

## **Cromarty Allotments and Gardens Society - June 18th, 2014 at 4 Barkly Street, Cromarty at 7.00pm**

**1. Apologies for absence:** - Maggie Dove, Ross Couper.

Present: Colin Dunn, Barbel Dister, John Wood, Jane Clunas.

**2. Minutes of last meeting:** proposed John Wood, seconded Barbel Dister.

### **3. Membership & Finances:**

- Reminders about membership fees have been sent out - again - but several members have not paid up, including some plot-holders. Barbel to chase up. In meantime, payments received by Colin Miller and Colin Dunn to be paid into account.

- Ewen Garratt has become a member, and has been added to the plot waiting list.

- Jane Clunas has received statement from Co-op Bank (despite no longer being treasurer) stating that we are c£63 overdrawn. Colin to check this situation with treasurer and pay in membership monies immediately to rectify this situation.

### **4. Allotments:**

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

- Elaine Hodgson has taken over Ben Leyshon's plot. Finances have been resolved.

- Concerns have been expressed about the potential of flowering dockens and thistles on some plots. Colin sent out a request about this on 7th June and was told this would be taken care of in the next few days. On the 13th he topped the dockens and thistles with a sickle to minimise risk of flowering and seed dispersal.

- Health and safety report by John Wood and Barbel Dister. Full report to follow, but all fine barring some concerns about old windows not being tied together properly. Colin to email reminder to all plot-holders about this issue.

- Colin to chase up Lycetts insurance confirmation.

- The PO poster about interest in additional plots has had no response. It was therefore decided not to pursue the idea of leasing the Daffodil Field.

#### ***Forsyth House Beds:***

- A major cleanup and replanting late Feb was organised by John Wood and Maggie Dove, with assistance by volunteers. Problem plants cleared, fruit trees and bushes planted, and lavender hedging planted. Special vote of thanks to John and Maggie.

- £125 Annual Funding agreed with Community Council for bed maintenance has not yet been taken up this year. It was agreed that this should be used for maintenance. It was flagged up that the CC has confirmed that it is unlikely that they will be able to continue this funding annually due to shortage of funds.

- Colin to email all members: if passing beds, please take 5 minutes to pull out some weeds, etc.

**5. Courthouse Orchard:** Scything by Colin in Spring successful in curbing growth of dominant annuals, allowing meadow plants to grow again this Spring. Barbel

and Colin to mulch around fruit plants/bushes using grass cuttings to keep meadow plants from encroaching on them.

**6. Date, time and venue for next meeting:** Wednesday 17th September 7.00pm at 4 Barkly Street.

**7. Any other business:**

- A roll of mesh and fence wire has gone missing from the communal shed. Colin to email round plot-holders to try to track down what's happened to it.