

BISHOP'S WALTHAM GARDENING CLUB
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 21st February 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), Annie Lowe (AL)

1. **Apologies:**
2. **Minutes of the last meeting:** Approved and signed
3. **Matters arising not on the Agenda:**
 1. SC – Shed and PL/EL Insurance- application made and acknowledged so we are covered but yet to get Certificate and Invoice.
4. **Correspondence:**
 1. CC – BWIB request for Hanging basket funding at £50 – agreed
 2. CC – BW Rotary asking if we want a Carnival table – declined
 3. GC – Brian and Sandy Hutchings thanked Club for gift
5. **Finance:**

CC – Bank a/c's balance currently £22209 with £220 insurance outstanding + trustee claims.
6. **Membership:**

CC – Currently 306 members . Lost 50 since 2020-21 (mix of standard and allotment members), gained 37
7. **AGM:** Deferred to April, to precede speaker
8. **Trading:** LM
 1. 3 weekends of poor weather takings £483
 2. Some people stay away because of roadway work, need to get more in as prices competitive with other outlets. Many people don't know what is sold
 3. CC – **LM** to send price list to go on website (**CC**) and be circulated (**LMc**)
 4. Payment method – discussed use of apps (Paypal) and credit card payment (Sumup) **CC** to look at costs
9. **Allotments:**

KC/WH

 1. Storm damage on 18/02/22 to ridge of Shed. 4M length need replacing. Allotment holder Damien (?) approached and GC to contact roofer she knows. **SC** to declare to Insurance
 2. Allotment holders to be asked to check allotments for displaced items and retrieve them. Put any items not theirs in bin by compost – **LMc** to notify
 3. KC doing mowing with John Hayes and John Best. They have keys to mower store only.
 4. Men's Shed may be able to help with mower maintenance in return for a donation.
 5. KC kept Shed gullies clear.
 6. Cricket Club wanting to divert water flow into our ditch – LM refused.

10. Roadway Construction / Parking: SC/LM

SC reported meeting with P Council re long term parking options under consideration. The PC accept the reduced parking for allotments caused by the roadway and appear to want to assist. Await information.

Road construction – continuing, seems to be a delay at present. Have pursued piping of ditch and await response.

Cricket Club parking not currently in use as field area dry.

11. Health & Safety: WH

3 Risk Assessments completed with KC/LM. 4 areas of concern: mower store petrol storage and tidy/clearance in hand, First Aid kits replaced, pallet bridge to be moved. Quarterly inspections needed for H & S.

Petrol storage a concern as although amount within legal limit the building is wooden. Petrol storage box is £4 – 500 – agreed to purchase.

WH to contact to Fire Service for advice re fire extinguishers and or **GC** contact PAT service as do fire advice too.

Agreed Shed code needs changing. **LM** will do asap. New code agreed.

12. Monthly programme: NJ

1. W Blyth no longer able to set up technical equipment. T Gover keeps it but not able to set up. In future **GC** will set up. **AL** will attend and assist with organisation from 6.30pm. Also to ask Ann Magrath is she can assist.

2. All 2022 speakers arranged. March to be publicised with Spring Show Schedule. Needs to acquire place cards and winner Shed vouchers.

13. Social Programme:

GC /NJ arranging. Wakehurst Place (National Trust) had good amount of interest at Feb. evening meeting. **NJ** getting additional coach quote.

14. Newsletter / Publicity:

AL all in hand

LMc – OK, sending out emails as requested.

GH – requested that growing for May Plant Sale weekend be mentioned.

LM – there are packets of free seeds in Shed that could be distributed.

15. Community Orchard / Butterfly Garden:

SC – Sarah McLeod sent out rota, **SC** to complete annual forms for HCC

Orchard – some pruning done recently by Ann Magrath and Amanda Heaps. Tidy and assessment session on March 2nd.

16. AOB:

1. LM – locking post by footpath must be returned to allotments by Crest Nicholson if they move it. **SC** will chase.

2. AL – can get a supply of wood chippings. Will hold off ordering as if placed in front of left hand bin then current limited parking is further reduced.

Meeting Closed; 21.20

Next Meeting: Monday 21st March 2021 at The Shed (unless notified otherwise)

Actions agreed at this/previous meetings to carry forward: