



Bishop's Waltham Gardening Club



BWGC

Registered Charity No.
1169353

BISHOP'S WALTHAM GARDENING CLUB

Minutes of meeting held on 21 August 2023 7.30pm at The Shed

Present: Dave Bennett - Chair (DB), Chris Curtis (CC), Gill Cooper (GC), Gill Hamill (GH), Kate Cassell (KC), Linda Haysom (LH), Maewyn Cumming - Sec (MC), Nicole Jones (NJ), Sue Curtis (SC) late arrival), Larry Mabey (LM), Liz McClymont(LMc).

Colin Carter (CCr) attended for item 8 (Annual show) only.

1. Apologies. Annie Lowe (AL), Anthea Mabey (AM),
2. Minutes of previous meeting. The minutes were confirmed, with the removal of one statement.
3. Actions. The actions list was updated.
4. Finance. Current balance is £23,589. Not all receipts from the barbecue had been received.
**Update from Treasurer - the barbecue made a small profit of approximately £95.
5. Trustees. Utilities have been passed to LH, Charity commission registration has been passed to MC. CC is progressing the change to bank signatories and HMRC account. MC will finalise sorting out the job descriptions and post them on the Trustees section of the website for all Trustees to amend and update. **ACTION:** MC to send job descriptions to webmaster.
6. Membership. Membership has increased to 341, all paid up. There is one half plot to be let. Membership forms will be sent out soon.
7. Trading. Fairly quiet at present, scaffold netting is on the way. It was AGREED that LM would do one large order, in order to take advantage of the discount. Trustees are reminded not to make any changes to the shop without checking with LM first. And once again the reminder that no credit is to be given.
8. Show. CC talked through his report. Trophies are being repaired and engraved and should start to become available to winners later this month. The date for year's show was set at 13 July. **ACTION:** DB to book the Jubilee Hall for the 2024 Annual Show. CCr will begin getting the Show committee together, with the first meeting to take place in late September. Entrants have asked for more feedback from judges; it was felt this would be too onerous for the fruit, vegetable and flower classes. CCr will manage next year's show but will be unable to do any after that, so it is imperative that a new Show manager is identified soon. **ACTION:** DB to hand-write thank-you card for Gill Stainer who led the catering for the show.
9. Allotments maintenance. The Payback staff visited and will report back soon. All in all it looks very positive and we are very likely to be able to make use of them for various tasks around the

allotments. People are still using closed tracks, causing damage. KC is chasing the Parish council to find out their intentions regarding hedge trimming.

Signage – allotment signage is looking tatty and in need of replacement, especially regarding the ramp, speed limit and location of the Cricket Club. **ACTION:** MC to ask Parish Council, Cricket Club and Men's Sheds to try to find someone to replace the signs.

An unknown volunteer did an excellent job of trimming the bottom hedge. **ACTION:** KC to give LMc a form of words to ask other plot holders to carry out maintenance near their own plots.

Mowers – It is OK for Trustees to let members use mowers outside of Shop hours provided the Trustee is available to ensure the mower is put away securely. Trustees are not under any obligation to do this.

10. Fences / Roadway / Sewage tunnel. There was a positive meeting with Crest Nicholson (CN) and the Parish Council. CN say they will erect the fence we want, we just have to confirm the location and number of gates. The Parish Council say they will pay for gates if CN won't. **ACTION:** DB to approach plot holder regarding repositioning the fence to enlarge the car park.

A meeting was held on site with Clancy, who seem to be inclined to lay scalplings to fix the track damaged by sewer work. The final decision rests with the Commercial manager who is on holiday. We should hear something in few weeks.

11. Monthly programme. IT was suggested that Trustees might want to provide snippets for the monthly Parish Magazine article. AL to be approached.

12. Social programme. The barbecue was a great success and enjoyed by all. There was some question about who manages the Annual Social, and if we had everything ready. **ACTION:** DB to check that Jubilee Hall has been booked for the Annual Social. MC to determine whose role it is to manage the Annual Social.

13. Newsletter / publicity / social media. There was good feedback on Facebook regarding the Show.

14. Orchard & Butterfly Garden. The Butterfly Garden is looking good at the moment, though the fence still needs repairing. **ACTION:** GC to approach Men's sheds to ask about possibility and costs of repairing the Butterfly Garden fencing.

15. Charity work. St Peter's Fayre - we have agreed to sell any house plants that are donated. We are also able to sell the recipe book.

16. AGM – to be held on 24th January 2024. **ACTION:** MC to book the Junior School for the AGM and the Monthly meetings.

17 Other business. All volunteers are to be sent hand written than you cards, to be hand delivered.

Next meeting 7.30 Monday 18 September 2023 at The Shed.

ACTIONS ARISING

All – provide plant pots for the Fayre.

DB to approach plot holder regarding repositioning the fence to enlarge the car park.

DB to hand-write thank-you card for Gill Stainer who led the catering for the show.

DB to book the Jubilee Hall for the 2024 Annual Show.

DB to check that Jubilee Hall has been booked for the Social Evening.

GC to approach Men's sheds to ask about possibility and costs of repairing the Butterfly Garden fencing.

KC to give LMc a form of words to ask other plot holders to carry out maintenance near their own plots.

MC to send job descriptions to webmaster.

MC to ask Parish Council, Cricket Club and Men's Sheds to try to find someone to replace the signs.

MC to determine whose role it is to manage the Annual Social.

MC to book the Junior School for the AGM and the Monthly meetings.