BRAG A.G.M. 19 May 2019 minutes

1. Apologies for Absence – John Doig, Dick Elms, Tom Frenkiel, Evie Goldie, Gareth Johns, Erica McCormick, Ravi de Mel, Genia Moccia, Sylvia Shaw
2. Approval of minutes A.G.M. 2018 – approved
3. To receive annual report 2019/20 – circulated by e-mail to members.
4. To receive the Accounts – also sent by e-mail. Nick Mackley, treasurer summarized the annual accounts informing members the net income was about £2600 and that a contingency of nearly £10,000 has been built up.
5. To appoint an independent examiner of accounts – Derek Dishman was approved as per last year.
6. To accept retirement of the committee members- accepted.
7. To elect committee members for 2019/20 – no new nominations were received; all the existing committee was re-elected although with Nick Mackley continuing in a co-opting role due to the 6 year rule.
8. To approve changes to the rule book – the maximum number of poles to be reduced from 20 to 10; and per household to be reduced from 40 to 10 applying to new members only, not retrospectively – approved. A minor addition to be added regarding existing tenants wishing to swap plots of the wording “in a similar condition”
9. To give an update on the right of way through Noah’s Ark Hospice – there is little progress towards a resolution with Noah’s Ark. We have already given our views. Proposals for an alternative path (possibly to make up the unofficial rough path outside the boundaries on Council land) and gate have been made but they are unwilling to finance it. Our lease and what Noah’s Ark signed with the right of way included stands as a legal document. A suggestion that the area of high security could be restricted around Noah’s Ark was made in the A.G.M. but their attitude is inflexible.
10. Any other issues – questions were asked by members about (i) sourcing compost as the previous contractor is no longer supplying. A member said horse manure still can be obtained from Galley Lane Stables. (ii) Bonfires are found to be a nuisance to members. It was said our rule allowing one Saturday each summer month takes away 1 in 4 of the opportunities some members have to be on their plots. Also bonfires all day and in the evenings limited the time some members spent on their plots. However agreement on changes to the rules were not made – it was felt what was needed was general consideration to be shown to others. (iii) Unruly children who wander over plots have caused concern to members. Members affected by this and by bonfires were advised to tell the committee. (iv) Concern was aired that the inner gate has been left unlocked in the evenings. To try to remedy this a notice is to be put up. Members were reminded of their membership in and events organized by the Barnet Allotment Federation.

The A.G.M. was followed by a site/plot inspection and a social.

David W.