



# Bishop's Waltham Gardening Club



Registered Charity No.  
1169353

## BISHOP'S WALTHAM GARDENING CLUB

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 22 September 2022 7.30pm at the Shed

Present: Gill Cooper – Chair (GC), Kate Cassell (KC), Maewyn Cumming (MC), Chris Curtis (CC), Sue Curtis (SC), Gill Hamill (GH), Nicole Jones (NJ), Annie Lowe (AL), Anthea Mabey (AM), Larry Mabey (LM), Liz McClymont (LMc)

Also present as prospective Trustee - David Bennett (DB)

*This meeting rearranged from 19 September in recognition of the funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II.*

1. Apologies. William Heaps

2. Minutes of August Meeting. It was noted that we are not resending tenancy agreements (item 5).

3. Finance. There is £22,429.22 in the bank. CC requested that all Trustees submit any outstanding expenses claims by the end of the month. **ACTION** – all to submit claims.

Membership: there are 339 members. We have 170 plots – 55 full, 81 half plots and 34 quarter plots. Membership forms have been distributed, a few will be made available at the Shed for those without printers.

Trading: Manure is selling well. Volunteers were asked to follow guidelines for keeping customers out of the shop – this is a health and safety issue. Winner's vouchers from spring and June shows should be returned asap to Nicole for reuse.

4. Allotments. The current waiting list is around 9. It is likely that a number of plots will become available over the next few months. Most plots that were given up following the recent inspections exercise have been allocated.

Maintenance: a working party will be held on 22 October. The hedge trimming should be completed by then. **ACTION** – KC to organise working party.

Pond: the site owner has agreed to the removal of the large willow. **ACTIONS** – KC to get costs for professional tree removal. LM to discuss with his tree specialist neighbour.

Trailer: LM has offered to donate a small trailer that should be useful for moving things around the site – **agreed** that the club will accept the offer and purchase a new wheel.

**ACTION:** LM – purchase new wheel for trailer.

Bark chippings: we are on the list to have bark chippings delivered. These are free, but delivery is random and often without notice. **ACTIONS** – LM and KC determine best location for dropping off bark chippings. AL to update supplier's website accordingly.

Mowers: all four mowers to be serviced this year. In future we will consider purchasing mowers with two year warranties and ditching them when they start to fail, as this may be cheaper than servicing them. More information on mower usage needs to be made clearly available. **ACTION** – GC to purchase A-frame for display of notices.

Hedge trimmer: **agreed** that a battery powered hedge trimmer is needed for keeping the hedge tidy between annual cuttings. **ACTION** – LM to investigate costs.

Men's Sheds; it was **agreed** that a donation of £50 would be given to Men's Sheds for the sterling work they have done. They have agreed to make plot numbers – **ACTION** - LMc to ask members who wants plot numbers, and which numbers they need. Payment to be made on receiving of numbers.

Roadway; Fencing work is progressing well. Agreement has been received from the Cricket Club for the placing of the new fence.

5. Health & Safety. Nothing to report.

6. Monthly programme. Increased publicity is needed to boost attendance. **ACTIONS** – AL to advertise monthly events on noticeboards around the village. LMc to mention on Facebook. NJ to confirm if this month's speaker is bringing their own laptop and projector.

7. Social programme.

BBQ; successful. Sold 50 adult and about 10 children's tickets.

Volunteers' party; **ACTIONS** – LMc to send out reminder to volunteers re the party. ALL to ensure GH has names of known volunteers.

Social evening; ticket sales slow so far. **ACTIONS** - LMc to send out reminder to all members. GC to mention social evening at September's monthly event. SC to find out if we can have the Hall from 5.00, and if the Caretaker can put the tables away. Also to find out situation re use of Hall's own plates.

8. Newsletter. AL doing articles for Parish magazine.

There were three requests to join our Facebook group last month

9. Orchard & Butterfly Garden. The sleepers should be collected from SC next week and delivered to the Butterfly garden. **ACTION** – SC to follow up on fence repairs once the sleepers are in place.

10. Future Trustee Situation. There are now 12 Trustees in position. GC will step down as chair in the New Year but continue as a Trustee doing the charity work. DB will give consideration to taking over as chair but is uncomfortable with any activities requiring gardening knowledge. **ACTION** – DB to consider role of chair and report back at next meeting.

Someone will still be needed to organise the 2024 and subsequent shows. **ACTION** – MC to send back Trusteeship forms to CC

11. Horticulture bursary. Sparsholt College have suggested that one of their students may be a suitable candidate although they live in Hedge End. **Agreed** that this is not too far away for consideration. **Agreed** to provide Ts&Cs form then consider best way forward based on response. **ACTION** – GC to send terms and conditions.

12 Other business.

St Peter's Church Fayre; all in hand. Sufficient pots have been provided.

Dispute process; only needs to cover disputes between plot holders and Trustees as the Parish council will not negotiate in any disputes with the general public. **ACTION** – MC to redraft.

Brian's celebration; to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> October at midday.

NJ would appreciate more entries for the recipe book.

Next meeting 7.30 Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October at The Shed

## **ACTIONS ARISING**

All - Submit expenses claims by end of month  
All - Ensure GH has names of known volunteers in time for party.

AL to advertise monthly events on noticeboards around the village.

AL to update Facebook with bark chippings location.

DB to consider role of chair and report back at next meeting.

GC to purchase A-frame for display of notices.

GC to send bursary terms and conditions to Sparsholt.

GC to mention social evening at September's monthly event.

LM to purchase new wheel for trailer.

LM to discuss willow removal with his tree specialist neighbour for comparative costs.

LM and KC determine best location for dropping off bark chippings.

LM to investigate costs of battery hedge trimmer and two batteries.

AL to update Facebook re bark chippings location.

KC to organise working party.

KC to get costs for professional tree removal.

KC and LM determine best location for dropping off bark chippings.

LMc to ask members who wants plot numbers, and which numbers they need.

LMc to mention monthly events on Facebook.

LMc to send out social evening reminder to all members.

LMc to send out reminder to volunteers re the party. MC

to send back Trusteeship forms to CC MC to redraft disputes process.

NJ to confirm if this month's speaker is bringing their own laptop and projector.

SC to follow up on fence repairs once the sleepers are in place.

SC to find out if we can have the Hall from 5.00, and if the Caretaker can put the tables away, and situation re use of Hall's own plates.