



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Sir John Stirling Maxwell Gardens on 14 May 2023 @ 2pm at Bankhead, 2060 Pollokshaws Road G43 1AT

All agenda items as issued two weeks previously were presented via projector screen.

Attendance:

Eric Brunger; Helen McNamara; Scott Ramsay; William Chambers; Ann Clingan; Patsy Thomas; Martin Whelan; Michelle Jamieson; Andy Wright; Anna McGinley-Wright; James Ross; David Baldie; Karen Donnelly; Christine MacMillan; Sue Bennison; John Phillips; Maria McCalmont; Brian McCalmont; James Tait; Linda Fleming; Janette Arneil; Ross Mackay; Absolom Chavula; Anna Gibbons; David Corish; Ann Armstrong; David Orr; Lucy Eskell; Tommy Lavelle; Dinah Robertson; Liz Gibson; Julie Duncan; Isabel Irving; John Doherty; Patricia de Vries; Barry Stansfield; Angela Watson; Isla Scott; Janey Armstrong; Solo Shariff-Hickey; Margot MacLellan; Bruce Corlett; Nick Sims

Chair: Opening Remarks

Eric Brunger in the Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting, remarking upon its significance in relation to ratifying our Constitution and other matters to be decided upon, in light of the current issues facing Council-run allotments where, by contrast, we are in the fortunate position of being able to determine our own rules and governance.

Minutes of the 2022 AGM

These were approved. Michelle Jamieson proposed and William Chambers seconded

Secretary's Annual Report

Helen McNamara presented the report in slide form, summarised as follows:

- In 2022/23, a total of 20 plots changed hands plus Plot 3 was cleared for the accessible plot
- 3 full skips were ordered and 4 council waste cages were filled
- Purchases included 6 new wheelbarrows, padlock for lane boom gate, additional bait boxes, privacy screens and new CCTV system
- Bulk ordering of compost and scaffold boards and regular deliveries of bark took place
- Trees and hedges in the lane and at the cottages were trimmed; water tank signs were repainted and the redundant shipping container was removed and disposed of by an outside contractor
- The gazebo was completed, with balustrade and furniture in place for everyone's use
- The pavilion and kitchen were deep cleaned, the front door and toilets were painted, and the pavilion opened up for members' use
- The pavilion was hired out for SWAA yoga classes and the GAF online shop hub
- An exhibition was held of 1960s-90s donated archives
- An EICR report was undertaken and electrical upgrade with new consumer unit and outside wiring carried out, plus appliances all PAT tested
- Open Day on 20th August had £5k in takings, 741 adult visitors, and gate money of £712

donated to local food banks. This success was all made possible by the overwhelming generosity of members and their families contributing to stall donations and helping out on the day

- Outside Judging Awards took place for Best Plot/Best Runner Up/Best Newcomer/Best Progress/Best Greenhouse and Best Sweetcorn
- Inside Judging took place for Best Shed/Best Senior Member's Plot/Best Scarecrow
- Halloween Event in October was a great success, great organisation by the team, well attended by members, friends and families with £66 in funds raised and home baking donated
- GCC Let's Grow Fund application for £5k to reduce the waiting list by providing a Polycrub and raised beds was unsuccessful. Thanks to all members who met to contribute to the application
- GCVS Health and Wellbeing Fund for £4k for SJSW Women's Outdoor Wellbeing Workshops was successful. Workshops and facilitators to be arranged following consultation with women members
- Plot 3: £500 (GAF grant) & filming donation of £300 were spent on 2 Vegtrugs, separating the plots into 3A and 3B with a fence, laying slabs to widen access path and compost for Vegtrugs. Response from enquiry to waiting list people to identify accessible requirements has been positive with interviewing to follow. Plot 3B has been let to a local Ukrainian family who have extensive cultivation and growing experience back in Kyiv, and had requested a plot while in the UK fleeing the war in Ukraine
- Issues:
 - Planning ahead for skips and communication can be improved
 - Defibrillator not purchased as cost would be £1.5k - £2k
 - Plot 1A extension causing issue with deliveries

Agreed:

- **2 skips per year scheduled for April/May and September/October. Notice to be communicated to members in advance**
- **Not to buy a defibrillator but to investigate nearby provision in case of emergency**
- **Remove the fixed elements at 1A extension, eg fence, pergola, and reinstate at original line of plot 1**

Treasurer's Annual Report

Scott Ramsay presented the Annual Financial Report, which was approved.

