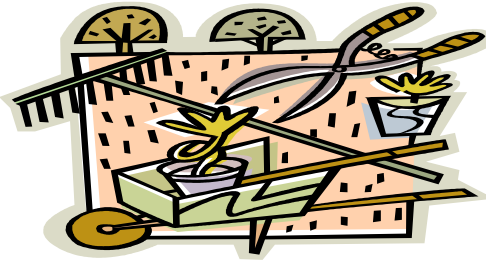


Brympton Allotment Association



BRYMPTON ALLOTTMENT ASSOCIATION – 2020/21 - CHAIRMAN's REPORT

Dear Members,

Another year for the Association has flown past and I do hope that despite the Covid-19 restrictions, you all had a very productive period. Certainly, for me, fruit production continues to be where I have had most success.

Committee. In addition to last year's (2019)AGM, your committee has met a further two times and has provided me with excellent support as we continue to manage and develop the site. I would like to publically thank them on your behalf for their efforts. At the end of this period our Treasurer, Gary Duffield, who for the past 4 years, has prudently and efficiently managed the accounts on yours and my behalf is standing down. Also standing down from the committee after 3 years in her role is Sarah Pearson. Thankfully both Gary and Sarah will continue to remain plot holders and association members. On your behalf, I would like to thank them for the sterling support they have provided.

At this year's AGM, we will have a change of Chairman, and Mick Boyce will take over as your Chairman. This was agreed at the 2019 AGM and as much as I have enjoyed my 2nd period as your Chairman, I have always been of the view that regular rotation of individuals in the Chairman and Committee roles is essential to the smooth running, management and growth of the association. I therefore look forward to handing over to Mick and on your behalf wish him well for his tenure.

More details of the make-up of the committee for 2021, will be contained in the 2020 AGM briefing notes. Suffice to say that when the music stops, we will have 2 vacant positions (members without portfolio) to fill. These are ideal posts for members who are interested in taking a more active role in the running of the Association and I would encourage you to put your names forward if interested.

Membership. We started the 2020/21 period with a number of vacant full and half plots and I am pleased to see that as we end this period we not only have all plots let but we have a very healthy 20 strong Waiting List. More information on the membership will be in the 2020 AGM briefing notes.

Finance. In terms of finance, we remain in a healthy position. This is due in part to not purchasing any additional equipment, not needing to carry out any

major repairs to any of our existing equipment and the continued supply of free woodchip. We remain on target to reduce our balance to an acceptable level as agreed at the 2018 & 2019 AGM. Further detail on this will be contained in the 2020 AGM briefing notes.

Equipment. I am pleased to say that our equipment has remained fairly reliable throughout the year. I know that having the equipment stored off site is not the ideal solution, however as each item is small enough to be transported in most types of vehicle, it is the best mitigation we have at the moment, to the risk of break-ins and theft at the site.

Site Upkeep. Although Covid-19 restrictions have limited the use of Working Parties, we have nevertheless managed to undertake two events and this has ensured that we have managed to keep the site looking relatively tidy, so thank you to those members who were able to support these events. I am also very conscious of the fact we have a small number of members who also put in a lot of time between the Working Party events to ensure that the grass areas and pathways remain tidy. I would like to publically thank them on your behalf for their efforts and as we go into the 2020/21 period, ask that you all play your part in keeping the site tidy.

Whilst we will have another programme of Working Parties for the forthcoming year, if everyone could allocate say 10 minutes of effort to the communal areas when they visit the site, then I am sure through this collective effort the site will look amazing.

The above is a very brief summary of what has been a most difficult year for us all. More detail will be found in the 2020 AGM briefing notes and as I round off this report, I would once again like to thank you all for the support you have given me this year. Support I know you will continue to give to our new Chairman Mick.

Fingers crossed for a productive 2021/2 season.

Andy

A J Dustan

Chairman [outgoing] Brympton Allotment Association