by November. This takes care of admin etc.

Member renewal date – we could change to April and run this year's membership into 18 months. But there was a question of people wanting to pay our membership at the same time as the allotment rent that can be costly. We decided to make renewal in August for now.

- 5) **Skipton Town Council links and feedback**

Jeff, Ann and Angie and Deborah from BRAA met with Emma from STC on 9/8/24. **Please see attached notes and expenditure breakdown.**

Questions arising from this meeting

- Perimeter fencing – this still isn't secure but STC are investigating what they can do.

- - Our suggestion that we could help look for grants to improve paths was due to be discussed at the Public Services council meeting on 9/9/24. **Mags to check outcome of this with Emma.**
- - Expenditure breakdown (see separate sheet) we questioned the skip cost as there hasn't been one this year.
- - water meter figures - why were these so different last year to other years. How do we know if there are leaks. Are meters registering usage when no one is using taps? **Jeff and Ann to take these questions back to Emma when they have their next meeting.**
- - what are S106 fees?
- - Parking – Dale and Mark are still hoping to be able to remove the tree stump to get more parking space. Discussion about lines to mark parking spaces. **Jeff and Ann to check progress on whether this is possible.**
- **Jeff to arrange next quarterly meeting with Emma - if anyone has any issues they want raising please let Mags know.**

- 6) **Hub**

- Rota – Cover arranged for October. 5<sup>th</sup> – Angie, 12<sup>th</sup> - Ann, 19<sup>th</sup> -Jeff, 26<sup>th</sup> to fill
- Maintenance/open afternoon Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October 1pm – all welcome. There will be refreshments!!!
- Shed – Derek has this in hand and has kindly agreed to take down the stone building which is too low and replace this with a spare shed. Thank you Derek for doing this. In terms of funding Angie has written to the council to explain the delay in getting this sorted and the change from a hut for a toilet to storage.

- 7) **AOB**

- Waterbutts – we know people have had letters saying they need to install waterbutts- including some people who have waterbutts in place. North Yorkshire CC Green Systems website has some options but they aren't very competitive compared to B and M's and Yorkshire Traders. Is this something STC could look into for tenants. And could there be a reduction in rent for those who have waterbutts. **Jeff / Ann to take to STC meeting**
- Broughton Road AGM – thanks to Richard for attending this. Their fee is still £5 and we discussed

- whether this is something we could look at too. The majority decision was that £10 is a fair amount.
- We also had a discussion about the tree policy which is now on STC website. Mags did check out what responsibility councils have with the National Allotment Association. The National Association have said that tree policies are up to local councils as there aren't any requirements by law under the Allotments Act.

### **Diary dates!!!**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 11am - 2pm - Incredible Edibles Apple Day on the Incredible Edibles plot. All welcome!!**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October 1pm – maintenance / open afternoon with refreshments – everyone is welcome!!**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 6pm – next SMAA meeting**