

Grange Lane Allotments EGM Sunday 27th February 2022 10.00am in the Ismay Room at the Scout Hut
MINUTES

Present: 34

1. Welcome from Tyrrell

Welcome and thank you for coming. May I remind you of our usual meeting ground rules: respect each other, do not interrupt, no shaming or personal attacks, phones on silent please! We would like to record the meeting to help us ensure accurate minutes – does anyone have any objections? *(There were none.)*

The committee is now working with the National Allotment Society's Legal Advisor, Tyler Harris. He is providing advice to us and ensuring that everything we do, and the processes we follow, are correct.

This is an Extraordinary General Meeting which has been set purely to elect the committee, with only three things on the agenda. This is to remind everyone that only plot holders have a vote. There can be no discussion about anything else.

On Friday Southwark advised the wearing of face masks in crowded places – face masks are provided at the back.

2. Code of Conduct – Sarah Thurman

The Code of Conduct, which was developed with guidance from the National Allotment Society, was approved in principle at the AGM on 7th November 2021 and the committee were asked to shorten and re-present it. This was done online, and the shortened version was approved by a majority of 93% of those who voted. Thank you to those who contributed towards the final version and who voted. Can we make sure by a show of hands (of plot holders) that you support this Code? *33 in favour.*

3. Election of the new committee – led by Tyrrell and Adrian Hill

The meeting voted on each person standing. This process was led by Adrian Hill, chair of CDAS. After each vote, the corresponding online vote was read out.

Tyrrell Evans standing as Co-chair	30 for, 0 against; electronic vote 49 for, 2 against Total 79 for, 2 against
Maureen Erny standing as Secretary	28 for, 0 against; electronic vote 49 for, 2 against Total 77 for, 2 against
Sarah Thurman standing as Co-chair	24 for, 0 against; electronic vote 49 for, 2 against Total 73 for, 2 against
Sarah Lyness standing as Treasurer	26 for, 0 against; electronic vote 49 for, 2 against Total 75 for, 2 against
Mark Aeron-Thomas standing as Communications Manager	27 for, 0 against; electronic vote 49 for, 2 against Total: 76 for, 2 against
Jill Panni standing as Site Manager	26 for, 0 against; electronic vote 50 for, 1 against Total: 76 for, 1 against
Sarah Knight standing as Lettings Manager	25 for, 1 against; electronic vote 50 for, 1 against Total 75 for, 2 against

Alex MacGillivray standing as

Member Without Portfolio

24 for, 0 against; electronic vote 50 for, 1 against
Total 74 for, 1 against

Frank Kunna standing as Member

Without Portfolio

25 for, 0 against; electronic vote 49 for, 2 against
Total: 74 for, 2 against.

All those standing were elected as members of the new committee.

4. Statement from new committee – Sarah Thurman

Thank you for your support and for coming along today. On behalf of the committee, I would like to make a statement to set the tone for our time in office.

We can all agree how lucky we are to have such a beautiful and peaceful place to come and grow our fruit and vegetables. Throughout the various lockdowns, this place has been a godsend. I think we all want Grange Lane to be a place of peace, tranquility and tolerance. This has not recently been the case, and the past year has been extremely difficult for many people.

Things have been said which are unhelpful and unkind and untrue. Some people have behaved unwisely or inappropriately. As a result, some feel as if they are being treated unfairly and victimised. If this is the case, then on behalf of the committee, we wish to apologise. We are all volunteers and we are not all perfect. However, we work incredibly hard, in often challenging circumstances.

Over the past year, members of the committee have also felt intimidated and verbally attacked. We are doing our best to keep Grange Lane well managed and intact for the long term. We have a duty to ensure that we are not breaching the terms of the lease with Dulwich Estate and we are mandated to manage the site on behalf of CDAS.

It is clear that we need more comprehensive operational rules and processes to do this and we have already made headway in this. We will be working on more this year to bring back for sign off at the next AGM.

We are taking all concerns and complaints seriously and acting on those that have been raised. Any such concerns should be addressed to the committee, in email or letter.

In the meantime, are asking everyone to cooperate with us on this, and to move forward in the spirit of respect and tolerance.

5. The meeting was closed