



# Bishop's Waltham Gardening Club



Registered Charity No.  
1169353

## BISHOP'S WALTHAM GARDENING CLUB

Minutes of meeting held on 20 March 2023 7.30pm at The Shed

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

Linda Haysom (LH) attended as a prospective trustee.

1. Apologies. None, all trustees in attendance.
2. Minutes of previous meeting. Minutes were confirmed with a small correction from LMc.
3. Actions. The actions list was updated.
4. Finance. Non-trustee volunteers will be allocated a set budget for their work on the butterfly gardens and orchard. BW Cricket Club has still not paid their portion of the water bill. Someone is needed to read the meter when CC leaves. LH to trial. **ACTION:** AL to obtain receipt from February speaker.
5. Membership. We have 318 members.
6. Trading. Could trustees on duty remember to follow all instructions, especially re closing the doors and putting the flap down.
7. Allotments.

We have 170 plots and 21 people on the waiting list.

Drainage in car park – LM has discussed options with an engineer, major work will be needed to fully resolve the issues. AGREED to leave until next year and see how it copes over winter. It was assessed not to be dangerous but may get uncomfortably soggy.

A working party fixed the churned up track. It was AGREED that posts were not needed at present, we just need to use the blue barriers to prevent access when it gets very wet.

JH (retiring volunteer) was touched by the thank you from Kate. He will also be given a £20 voucher for The Shed. **ACTION:** KC to give JH a £20 Shed voucher.

**ACTION:** KC to determine the best locations for the bat boxes.

Non-members on plots – **ACTION:** DB to check for public liability and insurance issues.

Maintenance: Andy (volunteer) has taken on lawnmower maintenance. He will make any claims for materials directly to KC for approval. AGREED that we will purchase a device to measure use of each mower to rationalise the mower maintenance regime.

The work to connect the sewer from the SINC will take about a month, causing some mess and disruption.
8. Fences / Roadway. LM has an estimate for fencing that is approx. £1000 less than the previous estimate. **ACTION:** LM to get a more detailed quote for fencing.

Replacing Heras fencing - SC in contact with Crest and the Parish Council awaiting outcome. The wooden fence at the top of the plots is inadequate in terms of security. **ACTION:** LMc to suggest to all members that they do not keep anything of value on their plots and that they mark any items with their initials.

9. Health, safety, security. Risk assessments are all completed apart from outside events. **ACTION:** LM to change Shed door code. Ideas about security for The Shed doors and top gates were discussed.

10. Monthly programme. The final programme has not yet been provided. AL will find out if having a Zoom meeting is the best way to secure a November speaker. A volunteer has been found to run the raffles.

11. Social programme. Waterperry Gardens visit. 35 people have paid their deposits.

12. Plant sale. All in hand. LMc is making bunting.

13. Newsletter/publicity/social media. Our policy is that we do not advertise items for sale through the emails to members. LMc and AL to ensure the parish magazine article goes to members.

14. Orchard & Butterfly Garden. GC has not heard back regarding payment for the tree, she will pursue. More plants will be purchased for the butterfly garden.

15. St Peter's Country Fayre We will once again have a stall. It has been suggested that we do cuttings as well as bulbs but this was deemed impractical.

16. Recipe book. This is nearly ready. SC to assist with proofreading. NJ will get final printing costs and confirm numbers for first print run.

17. Other business. It was proposed and accepted that Linda Haysom be co-opted as a trustee.

Next meeting 7.30 Monday 17 April at The Shed.

## **ACTIONS ARISING**

AL to obtain receipt from February speaker

DB to check for public liability and insurance issues re non-members on plots.

KC to give JH a £20 Shed voucher

KC to determine the best locations for the bat boxes.

LM to change Shed door code.

LM to purchase a very bright motion-activated light for The Shed.

LM to get a more detailed quote for fencing.

LMc to suggest to all members that they do not keep anything of value on their plots and that they mark any items with their initials.