

**BISHOP'S WALTHAM GARDENING CLUB**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 7.30pm by Zoom**

**Present:** Chris Curtis (CC), Gill Hamill (GH), Anthea Mabey (AM), Larry Mabey (LM), Nicole Jones (NJ), Gill Cooper (GC), Sue Curtis (SC), William Heaps (WH), Kate Cassell (KC), Liz McClymont (LMc)

1. **Apologies:** Annie Lowe (AL)
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** Approved and signed
3. **Matters arising not on the Agenda:** None
4. **Correspondence:**
  1. SC – RHS renewal / PL and Shed insurance. Insurance now direct from supplier but need RHS affiliated membership to access good premium – application sent, await certificate and invoice
5. **Finance:**

CC – Bank a/c's balance currently £23312 with £220 insurance outstanding.
6. **Membership:**

CC – Currently 301 members . 165 / 167 plots fully paid.
7. **Trading:** LM
  1. Shop ready to open for 5/6 Feb. Stock delivery expected soon.
  2. Selling to non-members – SC checked with National Allotment Association even though we are not members – advice is not to do it, or to make them 'Shop members' @ £1 per year. Have to be aware of legal position of allotments. LM to assess how many such people there are.
  3. CC – trading turnover cannot be in excess of £8000 or taxable.
  4. Rota of volunteers GH – almost complete.
8. **Newsletter / Publicity:**

All OK. Members reply directly to LMc rather than to website mail even when asked. CC – said can set up a web email if she requires.  
Will send out February newsletter shortly.
9. **AGM:**

Agreed to postpone until April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting as not sure many members will attend due to on-going pandemic.  
Can be in person with speaker or by Zoom plus speaker – **NJ** to check speaker will do Zoom. **GC** to cancel school hall booking. **LMc** to send notification of postponement, **SC/CC** to notify non-emailable members
10. **Monthly programme:**

16<sup>th</sup> February meeting speaker (Chris Bird) available. NJ checking if he can Zoom if necessary. Event to be publicised nearer to time.  
Rest of year sorted out. GC printed programme to be put at Shed and can be emailed out - **LMc**

**11. Allotments:**

AM – waiting list about 9, 1 vacant plot.

Craig Whitlock of HIWWT has sent 3 page document re growing in harmony with nature – to be sent out to members / website – **AM** to distribute to CC and LMc

KC – raised laying more scalplings at end of drives to make areas for parking.

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

SC – exploratory hole digging to locate existing services started Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Jan.

LM – doesn't like Heras fencing in front of Shed, takes away 2 parking spots – can be moved.

Infill of ditch between 2 fields and piping – SC to raise again with Crest Nicholson

Parking – Cricket Club parking to be available from 5/6 February to about mid-March, can take about 10/12 cars. GH - Rota for opening and closing gate daily in progress. Is tricky lock so people will need to be shown use.

Future permanent parking on top of football kickabout area – on Agenda for PC Hall and Grounds Committee meeting on 18/01/22 – **SC** to attend

**13. Social Programme:**

GC /NJ considering possible outing to Waterperry Gardens Pottery, Oxon. In September and Wakehurst Place (National Trust) in May. Coach quote for 35 is £625 / £18 per head. For non-NT members there is a group rate.

**14. Health & Safety**

WH - policy now finalised. Risk assessment method devised for discussion and when agreed actual assessments will take place.

Queries: 1. CC – assessment of access roadway as it is not our responsibility. WH – need to show we have taken note of any issues which can arise from its use by third parties.

2. GC – mention of financial costs. WH – we need to be prepared to spend funds to ameliorate any issues found

3. GC – suitability of clothing for people using our equipment. WH – will need notice on store door to say suitable clothing needs to be **worn** and should advise people who we see wearing unsuitable clothing.

Assessments will start with Shed as it re-opens soon – **LM/WH** to meet to make assessment – need to cover issue of chemicals /products sold in bins.

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

No report

**16. AOB:**

None

**Meeting Closed; 21.15**

**Next Meeting: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021 at The Shed (unless notified otherwise)**

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