



Bishop's Waltham Gardening Club



Registered Charity No.
1169353

Minutes

Date: Monday 17 February 2025 at The Shed

Time: 7:30 pm

Present: Linda Haysom (LH), Ron Haysom (RH), Alison Perry (minutes) (AP), Kate Cassell (KC), David Bushby (DB)(Chair), Gill Hamill (GH), Gill Williams (GW), Larry Mabey (LM), Anthea Mabey (AM)

1. Apologies for absence

Maewyn Cumming, Dave Bennett, Robin Breach

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Few corrections required once complete - Accepted

3. Actions list

All in hand or covered below

4. Finance

Savings accounts have generated - £7.40 interest and £58 interest.

Cost of £70 for sum up charity account machine – this to be used for Charity payments including - trips, membership, plant sale,

LH mentioned that we are predicting a shortfall on budgeted of £923 at present. This includes the loss of £533 by end of Jan as the work on the repair to the taps was not budgeted for. There is a contingency in the budget but have not budgeted for emergencies so this will be included for next year.

ACTION: Finance Committee to include emergency fund in 2025-26 budget
£100 refund from caterers from annual social.

LH is working through the payments but still has £850 unallocated – this was due to issues with allotment rent/membership payments so will be sorted.

5. Membership

No further updates

6. Trading

Had £773.72 in from the 1st 2 weekends, this was an excellent start.

7. Shop Voucher proposal

The Trustees agreed that the Finance Committee be delegated to work out the logistics of the Shop Voucher proposal agreed at the AGM.

8. Allotments

Couple of plots available, ¼ plot and 2 x ½ plots with 2 on waiting list.

There was discussion over the allocation of the raised beds and a suggestion that the next communication from MC to members should include a call out for interest from those plot holders who were finding it difficult on a larger plot to swap to one of the raised beds.

ACTION: MC to offer raised beds as swap for giving up larger plot as a first offer – members to be offered before wider community.

9. Allotments - maintenance

KC praised the work of the Payback team who have been every week – and have completed raised beds, loo ceiling, furniture, pruned/cleared trees, strimmed boundary fences, trimmed hedge.

Issues with Tap adjacent to plot 27 leaking – work now completed but was an unexpected cost.

10. Allotments – improvements (following site meeting)

Fencing, gates– LM had meeting with fencer - awaiting price

ACTION: LM to report costs of fencing and gates back at next meeting.

LM also met a drain person who inspected the pipe below the shed for free. Found this was blocked and that the pipe is too small. Suggested that 1st job would be to dig the old pipe out and replace it with a perforated pipe, French drain type arrangement – LM to get quote for this work and trustees to decide if we should take it forward.

ACTION: LM to report back costs of replacing pipe at next meeting

LM had a list of other maintenance jobs that needed doing that were not discussed at the extraordinary meeting – these need to be prioritised and programmed in with the other items that were discussed.

ACTION: LH to organise meeting to prioritise all work/project required on the site.

The Trustees discussed the possibility of a container on the site, and it was felt that PC permission would need to be sought

ACTION: DCB to approach PC about container on site.

LM presented another idea extending the bays into the first allotment site (DB's allotment) in order to accommodate a container, muck bay and the same amount of parking spaces.

There was discussion as to whether we would be able to take the land out of allotment cultivation

ACTION: DCB to check lease as to whether any restrictions on changing allotment to accommodation land.

KC confirmed that the raised beds will be finished by adding topsoil and the final £300 of the grant spent by the end of March.

11. Allotments - roadway/path /fencing/H&S

DCB has coopted Wendy New to advise on H&S matters. She made some suggestions which have been implemented but she will complete a fuller assessment in March.

12. Monthly programme

Suggestion that Chris Bird could be one of the speakers for Sept

ACTION: RH to send GW contact details for Chris Bird

GW suggested 25/10/25 for the Social at Jubilee Hall.

