

**BISHOP'S WALTHAM GARDENING CLUB**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021 7.30pm by Zoom**

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

1. **Apologies:** Kate Cassell (KC), Liz McClymont (LMc)
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** Approved and signed
3. **Matters arising not on the Agenda:** None
4. **Correspondence:**
  1. SC – correspondence between Southern Water and Parish Council re survey of possible routing of pipeline from Havant to Otterbourne across allotments – no indication of likely dates. AM – has seen 4 SW representatives at allotments looking at site re new pipe /sewer across SINC?
  2. LMc – asking for all meetings to be on Zoom as not happy with unventilated / unmasked meetings at Shed. GC – says we will review and act as necessary and be sensible for each occasion.
  3. CC – contacted by Avoen Perryman of Fareham Western Wards who has a BW allotment re acquiring CIO status and our H&S policy – CC has responded to former and Trustees agreed would share latter with him once finalised.
5. **Finance:**

CC – Bank a/c's balance currently £23424 with £115 of bills outstanding.

  1. School charged for 2 hours only for November @£45
  2. WH now a signatory on bank account
  3. GC – asked to check Social Evening profit at £288, CC confirmed correct. Largely due to very reasonable cost of food.
6. **Membership:**

CC – Currently 295 members – 51 left, 27 new. 162 / 166 plots fully paid.
7. **Trustee Roles:**

Discussed Publicity role and range of it.  
SC would like to change from Secretary to Membership as soon as a replacement can be found once allotment roadway and sewer dealt with.  
GC happy to organise social events with assistance from NJ
8. **Trading:** LM
  1. Doors now padlocked.
  2. All Feb stock in or ordered
  3. Proposes to keep customers out of main area of shop by use of drop-leaf counter extending across from table and turn internal door into a stable door so can communicate with people having drinks etc. No issue for security. Discussion re donation of kitchen cupboards (AL) and complete new wooden table / flap and storage area (SC). Trustees agreed to go ahead with changes as long as Shed still a suitable space for social events and plant sales.

4. Feb 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> – AM and LM will cover Shed. **GH** to send out request via **LMc** for previous volunteers to re-commit and new volunteers to come forward. Responses via website email. Trustees to send in availability direct to GH – **ALL**
5. LM wants to keep prices low and increase income by increasing footfall in shop by advertising and competing with nursery / DIY prices. Will put together an operations schedule for shopworkers who should be smiley and welcoming! Issue of selling to non-members – **SC/CC** to check legality.

**9. Newsletter / Publicity:**

AL concerned about AGM notification to members if held in person.

**10. AGM:**

Booked for 26<sup>th</sup> January at school hall, AGM plus quiz devised by AL.

CC – suggest assume going ahead on 26/01/2022 but devise alternative contingency plans:

a) Zoom on 26<sup>th</sup> Jan. – more difficult and very short meeting required!

b) Postpone in January and re-arrange for April with speaker

Preference for face-to-face in January or April. If not face-to-face in April then Zoom in April.

Next Trustee Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> January for decision.

Trustees nomination slips **SC** will send out in January if needed.

**GC** to get report to **SC/CC** in next couple of days for compilation of papers to send out on 5<sup>th</sup> January. - **LMc**

**11. Monthly programme:**

February meeting to change to w/c 16<sup>th</sup> February as hall not available in half term. **LMc** to publicise.

**NJ** to check whether 2022 speakers can Zoom – if go back to Zoom will need annual or monthly Zoom licence (**CC**)

**12. Allotments:**

**AM** – waiting list variable, about 10. 3 vacant plots to be allocated.

Craig Whitlock of HIWWT will send list of actions to improve wildlife in New Year

Maintenance – nothing to report.

**13. Allotments Roadway/Path/ Fencing Construction:**

SC – CN say work likely to start on w/c 17<sup>th</sup> January, confirmation by build team. Information received 16<sup>th</sup> December = 1 month. **SC** to contact in w/c 4<sup>th</sup> January re order of work

**14. Social Programme:**

GC considering possible outing to Aston Gardens Pottery, Oxon. Maybe use cars and BW minibus?

SC – booked Jubilee hall for 2022 Social Evening but no response

**15. Health & Safety**

WH - draft policy circulated is an amalgam of advice and other groups' policies – it is what we say we will do, not how we will do it. WH has ideas of how to arrange risk / hazard assessments for Trustee approval in January and conduct before February opening of Shed. To cover Shed, public areas, meetings, allotments.

LMc – raised infection control – WH said would be in action methods

GC – raised training for use of equipment – WH agreed needed for working parties organised by Club but not for allotment holders using our equipment.  
Cherry tree over path from allotment 99 – **AL** will notify holder in March which is better time to prune.

**16. Community Orchard / Butterfly Garden:**

No report

Butterfly Garden – North Pond group sign not yet erected. SC wrote to Countryside Services with our objections but no reply received.

**17. AOB: None**

**Meeting Closed; 21.05**

**Next Meeting: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at The Shed (unless notified otherwise)**

**Actions agreed at this/previous meetings to carry forward:**