

Three Towns Growers Board Meeting

Via Zoom Tuesday 9th of February 2021 19.30

In Attendance

Board: Frank Turbet Chair FT, Gordon Cowan (NAC) GC, Mary Beveridge Secretary MB, Michael Beveridge Treasurer MB, Maria Paterson Kidd Communications MPK, Gordon McNeil GMcN, George Kidd GK, Davie Lowe DL. Members: Emma Paterson EP, Jim McCracken JM

Apologies Colin Hargreaves CH,

Item	Discussion	Action
	FT welcomed everyone	
Board vacancy	Frank welcomed KM and EP as interested in joining the Board. MB, FT happy to adopt them both to the Board; GMcN stated however that we cannot do this due to the current constitution that can only be changed at an AGM, but we can still co-op others to do specific tasks on behalf of the Board. FT to clarify this via the constitution. Email has already gone out all the members to see if there are any more interested in joining the Board. The email invited any interested members to this meeting tonight.	FT, MPK
minutes	The last Minutes were adopted as a true reflection of the meeting.	MPK DL
OSCR report	MB confirmed accounts would be going to Susan for to ratify last year's, and that she had asked for the OSCR report for this year. GMcN compiling the report although it is a full year of COVID-19 so need to be ready for the 31 st of March. If anyone has anything to add please send to GMcN 150 tomato plants given out this year, so add this to the report	MB GMcN
Minutes Outstanding actions	The previous minutes were reviewed with the outstanding actions. - FT still looking at a rework for the padlock. MB stated that there is another spare padlock with the same keys, which should help with the solution.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - padlock for container purchased. It will be changed once more keys can be cut. -GMcN to send out the non-cultivation policy to Board members. -GMcN to provide hereditary section for plot holders agreement - still need a poly tunnel starter kit list. 	
website	<p>Website to be updated. MPK to look at this to check the last newsletter and minutes have uploaded correctly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MPK to send link to website to FT 	MPK
Pathways	<p>Timber been priced for pathways approx. £250 for wood, and pallets are also being used. Board happy to go ahead with the cost for this. Should produce 12 4'x2' raised beds on legs, 4x 6' benches with backs, 8 pallet seats with backs.</p> <p>Suggestion that these could be used for local business eg to sponsor, but also for plot holders to 'adopt'.</p> <p>GK has made a folding bench prototype out of pallets and will work on more.</p>	FT GK
Big Lottery	<p>Still awaiting the update- now spoken to Eric, architect; things are going very slowly, yet there is no rush due to COVID-19 and the weather.</p> <p>GMcN been in contact with the Eric; he will produce a build report then get back to us within the next 2 weeks and look at what we will be able to build within our budget.</p> <p>MB asked if we still need to use the same spec from 2 years ago? Discussion about the possibility of a bespoke large 'garden room' or a kit build.</p> <p>This will be explored when the architect come back but regardless the foundations will need to be put down.</p> <p>FT looking into log cabins, bespoke buildings, Asked that others do the same.</p>	GMcN
Development worker	<p>No change. FT thanked all involved for the work that has been done so far.</p> <p>Gordon McNeil has produced 16 docs. An Induction pack is also been produced. These will also be sent to GC for North Ayrshire Council to review.</p> <p>We will also need to include PVG in the job advert.</p>	GMcN to continue with this subgroup with MB.
Plot subgroup	<p>Update on non-paid: 1 plot ,4 indoor beds and out 9 door beds.</p> <p>Can allocate 1 plot and 1&12 beds</p>	

	<p>GC asked how many on waiting list: approx. 28 for plots; he asked if ok to use this information in a wider NAC consultation aimed at possibly new allotment sites eg in Stevenston. All agreed.</p> <p>Discussion around how 3TG was always seen as an umbrella organisation with the aim of having different sites within the 3 Towns . Lots of interest in land to be used for food production in the area.</p> <p>Plot inspections discussed. One has already been completed in December, with the next one likely in May. It is not acceptable that we have several non -productive plots on site, but 28 names on the waiting list. More action on this is required.</p>	
Newsletter	<p>Plot of the year. No plot fees for following year as prize</p> <p>FT also put forward other suggestions for plot competitions</p> <p>Growing tips from Davy King and Jimmy Wilson</p>	FT
communication	JMcC raised the point that he is not getting all communications. Thought needed on how to reach everyone with important information..	MPK
PB	Participatory budget application for upgrade of pathways via NAC. If our application passes the initial stage then it will compete with the others via a voting procedure which is open to all.	FT has completed and submitted a funding application
Small polytunnel	Need to get this finished and up and running asap.	
	Next meeting Tuesday 19.30, 23rd of February 2021	