



Bishop's Waltham Gardening Club

BISHOP'S WALTHAM GARDENING CLUB Minutes of meeting held on 19 February 2024 7.30 at 16 Mallard Close

Present: Anthea Mabey (AM), Gill Hamill (GH), Kate Cassell (KC), Larry Mabey (LM), Linda Haysom (LH), Liz McClymont (LMc), Nicole Jones (NJ), Ron Haysom (RH)

1. Apologies. Dave Bennett, Maewyn Cumming

2. Minutes of previous meeting. The minutes were confirmed.

3. Actions. The actions list was updated.

4. Finance. The current balance is £20,364.33. There has been more expenditure again this month, allotment fencing and gate installation have been paid.

The draft risk assessment tool LH had developed has been carried forward to next meeting.

ACTION: All Trustees asked to comment on the risk assessment tool by email before next meeting.

ACTION: LH, DB and KC to develop a budget for the remainder of the financial year, carried forward to next month.

ACTION: LH to do an analysis of Income and expenditure to make clearer and easier for all to understand

5. Membership. No new members have sent in their forms yet.

ACTION AM to update database when new members forms received.

6. Trading. February sales started very well but bad weather slowed sales down. Concern that customers will purchase elsewhere.

The card reader has been well received but the signal is unreliable. Instructions have been sent from SumUp on how to improve and will be sent to all trustees.

ACTION: LH to forward instructions to all trustees.

Men's Shed have repaired trolley and have been invited to use this to sell their goods.

ACTION: LM to contact and remind them

7. Allotments. There have been several new requests for plots and there is now a healthy waiting list of 18 people. We were very sorry to hear that one plot holder has had to give up due to ill health.

As we now have a waiting list, plot holders who do not cultivate their plots satisfactorily will be given warnings and not invited to renew in September.

8. Allotments maintenance

Oak tree growing over plot number 53A, making part of it unusable. Will reduce rent accordingly.

Note to all trustees to not open shutter by kitchen door as hinge is broken.

ACTION: LM to fix asap

Community payback have repaired raised bed and tidied up large stones on top track.

Mowers were all ready for opening day February 3rd but it rained on Friday 2nd overnight and it has been too wet since then. Need to rationalize mower numbers and set budget for repairs to mowers.

ACTION: LH, KC and DB to set budget.

J Tosdevine asked to quote for cutting back trees on bottom hedge but now too late to do this as delay in getting back to us by PC

Still waiting for Clancy to do remedial work on top field – WCC asked to approve work under TPOs by PC, although it was already OK'd by arboriculturist.

ACTION: LM to chase Kathy of the Parish Council for an update on the track work.

Fencing and gates now installed on top field and look good. Quite a few requests to LMc for gate code from plot holders.

ACTION: LMc to send out code again

ACTION: DB to chase up PC to ensure cost of gates for lower field is included in their budget.

9. Monthly programme.

NJ will take charge of the next monthly meeting as AL has resigned as a trustee. Some confusion as to who has details of speaker, refreshments etc.

ACTION: NJ to contact Gill Cooper for information. LMc to find out who has details of speakers for monthly meetings.

October social evening discussed at length, but no vote was taken. Three options were discussed:

a) Outside catering – expensive and cost of tickets would have to be increased or subsidised by club.

b] Fish and chips in boxes – may not be suitable for some members, plastic waste not good.

c] Ploughman's platters – too much work for trustees, need food hygiene certificates.

All agreed that it was not acceptable for trustees to have to do all the work and option c) was dismissed.

ACTION: Take final decision next month when DB, MC are present.

10. Social programme. Ten tickets for the excursion to Holme for Gardens on 21 May remain.

ACTION: LMc to advertise in monthly update email

11. Communications.

LMc. Posted pictures of Library event on Facebook and received good comments.

12 Charity work.

'Green and thrifty' event at library was well attended. LM and RH did both sessions and were pleased with response. Hopefully, some children will be motivated to enter annual show.

RH needs authorisation to buy snowdrops and winter wash for orchard, budget of £50 was discussed.

Student sponsorship was paid this quarter.

13. Other business.

- Bishop's Waltham in Bloom asked for donation. Agreed to sponsor a planter for £70 rather than a hanging basket, as it will show our name and be more visible as charity giving.
- Request to ask our members to enter their gardens for 'Hidden Garden's 'event was discussed, but decided not to proceed. **ACTION: LH to advise BWIB**
- Supplies for toilet to be purchased by LMc, AM will purchase for kitchen.
- Signs for BWGC Annual show to be put up by Pearsons – need minimum of 15, **ACTION LMC to ask for more volunteers in monthly update email.**
- Thanks were received from Sue and Chris Curtis and Gill Cooper for their cards.
- Robin Breach has volunteered to become a trustee again. To liaise with LMc regarding roles and responsibilities.
- Gill Williams has also volunteered to become a trustee, to come along to the next meeting.

Meeting finished at 9.34pm

Next meeting 18th March 7.30pm at the Shed

ACTIONS ARISING

All Trustees asked to comment on the risk assessment tool by email before next meeting.

DB to chase up PC to ensure cost of gates for lower field is included in their budget,

DB, LH and KC to develop a budget for next financial year.

LH to do an analysis of Income and expenditure to make clearer and easier for all to understand.

LH to advise BWIB that we will sponsor planter.

LH to advise BWIB that we would not ask our members to take part in 'Hidden Gardens'

LM to chase Kathy again for an update on the track work Clancy are going to carry out.

LM to ask Men's shed to put their products on trolley for sale in shed.

LM to fix shutter hinge at shed.

LMc to send out monthly update – code for gates, tickets still available for coach trip, volunteers to have Pearson sign for BWGC Annual show.

LMc to liaise with RB re roles and responsibilities.

LMc to find out who has details of speakers for monthly meetings. Annie Lowe? Or has MC got them?

NJ to contact Gill Cooper for information on supplies for monthly meetings.