There was general discussion over how to improve the attendance of the talks and annual social. It was suggested that the Summer BBQ could be the Annual Social perhaps held at Priory Park with a regular talk in Oct.

ACTION: GW to check whether Priory Park would be possible.

ACTION: New Trustee to look into option of changing the Annual Social.

13. Social programme

There was discussion over the issues regarding the Wakehurst Trip pricing due to the number of NT members signed up. It was agreed that the Club will cover the extra costs.

14. Update / publicity / social media

DB has posted the Annual Show intro piece and will start advertising with link to website. RB – has submitted to Hampshire Chronical and in other news channels the flyer for the show.

ACTION: Show Committee to send DB list of classes so that these can be programmed to go out on socials.

RB has updated the HFHS website with our dates.

15. Community orchard

RH send the report from Chris Bird on the Community Orchard. There was general discussion and thanks to RH for organising. Clarification required on how many trees and where to plant these additional trees and clarification with staking and tree guards as these were supposed to be removed in time.

ACTION: RH to email Chris Bird for clarifications on report.

Payback have offered a tree to acknowledge the work they have done, and this was agreed to plant an alder on the orchard site

ACTION: KC/RH to organise tree planting once details received from Chris Bird.

There was also discussion on the drainage issues on the site with run-off from the football pitch area as one of the main concerns.

ACTION: DCB to speak to PC about sorting out drainage into site

16. Butterfly garden

No issues.

17. Charity programme

Sponsored students – one has agreed to have their photo and info on BWGC website.

ACTION: RH to chase other student for permission to put photo/info on website and to provide info to DB to upload to website.

RH met with BW Library staff, and they are holding a Garden Stories themed event and that we could help to resurrect the children's garden.

ACTION: RH to find out dates and more info on Library Garden Stories event.

BW Town Team are holding a Kids Treat event on 6th July.

ACTION: GW to attend meeting at Jubilee Hall on 10/03 and feedback at next meeting with more details on the Kids Treat Event.

18. Any other business

- **ACTION: LH** to organise thank you to NJ

- Sum-up Machines - We now have three sum up machines. Please ensure that the correct machine is used for the purchase. Each sum up machine is labelled “charity” or “trading”. You will need to remove the sum up from its cradle/printer and see what’s written on the back of it. A C or T has been added to make it easier to see.
 - Trading Machine – All shop purchases.
 - Charity Machine – charity purchases including trips etc. Ensure that if taking money for charity items such as trips, we need to add a description stating what it is for. You can do this by pressing the icon on the sum up machine and typing in the description.
- **ACTION: ALL** – ensure all those working in the shop are aware of the separate sum up machines and how to use
- GH – spent time with Sue and Chris Curtis to discuss the history of club. GH has written notes which have been sent to DB/MC/AP to be included where required.

Next meeting: Monday 17 March 2025 at The Shed

Actions Arising

- **ACTION: Finance Committee** to include emergency fund in 2025-26 budget
- **ACTION: MC** to offer raised beds as swap for giving up larger plot as a first offer – members to be offered before wider community.
- **ACTION: LM** to report costs of fencing and gates back at next meeting.
- **ACTION: LM** to report back costs of replacing pipe at next meeting
- **ACTION: LH** to organise meeting to prioritise jobs required on the site.
- **ACTION: DCB** to approach PC about container on site.
- **ACTION: DCB** to check lease as to whether any restrictions on changing allotment to accommodation land.
- **ACTION: RH** to send GW contact details for Chris Bird
- **ACTION: GW** to check whether Priory Park would be possible.
- **ACTION: New Trustee** to look into option of changing the Annual Social.
- **ACTION: Show Committee** to send DB list of classes so that these can be programmed to go out on socials.
- **ACTION: RH** to email Chris Bird for clarifications on report.
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- **ACTION: RH** to chase other student for permission to put photo/info on website and to provide info to DB to upload to website.
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- **ACTION: GW** to attend meeting at Jubilee Hall on 10/03 and feedback at next meeting with more details on the Kids Treat Event.
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