Auditors' Report

The Chair delivered the Annual Auditors' Report as submitted by auditors Julie E. Duncan and Lesley Blair, and confirmed that the accounts were found to be accurate and that the Treasurer had provided a comprehensive and logical set of accounts. While impressed with the thorough and diligent bookkeeping, the auditors recommended that in future there should be a set schedule of payment for cleaning and a facility for payment for online goods to avoid members' own bank accounts being used then later being reimbursed. This report and recommendations were approved.

Motions:

SJSW Constitution 2023

The final version of the Draft Constitution was presented for ratification by Scott Ramsay, following 5 previous rounds of amendments with opportunity for input from all members. Minor changes were agreed around the wording and order of 7 & 8 (voting, i.e. a plot does not vote, a Leaseholder or

Associate Member votes), 23 (vote to remove the office of Vice Chair carried by 21 votes to 8), 44 (members have right to raise additional relevant business under AOB to be added).

The motion to ratify and adopt the Constitution in this final form with the above changes was carried unanimously.

Plot Inspections Standardised Process

The proposal to standardise plot inspections in terms of headings, communicating the process for inspections, mitigation, timescales for improvement and, as a last resort, termination. The proposed format for communication with individual members four times per year by email or letter was shown. Going forward all communication of results to be in writing (i.e. not by phone or in person). Opportunity for discussion will be at scheduled meetings with Committee representatives from the Plot Inspection Sub Committee, times to be arranged by mutual agreement.

The motion was carried unanimously.

SJSM Rules & Regulations 2023

The Draft changes and updates to the 2022 version of Rules and Regulations were discussed and unanimously agreed, with the following changes:

- where members are unable to prune or trim trees because of double fencing belonging to the park to be taken into account and overseen by the Association
- a gate is only required if a member regularly brings a dog to their plot

Plot 97 Apiary: proposed by Secretary/Plot 102 for approval

The motion was discussed, with members reassured in terms of any swarming, how bees fly in a trajectory over a screen, and how this is controlled. The proposal was carried unanimously.

AOCB

- Open Day confirmed as Saturday 19 August 2023
- Reminder for teams to support charity Quiz Night being organised by Janey Armstrong
- Solar panels to be investigated to reduce energy costs in pavilion
- Phasing out the use of weedkiller to be investigated
- Park manager to be contacted to cut back additional trees at Bankhead Cottages
- Lines at turning circle to be measured out and painted by Scott Ramsay

Election of Committee, Auditors and Groundskeeper 2023-2025

The present Committee stood down and left the top table. Nick Sims (Plot 48) took the position of Temporary Chair at the top table to oversee the 2023 Elections.

Members who had each communicated their nomination for election in writing, including proposers and seconders, were each proposed in turn and all were uncontested and duly elected.

Summary as follows:

| Nominee (plot #) | Position | Proposer (plot #) | Seconder (plot #) |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Eric Brunger (31) | Chair | Helen McNamara (72) | Sue Bennison (90) |
| Helen McNamara (72) | Secretary | Dinah Robertson (52) | Susan Gallagher (98) |
| Liz Gibson (18) | Treasurer | Julie E Duncan (42) | Isabel Irving (44) |
| John Doherty (78) | Committee member | Margo McLellan (81) | David Corish (14) |
| Alan Ferry (30) | Committee member | Hugh Long (29) | Colin Fullerton (1) |
| Janey Armstrong (19) | Committee member | Scott Ramsay (38) | Maria McCalmont (20) |
| Thirza Mara (117) | Committee member | Helen McNamara (72) | Michelle Jamieson (121) |
| Michelle Jamieson (121) | Committee member | Tommy Lavelle (62) | Rebecca Anderson (122) |
| Tommy Lavelle (62) | Committee member | Michelle Jamieson (121) | Scott Ramsay (38) |
| Patricia de Vries (120) | Auditor | Donna Bisland (12) | Donna Sloan (22) |
| Lesley Blair (53) | Auditor | Jan Allen (50) | Stella Watson (76) |
| Ann Armstrong (15) | Groundskeeper | Helen McNamara (72) | Muzi Ngwenya (64) |

Vote of Thanks

A vote of thanks to the outgoing Committee was given.