**MINUTES of FAA AGM 28/03/2024**

**AGENDA**

* **Apologies**
* **Minutes of Previous meeting.**
* **Chairman's Report**
* **Treasurer's Report**
* **Election of officers and committee (one vacancy)**
* **AOB**
* **Cheese & Wine**
* **Raffle - Table quiz**

Nev opened the 2024 FAA AGM and thanked our Mayor Seamus Bennett for his attendance.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Three apologies were notified to the Chairman.

1. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Previous minutes were accepted, proposed by Guy Pearce and seconded by Trevor Mason.

1. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

This was one of the best years crop wise, especially considering fruit yields but noted it had been very wet.

We had a visit from Capel Allotments and the FAA subsequently visited their site. One of the outcomes of this exercise was a joint potato order the result of Horticultural Supplies having closed down, a joint 247 bag order was placed supplying all our needs and providing spare for the shop.

School visits from Fairfield and Kingsfleet were hosted by Guy, Rosemary, Robin and Anita. Langer has requested help with growing and will be included in future visits.

The OFCA Fair will be held on 8th June and donations of produce including flowers will be greatly appreciated.

We lost our Compost supplier and had initially found a solution via Goslings Farm Shop which unfortunately closed down leaving us to find a further supplier. We are now dealing with Walnes seeds based in Earl Soham who will deliver pallets to Hut 39 with bags priced at £6.50.

Road repairs to tracks are an ongoing problem which has required working parties to fill potholes, this will be repeated as we move into spring. We have implemented a one way system at Cowpasture which is working well.

The fence alongside Hut 39 has been replaced.

Looking at events, 17 people attended a fish and chip meal at the Golf Club, Saturday Coffee and Cake events were held at Hut 39, a BBQ was held in September and the Hut is regularly open for Tea and Coffee in the week.

The NFGN “North Felixstowe Garden Neighbourhood” consultation period is now in process. Cow Pasture allotments are understood to be safe from developers. The FAA will be inputting to the process and people are encouraged to participate. The proceed goes through into August ready for a planning period from September.

Felixstowe Town Council have produced a 4 year business plan which is out for consultation which includes provision for a community Garden.

The “Field to Fork” growing initiative is underway and after registering it is possible to collect growing kits from the Library, these include seeds and compost growing cells.

1. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Accounts were circulated in advance of the AGM.

Guy reported that 2023 was a good year for the FAA.

Shop items saw a price increase based on increased stock prices, FAA membership has increased and subscription price is being held.

Profit from Kings seeds have dropped out of the accounts as a result of members buying direct from their online shop.

The SumUp payment system is now fully operational and has improved operations.

Monies have been spent on site improvements and the provision of toilets at Cow Pasture and Ferry Road.

Guy pointed out the value of people inputting to the NFGN consultation period and made members aware of the availability of bean poles and pea sticks from Abbey Grove. This was further supported by Mayor Seamus Bennett and additionally suggested that FAA reply back to FTC and ESC as regard consultation on NFGN and the draft FTC business plan.

Guy will be standing down as treasurer after 12 years, thanks were extended to Guy on behalf of the members. Nev presented Guy with a gift, Guy becomes an honorary member of the FAA and is co-opted back onto the FAA Committee.

Thanks are extended to Hugh May for help in generating the accounts and to Keith Horn who performed the role for eight years previous to this, we currently have about £16K in the deposit account.

1. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE (one vacancy)**

**Chairman** - Nev Farthing - (Ken Emery took the chair for the vote).

Proposed, Ken Emery

Seconded, Douglas Cotton

**Treasurer (Vacancy)** - Nominated Paul Weavers

Proposed, Dave Claydon

Seconded, Guy Pearce

**Secretary** - Steve Brewer

Proposed, Graham Bragg

Seconded, Ken Emery

**Balance of Committee**

Ray Martin

Keith Horn

John Austin

Claire Smith

Claire Mackinder

Peter Constable

Proposed, Ian Cobb

Seconded, Angela Pratt

The Committee as above was agreed and will be in place until the 2025 AGM.

**6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Nothing raised by those present.

A vote of thanks was held on behalf of Nev and Claire and Sarah were thanked for managing the FAA Facebook site which now has 100 members out of the 318 FAA members.

Nev closed the 2024 AGM by thanking the attendees.

The AGM was followed by Cheese and Wine together with a table top quiz devised and run by Angela Pratt. A raffle was also held.

**The next AGM will be March 2025.**