



Bishop's Waltham Gardening Club



Registered Charity No.
1169353

Minutes of Meeting held Monday 20 January 2025 at 1 Shore Lane 7:30 pm

Present: Dave Bennett (Chair) (DCB), Linda Haysom (LH), Maewyn Cumming (MC), Nicole Jones (NJ), Ron Haysom (RH), Alison Perry (minutes) (AP), Kate Cassell (KC), David Bushby (DB), Robin Breach (RB), Gill Hamill (GH).

1. Apologies for absence

Larry Mabey (LM), Anthea Mabey (AM), Gill Williams (GW)

2. Minutes of previous meeting

No amendments – minutes confirmed.

3. Actions list.

Most actions completed or covered below. The following still outstanding

- **ACTION: DCB** to check whether possible to move accounting/budgeting to an accruals/forecasting system for future years.
- **ACTION: KC** – to take photos of payback for records and for grant report if required
- **ACTION: AP** – to add National Allotment Week to future meeting agenda
- **ACTION: Show Committee (LM/AM/KC)** to devise Social Media campaign for dates of posts to go out etc let DB know. Posters/banners – check Colin's notes, parish mag's – check lead-in times.

4. AGM

The Trustees discussed the upcoming AGM. AP has received one question which was passed to DCB to cover at the meeting.

Required a 10% of membership for the meeting to be quorate.

Arrangements were all in hand.

5. Finance / Quarterly Budget Review

NJ managed to get a £100 refund from Country Market following the disappointing catering at the Annual Social.

A question was asked about the level of contingency – this was to cover the costs of mowers and the new gates (£2k),

Gift aid – to push at AGM, if they don't do it?

6. Membership

1 new member, few questions about new raised beds.

7. Trading

1st Feb is the opening day with LH and RH working in the shop.

Potatoes to be delivered in time, there will be cakes for the opening.

ACTION: MC to email members to remind them 1st Feb Shed opening

8. Allotments

Written update from AM - We have had a couple of large allotments given up recently so have caught up on the waiting list. When the raised beds are completed, we have 3 or 4 people who have expressed interest in them, so will be allocating them in spring. It would be good to tell people that they can get an allotment very quickly if they put their names down soon, and that spring is a good time to start'

ACTION: AM to allocate raised beds and let MC know if there are any still free.

ACTION: MC to email members advertising allotments

9. Allotments - maintenance

KC updated about the work the Payback Team have been doing – she praised them saying they have been a great help – they have done the hedges, coppicing, painting and built the raised beds. These need to be filled and the paths to have bark chippings on the paths. This is needed by the end of March as the WCC funding has to be spent by then – at present all spend was within budget.

The trustees discussed the unveiling of the new raised beds and DCB was going to look into the option of having the Mayor open them – end of April was planned.

ACTION: DCB to contact Mayor's office to see if we can book them in for opening of raised beds.

ACTION: MC to look at supplier of composted material for filling raised beds.

KC raised that there was a few H&S issues and general maintenance issues that would be best covered with a full trustee walk around.

ACTION: LH organise Special Trustee meeting walk around to view H&S issues and other allotment issues on the site.

10. Allotments - roadway/path /fencing

The Parish Council are down to visit on 11th Feb, to check pathway, and looking at procurement for fence line.

ACTION: DCB to do a call out at the AGM for someone who might help with the H&S aspect, if no one comes forward to look into paying for some advice/inspection.

11. Monthly programme

No issues, GW has sent leaflet to be printed out for the AGM. LH requested that the hall is booked for the rest of the year.

ACTION: GW to book hall and confirm for the rest of the monthly speaker meetings.

12. Social programme

All in hand, Wakehurst booked and confirmed it would be £14.75 for entry, Beeline confirmed that it would be £550 for the 33-seater, possibly 35-seater. Requests cash, paid to driver on day. To get the group booking rate there would need to be a min. of 10 paying (i.e. not NT or RHS members). Total price will be around £30-£35 and £16.50 for bus.

ACTION: DCB to promote Wakehurst Trip and confirm prices to members on the evening of the AGM.

13. Update / publicity / social media

Facebook – 171 people on there, if we want it to be more interactive request for all

trustees to do some more engagement. **ACTION:** ALL engage with BWGC Facebook page.

Website – ok, hard to work out numbers of hits. DB happy to take suggestions for improvements e.g. recipes– may require proper web designer to update but is it worth the effort?.

Trustees discussed a Possible new print run of the recipe book – could we put some recipes on the web?

RB confirmed that the Feb Newsletter was done – last big one. Small March one ready, all the posters for events had been done and parish mag done for Feb and March.

14. Community orchard/butterfly garden

Sarah Macleod has donated plants from her own nursery, free of charge, for the Butterfly Garden.

Orchard – survey has been carried out by Chris Bird, positive attitude towards the site, currently awaiting report. Once the analysis has been received, a Costed Report will be prepared to be shared with the Parish Council.

ACTION: RH to contact PC to see what next steps for community orchard are following report.

ACTION: LH to find out how much we have spent on the orchard.

15. Charity programme

Students doing well, **ACTION:** RH to produce something to put on website about student support.

Eden project student – wanting to do something with allotments, 5 volunteers, - trustees volunteered **ACTION:** RH to get back to Eden Project Student.

ACTION: RH to get in touch with schools in regard to show and generate some interest.

ACTION: AP to speak teachers at BWJS about gardening club and whether the BWGC could support?

16. Any other business –

- Chair for Feb meeting - DB to chair,
- Garden Organic Heritage Seeds **ACTION:** AP to order seeds.
- MC – privacy notice, **ACTION:** ALL to get comments on privacy notice back to MC by end of week – 27th Jan.
- KC – wreaths on The Shed were put there by Ann McGarth – thanks were expressed to Ann.
- RB – wildlife garden – bit of a mess, pond there, 2 pond liners there, seat is broken could do with some work, - discuss walk around. **ACTION:** Add to walk around topics
- DCB - expressed thanks to NJ on behalf of the Club and Trustees.

The Meeting Finished at Finished 2130.

Next meeting: **Monday 17 February 2025 at The Shed**

Actions Arising

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