

31 January 2019

Dear Whitemoor Gardenholders

At the AGM on 27 February, we will be providing information about the intention of the current management committee to change our form of association from an unincorporated trustee association to a Co-operative Society – this is an incorporated form of organization, a more modern form of the Industrial and Provident Society, regulated by a 2014 Act of Parliament. It is an important decision for us all, and therefore in advance of the AGM we are sending you some information so that you are prepared for this discussion item on the agenda, and also so that you can submit questions in advance if you would like to.

We've prepared two documents for you to look at, and they are attached to this email/enclosed in this letter.

1. Information, set out in the form of 'Frequently Asked Questions', on the reasons why we have decided we need to propose a change, and what led us to propose the Co-operative Society. We also tackle the question of what the new lease has to do with our form of organization. Please start by reading this document – we hope you'll find it helpful.
2. A draft set of sample 'rules' (another word for constitution) for a Co-operative Society. You are not going to be asked to adopt or approve these rules – they are just a sample and a number of important aspects as well as smaller details are not finalized. This set of example rules is to show you what kind of rules we would need, so that you get a sense of what would be involved in becoming a Co-operative Society.

Please read these two documents and have a think about the issues. If you have any questions you are welcome to email them to whitemoorsecretary@gmail.com in advance of the meeting and we will do our best to provide answers at the AGM. You will also be invited to ask questions at the AGM; they don't need to be submitted in advance.

The view of the current management committee is that this issue will be put to a vote at a Special General Meeting (SGM) later this year. At this SGM you will be asked to vote on the establishment of a new Co-operative Society and an appropriate set of rules.

Thank you for reading this email as well as the attached documents.

Best wishes,

Rachel Palfreyman, on behalf of the Legal Sub-Group of the Whitemoor management committee