

# **Cromarty Allotments and Gardens Society**

## **Agenda of Monthly Meeting - May 15th**

**At Hugh Miller Institute, Church Street at 7.00pm**

**1. Apologies for absence:** - Jane Clunas, John Keiller. Present: Colin Dunn, Barbel Dister, Colin Miller, John Wood and Vanessa Halhead.

**2. Minutes of last meeting:** proposed by John wood, and seconded by Barbel.

**3. Membership:** several members now paid up 2013 fees. However, Colin D will email all members again to remind them that this is due

### **4. Allotments:**

#### ***Old Tennis Courts:***

- Martin MacDonald has decided not to take his part of the half 'poly' plot shared with Vanessa. This has been offered to Vanessa who has decided to take it. However, as the half-plot is considerably smaller than the other half plots along that side of the allotments she has asked if the annual fee can be reduced from £10 to £8. This was agreed.
- Risk Assessment: John Wood will finish updating last report and then a reminder will be sent out by Colin D to all plot-holders about any safety issues. A new Risk Assessment survey will be carried out on Sunday 2nd June at 2.00. All plot-holders to be invited.
- Concerns have been voiced about the slipperiness of the main path at the south edge of Iain and Rachel Robertson's plot, due to the path chippings being laid on top of polythene rather than permeable membrane. This is retaining water and several people have almost fallen here recently. Colin D asked to email Iain and Rachel to request they change this and use correct membrane material instead.
- Jeremy Price at Clunes has confirmed that the main entrance path is part of allotments grounds, NOT owned by Clunes cottage. It was therefore agreed that the area near the gate should be surfaced with membrane and chippings to prevent muddiness. Colin D suggested buying some membrane from Craig for this, if he has any spare.
- Sycamore and elder trees trimmed back by Alex successfully, and it was agreed that this has significantly improved light levels in that area. Colin D suggested giving Alex a thank-you bottle of wine.

- John Whyte has removed the pallet fencing from west edge of plot due to the excessive shade it was casting on Gill Fea's plot, and replaced it with wire.
- Barbel and Colin presented Dougie Shepherd with teapot and donations from allotmenters. Overcome and very appreciative.
- Poly-tunnel: Jeremy Price thinks his son may want to buy this. Still awaiting confirmation.

***Forsyth House Beds:*** need to organise weeding - rosebay willowherb coming up again. Cleanup proposed at 3.00 on Sunday 2nd. Colin D to email members.

***Request for interest in more plots:*** no response, other than by hearsay, so proposed that we do not pursue additional land such as the daffodil field.

**5. Courthouse Orchard:** cut and cleared by Colin D.

**6. Garden shares** - none. It was agreed that this should be removed from future agendas.

**7. Cromarty School Garden project:** No further news. It was agreed that this should be removed from future agendas.

**8. Date, time and venue for next meeting:** It was agreed that, as the allotments are now up and running and the society's task significantly reduced, future meetings should be held quarterly rather than monthly. The next meeting, our AGM will be on September 15th at the allotments. The AGM will be at 2.00, followed immediately by the general meeting. It was proposed that this should be combined with an open day/garden party when plot-holders bring food, drink, friends and family. This will also help to ensure that members can participate in the meeting and perhaps agree to become officers. Garden party at 3.00.  
\*\* Colin D to email all members 1 month before this meeting to request issues to be discussed. If these not submitted by two weeks before meeting they will not be included in the agenda.

**9. Any other business:** none.