



Bishop's Waltham Gardening Club



Registered Charity No.
1169353

BISHOP'S WALTHAM GARDENING CLUB

Minutes of meeting held on 19 August 2024 7.30 at The Shed

Present: Anthea Mabey (AM), Dave Bennett (Chair) (DCB), David Bushby (DB), Gill Williams (GW), Larry Mabey (LM), Kate Cassell (KC), Linda Haysom (LH), Maewyn Cumming (minutes) (MC), Nicole Jones (NJ), Robin Breach (RB), Ron Hayson (RH).

1. Apologies. Gill Hamill (GH), Alison Perry (AP)
2. Minutes of previous meeting. The minutes were confirmed with one small change to role of Member's Shows sub cttee.
3. Actions. The actions list was updated.
4. Finance. The balance at the end of June was £21515.68. Figures from the 2024 Annual Show were distributed. LH asked that any expenses claims for this year be with her asap, and invoices to be sent by 20 September. **ACTION:** All to send expenses claims and invoices to LH asap.
5. Membership. The new process for renewing membership was outlined. Members will receive an email with their full details and costs, and simply need to pay then confirm details are correct. Work is needed on the membership spreadsheet before this can work smoothly.
6. Trading. The order for this year's onions, garlic and shallots has gone in, as has the order for next year's spuds.
7. Allotments. **ACTION:** RH to organise a leaflet-drop to ensure those living in the new estates and in flats know about the Club, after checking with the Parish Council who also sometimes organise leaflet drops on behalf of local community groups. **ACTION:** KC to see if Community Payback can erect a fence by plot 103b to protect it from vehicular traffic. Also to arrange for them to remove bindweed from plot 102.
8. Allotments maintenance. The grave digger is scheduled to do the ditch clearance. Repairs are needed on one of the mowers, and we still need a clear budget for mower repairs. Consideration is being given to trees on the site: there are some non-fruit trees which need to be kept in check. The updated tenancy agreement will mention that fruit trees must be on dwarf root-stock. The bottom hedge needs a lot of work as it hasn't been cut for at least a year. **ACTION:** DCB to chase the Parish Council re cutting the bottom hedge.
9. Roads etc We are waiting to hear from the Parish Council regarding the fencing. DCB has agreed with Clancy that they will install geo-rigid matting in accordance with the manufacturers

guidance. This is a major operation and likely to lead to a few weeks disruption, though there should still be access to most of the site and the Shop should be able to open as usual.

10. Speakers/ Monthly programme Next year's speakers are slowly being confirmed. Subjects to include tool maintenance, and bees/honey. Some of the more popular speakers from this year have been asked back to talk on different subjects. MC has convened a small group to make suggestions re the member's shows.

11. Social programme. It is time to ramp up publicity for the annual social. **ACTION:** MC to include the annual social in the next email. NJ is exploring options for trips for next year. The barbecue was a great success. It made a small profit, and RH and LH made a point of purchasing all of the food locally.

12. Update/Publicity/Social Media. DB has been working on the website, adding more pictures and making it more colourful. It is proving to be a time-consuming task. He has also ramped up the Facebook pages, and asked trustees to try to take an active part in making the pages more interesting for visitors. **ACTION:** All to give feedback on the website, especially the new beginners guide. Note that we have our own Facebook page, with limited access, and a Facebook group, to which all members (of the group) can add items.

13. Charity programme. The new fence in the butterfly garden is finally being erected – it is looking good. They have also put in a new bench – the old one was unsafe – and cleared some shrubbery. We still need volunteers for St Peter's Fayre, especially as RH and LH are now not able to attend. **ACTION:** NJ to ask Gill Cooper and Gill Hammill if they can help out at St Peter's Fayre.

14. Trustees. NJ will be resigning as a trustee at the next AGM. She will however continue to help out with events. Consideration will need to be given to alternatives. MC has taken over as membership secretary.

16. Other business.

1. LM expressed concern about the amount of use he makes of his own tools and asked for assurance that they would be replaced if they were broken. Our policy of use of personal equipment was referred to. LH is therefore no longer prepared to use his own equipment for allotment repairs.

2. **ACTION:** MC will distribute a revised versions of the safeguarding and diversity policies in a few days to give members a final chance to comment.

3. Bay tree on RB's plot will be removed.

4. We will receive a delegation from the Alresford Gardening Club, who would like to learn from our experiences.

5. The annual show next year will take place on 26 July.

Meeting finished at 2145

Next meeting 16 September 7.30pm at the Shed

ACTIONS ARISING

All to send expenses claims and invoices to LH asap and by 20 September at the latest.

All to give feedback on the website especially the new beginners guide.

AM and DCB to review and update tenancy agreement.

DCB to chase the Parish Council re cutting the bottom hedge.

DCB to progress renewing lease with Parish Council.

DCB and AM to review and update tenancy agreement. .

KC to see if Community Payback can erect a fence is needed by plot 103b to protect it from vehicular traffic.

LM to Chase Parish Council regarding trees.

MC to include the annual social in the next email.

MC to look into updating history documents, GH to speak to Sue Curtis to see if she will help

NJ to ask Gill Cooper and Gill Hammill if they can help out at St Peter's Fayre.

RH to organise a leaflet-drop to ensure those living in the new estates and in flats know about the Club, after checking with the Parish Council who also sometimes organise leaflet drops on behalf of local community groups.