



Bishop's Waltham Gardening Club



Registered Charity No.
1169353

Minutes

Date: Monday 17 November 2025 at The Shed

Time: 7:30 pm

Present: Maewyn Cumming (MC)(Chair), Linda Haysom (LH), Ron Haysom (RH), Gill Hamill (GH), Robin Breach (RB), Kate Cassell (KC), Gill Williams (GW), Alison Perry (AP), Larry Mabey (LM), Richard Shoesmith (RS), Jane Dilloway (JD), Philip Thwaites (Observer)

Item	Minutes	Actions
1. Apologies for absence	ND, DB	
2. Minutes of previous meeting and actions arising	Couple of updates – no further	
Actions list – Outstanding Actions from previous Meetings	• LH investigate alternative banking arrangements • All – obtain quotes for improvement works as discussed. • All - Trustees to write list of tasks and how to do before leaving to help those following - ongoing • All - trustees to think of any jobs that could be dropped if time pressures/loss of trustees occurred – completed last week • AP – to look at cost of Health and Safety/social media contracts – to do • MC – to update trustee roles and reissue - done • AP to do schedule for AGM - ongoing • All areas to write their reports by end Nov covering 24/25 for chairs report - ongoing • MC/LH – to review membership renewals - ongoing • LH/LM – to pull out benefit of shop voucher scheme - ongoing • LM to organise shop training session in Feb 2026. • DB to write policy for prioritisation/allocations • DB to ensure that expectations of anyone with name on list for plots is managed. • KC to look at skip for 2026. • LM - Chase Halls and Grounds committee for in writing confirmation of container approval – AP to do. • AP/RS/LM to discuss container and surfacing area – to obtain 3 quotes - ongoing	

	• KC to follow up on site drainage - ongoing • RB to follow up on noticeboard in town – no reply from PC • RB to look at replacing plastic in shed notice board - ongoing • RH to do thank you event for Sarah - complete	
3. Trustee roles and responsibilities	ND – suggested (via email) potentially move from social/trips to plant sale. – MC to speak to ND. RB confirmed he would be leaving at AGM but will carry on doing newsletter. GH suggested that we could look at having some ‘Really Useful Members’ – ie members that help out rather than trustees having to do everything. – bring ideas to next meeting for inclusion at AGM (Seedlings...!). As RH standing down there was a discussion about covering Community/Charity trustee role – MC agreed to do butterfly garden/orchard temporarily. Other roles put on hold for now. Trustee Tasks list was Agreed – to be updated as required. We still need to ask for help – after AGM likely 9-10 trustees – need 7 for quorum. Possibly hold an open day to advertise for trustees	• MC to speak to ND about trustee role • All to bring list of jobs that really useful members could do for Dec meeting. • AP to update joblist • RB to include Advert for trustees in newsletter
4. Finance	See LH’s finance papers – income and expenditure summary. £32021.82 total in bank – 4 accounts, charity/trade/2 x savings Annual social – profit £164.43 Water - already spent over £150 so far this year so likely a leak. GW – to buy refreshments for all events except show	•
5. AGM	Have reports from DB (Publicity and Allotments), GH (Show) and KC (allotments maintenance). Report to be pulled together by mid-Dec, nominations to be done	• All – send Reports to AP/MC by end of Nov
6. Membership –	349 members, 348 paid, 1 honorary member – some members have left as they have not renewed their membership.	•
7. Trading – round up of 2025	Larry presented a round up of his time as Shop Trustee. Highlights included increasing Sales by 3 x from when he took over and increasing profits significantly. Big thank you to Larry for his 4 years looking after the shop!	•
8. Allotments	This month 4 plots have been provided to new plot holders. We still have 12 on waiting list and 9 existing plot holders that are looking to expand.	•

	This therefore means they probably need to wait more than 1 year. Agreed – those waiting for a plot should pay the £6 membership fee even if they don't get a plot for a year – this is because they can still take advantage of the member benefits.	
9. Allotments – general maintenance	Mowers away, replacing standpipe posts, Water leak – is at cricket club, RS to find out where leak is, Steve Arthur – confirmed he has handed gates issue over to 'Bob' but he did not turn up to meetings arranged with KC and RS – trustees are disappointed as he is a representative of the PC.	• RS to follow up water leak • RS to follow up with PC
10. Allotments – improvements, container/paths	Larry presented a report regarding the drainage at the site. Agreed – Chris Curran to bring excavator and dig out ditch. ½-1day work. Need to fence off once done if deep. Need to decide where topsoil spoil to go. For the AGM we need to have plans – vision for future – priorities for next year – approx. costings, MC to do	• KC/RS to organise CC to dig ditch • All to discuss at next meeting other options for spend including container • MC - Priorities for spend/vision – with LH and AP for AGM
11. Monthly programme	Agreed to continue with monthly programme. Suggestions for next years programme includes John Trim – NVS, Gardeners Question Time.	• GW to produce list of speakers (agreed to date) and dates for AGM paperwork
12. Social programme/	Agreed it would be good to take up the free RHS trip to Wisley	•
13. Press/Social Media	Facebook, 284 members and had most views of a post at 200+, for Larry and Anthea photo 2 weeks ago.	• Share and taste – 19th @6.30pm MC to send email out
14. Community Programme	Update from RH - 1/ Community Orchard/Butterfly Garden Plans to plant the replacement Crab Apple Tree are in place. A railway sleeper at the Butterfly Garden needs to be replaced, investigating who is responsible for dealing with this retainer of the beds. A small meeting, to include tea/coffee and cake, for the volunteers of both the Orchard and Butterfly Garden was held as a thank you for their hard	• AP – speak to HCC about railway sleepers • RH to send previous report from Maddie

	work and to thank especially Sarah Mcleod who is standing down after sterling work from her. Helen Fuller has agreed to take over from Sarah and will need our fullest support. 2/ Sponsorship After finding that one of the two applications for sponsorship is not eligible we have only one student to sponsor this year, this is for Maddie who was sponsored last year and has applied for a second year. Propose to keep with last years budget of £750. Agreed to sponsor her. To review for next year.	
15. Any other business	Communications - all to confirm to AP which email address they would like to be used going forward (personal or BWGC) Celebration Event – put on Dec meeting Crown – event, Linda Send Coralie official thank you. BWIB quiz – 30th Jan,	• All – confirm to AP communications email address. • AP to put Vol Celebration event on Dec mtg agenda • MC to send Coralie BWGC thank you.

Meeting finished at 2145

Next meeting: Monday 15 December 2025 at 1 Shore Lane 7.30pm Please send written updates to AP by 8th December using template doc.