

BISHOP'S WALTHAM GARDENING CLUB
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 16th August 2021 7.30pm BY ZOOM VIDEO

Present: Sue Curtis (SC), Chris Curtis (CC), Gill Hamill (GH), Annie Lowe (AL), Anthea Mabey (AM), Larry Mabey (LM), Nicole Jones (NJ), William Heaps (WH), Liz McClymont (LMc)

Visitor: Kate Cassell

Chaired by AL in absence of GC

1. **Apologies:** Gill Cooper (GC), Tim Gover (TG)
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** Approved and signed
3. **Matters arising not on the Agenda:**
 1. Trustee role documents – SC awaiting 2 more from LMc and AL
 2. Sponsorship money – no application yet received
 3. St Peter's Country Fayre 25/09/21. Confirmed participation, **SC** will purchase bulbs. 3 members offered pots / assistance + GC, NJ and TG can help at stall in morning.
 4. Show – note of thanks from Ann Magrath.
4. **Correspondence:**

Request from Infant School parent for help to revive a pond in school grounds. **SC** to respond
5. **Finance:**

CC – Bank a/c's balance currently £20956 . CC will transfer some money from Trading to Charity account. Show cost approx. £25 - £30
6. **Membership:**

CC – 319 members.
2021-2022 membership form revised ready for distribution early September. **CC** to pass some copies to AM for new allotment holders.
7. **Trading:** July sales £134. Assume TG will order potatoes, onions and manure.
Seeds – **SC** to contact Robin Breach re Suttons Seeds as they have been taken over and discount scheme may lapse. Kings Seeds and DT Brown give discounts to Clubs..
8. **Newsletter / Publicity:**

AL – creating articles for Parish News/ newsletter. **LMc** will send monthly email update when has all information.
9. **Monthly programme:** NJ – 22nd September speaker booked – Zoom
10. **Allotments:**

LM-

 1. Sewage leaks – met with MTS and S Water on Thurs. 29/07/21 for camera investigation and jet cleaning of pipe under SINC. Pipe cleared, operatives thought possible root ingress and may need to investigate from other end if recurs.
 2. In view of 1. above installation of non-return valve in pipe to toilet to prevent future up-surge of waste through floor drain on hold.

3. Scalpings in driveway proving effective and agreed to have bulk delivery to treat lower driveway at cost of £265 for 9 ton load.-**LM** to arrange plus working party in September.
4. Parking area on bottom field – LM has obtained some costs - 75mm of scalpings over area would cost approx. £3500. Plastic mesh system would cost approx. £3800. SC met with Parish Clerk re parking area on football area and she said she will pursue with Council and Crest Nicholson. **SC** will email for up-date
5. SC reported that Parish Clerk said cycleway / footpath along top of top field will be last section of cycleway/footpath to be installed as negotiating with adjoining landholders In Albany Drive. However, is aware that fencing style will need to be agreed with Crest Nicholson earlier.
6. SC reported communication with S Water / Planning over capacity of pipe – awaiting more responses. **SC** will contact again
5. Manhole repair now completed.

AM -

1. Allotment Tenancy Agreement – proposed new Agreement and Notes discussed and following amendments agreed:

- extension of animals clause– agreed to add 'including dogs'
- extension of glass prohibition clause. Agreed 'only safety glass is acceptable'
- notes to commence with 'Welcome'

LMc – requested that use of BBQs be included as are currently allowed. Agreed that as BBQs can be prohibited at any time (as last summer) due to dry weather fire risk that they should not be included but treated in the same way as opening / closing driveways/ use of hoses etc..

However it was agreed to add to Point 2. of General Conditions: 'Every tenant has the overriding right to the peaceful enjoyment of their allotment plot at all times, free from noise, nuisance and smoke'.

11. Allotments Roadway/Path/ Fencing Construction:

- 1.SC – no start date yet from Crest Nicholson– **SC** will contact again.
2. Fencing options consultation with allotment holders – LMc – 40% response with preference for 1.8m deer fencing. **LMc** to send data to SC who can present to Parish Council.

12. Social Programme:

Social Evening on 15/10/21. Jubilee Hall reserved, speaker can do Zoom if have to cancel venue due to Covid. **SC** – no firm guidelines from Jubilee Hall, will ask for cost.

Agreed to go ahead with social evening even if have to restrict numbers and make a small loss as need to draw members together again.

Speaker in Benjamin Pope from West Dean Gardens, will Zoom if have to cancel.

Catering – need to contact Sandy Hutchings and Vanessa Emmerson who have volunteered to help in past - **GC**

13. Health & Safety:

TG been told by neighbour that there is a dead deer on plot. **AL** to check for disposal

14. Community Orchard / Butterfly Garden: No issues.

15. AOB:

- 1.AM – enquired re resumption of provision of tea / coffee at Shed -agreed OK if bring own cup or buy disposable one.

21.10 Meeting Closed; Next Meeting Monday 20th September 2021. Location to be decided.

Actions agreed at this/previous meetings to carry forward: None