



Bishop's Waltham Gardening Club



BWGC

Registered Charity No.
1169353

BISHOP'S WALTHAM GARDENING CLUB

Minutes of meeting held on 17 April 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), Linda Haysom (LH) Maewyn Cumming - Sec (MC), Nicole Jones (NJ), William Heaps (WH).

1. Apologies. Liz McClymont(LMc), Sue Curtis (SC),
2. Minutes of previous meeting. The minutes were confirmed.
3. Actions. The actions list was updated.
4. Finance. Current balance is £23,720.61. There is still a great deal to be paid in. The sponsored student has been paid, and payment approved for next term.
5. Membership. We have 321 members.
6. Trading. It is still fairly quiet, presumably because of the disappointing weather. Many prices have changed, lots gone up, some actually gone down.
7. Allotments.
 - We have 12 people on the waiting list. A few plots are badly neglected, which may be weather related.
 - There is an issue with members dumping weeds in nature areas rather than composting them or taking them away. **ACTIONS:** LMc to remind members to dispose of their weeds from allotments properly include in next member's bulletin. KC to put up more notices regarding disposal of weeds from allotments. AM and GH Draft a clause for allotment Ts&Cs to cover disposal of weeds.
 - Rotavator – we have two that are not needed. AGREED to dispose of them. **ACTION:** LMc to ask members if anybody would like a rotavator.
 - Maintenance – Andy is getting the times for the lawnmowers, he has also offered to help with plumbing. We will refund him for any consumables. AGREED that we can only employ people directly if they have their own public liability insurance.
8. Fences / Roadway / Sewage tunnel.
 - Ruts made by the digger (sewer tunnel) are causing access issues. A plan for repairs to the plot that has 'heaved' due to tunnelling has been worked out with Clancy though has yet to be agreed with the plot holder.
 - Fencing – Quotes have been received. A final decision will be made once Crest Nicholson have put their fence up. SC has written to them again and will continue to pursue.

9. Health, safety, security. WH is due to do a walk-around around the allotments. He will be accompanied by DB and AM. **ACTION:** WH to organise H&S walk around.

10. Monthly programme. The final programme has not yet been provided as there is no confirmed November speaker. **ACTIONS:** AL to have printed programmes ready for the monthly meeting on 26 April. AL to chase previous speaker for receipt.

11. Social programme. Waterperry Gardens visit. Payment for the bus has been made. All but eight participants have paid in full.

12. Plant sale. AM and LM will be away that weekend so not available as last year to empty the Shed. It will not be possible to open The Shed on the Sunday because of the difficulty of cash separation. Volunteers are needed to take money. MC and DB will assist on the Monday as well as doing Shed duty on the Saturday. NJ will assist on Sunday. WH will assist if he is able to attend. Good progress has been made with the bunting by LMc. **ACTIONS:** LMc to ask for donations of plants for plant sale in next bulletin. MC to put details of plant sale on Facebook/Bishops Waltham Chat Room.

13. GQT. The Parish Council are keen to see more use of Jubilee Hall and suggested that we ask the BBC if they would run a recording of Gardener's Question Time from there. It was felt that this would be of benefit to the town as a whole and raise the profile of BWGC. We would need to be clear what ours and the Parish council's exact roles were. **ACTION:** MC to complete form for GQT.

14. Newsletter/publicity/social media. **ACTION:** AL to ask Robin to prepare posters for the plant sales and monthly meetings.

15. Orchard & Butterfly Garden. One of the current volunteers is unable to continue to organise the Butterfly Garden. One of the remaining volunteers will manage it unaided for now. **ACTION:** JC to continue to pursue payment for the memorial tree.

16. Recipe book. The latest price, which includes studio time, is £1470 for 250 copies. This means we will need to sell all of them for at least £6 each to break even. Further print runs would be more profitable. AGREED by vote to get 250 copies done. NJ will take on responsibility for getting them sold, ensuring they are on sale in as many likely places as possible.

17. Other business.

- Dog walking – it appears that the dog walking area will be superfluous once nearby building work is complete. **ACTION:** DB to write to Parish Council to see if the dog walking area can become a car park for the allotments and the Cricket Club.
- RHS grants are offered for building community networks. AGREED we would not be applying.

Next meeting 7.30 Monday 15 May at The Shed.

ACTIONS ARISING

AL to have printed programmes ready for the monthly meeting on 26 April.
AL to chase previous speaker for receipt.
DB to write to Parish Council to see if the dog walking area can become a car park for the allotments and the Cricket Club.
AM and GH Draft a clause for allotment Ts&Cs to cover disposal of weeds.
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JC to continue to pursue payment for the memorial tree.
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LMc to remind members to dispose of their weeds from allotments properly include in next member's bulletin.
LMc to ask for donations of plants for plant sale in next bulletin.
LMc to ask members if anybody would like a rotavator.
MC to complete form for GQT
MC to put details of plant sale on Facebook/Bishops Waltham Chat Room.
WH to organise H&S walk around.