

# GRACE & FLAVOUR DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2023: at 7.30pm

Present	Gerry (Chair), John W, Beverley, Ray, Rob, Michael, Ashley, John F			
Apologies	Carolyn, Vicky, Helena			
Minute Taker	John W			
REF	ITEM	NOTES	ACTION	
1.	<b>Meeting venue</b>	Methodist Village Hall		
2.	<b>Minutes of Last Meeting (Dec 2022)</b>	Approved.		
3.	<b>Actions from last meeting</b>			
	1	<b>H&amp;S/Risk Assessment</b>	Ongoing.	AB
	2	<b>New members Induction</b>	All updated and in the potting shed with the handbook. Handbook is now on the website. We have had no new members to test the induction yet. JW to update the DoE induction sheet. Skills sheets need to be reviewed each year for insurance purposes. CW to be consulted on her return. She is going to review them annually.	JW  CW
	3	<b>G+F Website Updates.</b>	It was agreed that we should try to increase our visibility on Google. Members to be encouraged to write reviews as it is seen as the best way to achieve this. GR to ask U3A chairman to consider mutual publicity. It was agreed there was no value in joining RHS In Your Neighbourhood scheme at present. We are members of Social Farms and Gardens which is free. One benefit is that we get our insurance at a reduced rate as a result of our membership. We did belong to community supported agriculture but have decided it is not relevant to us, particularly as we are exclusively a volunteer community garden.	GR
	4	<b>Hedge Planting at Horsley Meadows Update</b>	On a very wet morning a number of volunteers including Penny W and Gerry planted a hedge on Horsley Meadows.	
	5	<b>Handbook</b>	A few small change are needed (AB has a few suggestions which he will forward to GR) but it is mainly completed. The handbook is published on the website and a copy is in the potting shed.	GR
	6	<b>Social Events Calendar</b>	Published on the website.	GR
	7	<b>Pink Trailer and Rotovator Disposal</b>	No success at present.	MT
	8	<b>Shredder</b>	Ongoing.	RB

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<b>4.</b>	<b>Tree Surgeons report on lime trees</b>	<p>Rob Grist's report indicated one lime tree might have a potentially dangerous fungal parasite. His final suggestion was that we should leave the tree and watch to see if there is any further development. As a result of this report we invited Sue Streeter (NT) to view the lime trees. She agreed we should leave and watch. She asked that we move the hardcore, excess soil and waste plant material that has been building up close to some of the trees, and also move the weed bins out of the tree line</p> <p>Three trees were highlighted for attention. We agreed to monitor the lime with potential disease at the base by the compost bins. Also to ensure Rob Grist includes the lime with a dead central limb at head height to be included in the pollarding. The last tree which has fallen and has developed a long dominant branch without roots (so called harp formation) is unstable and needs to be reduced back to the line of lime trees.</p> <p>GR will number the trees.</p> <p>(Rob Grist will pollard the trees on January 24<sup>th</sup>)</p>	GR / JW / RT/ RB
<b>5.</b>	<b>Food Bank Beds</b>	We agreed to try to grow vegetables within the old walls bed behind the flower bed for the food bank. JW to discuss with HSM.	JW / HSM
<b>6.</b>	<b>Finance report (Attached)</b>	We have a working balance of £13,763. Members income already at £1217, about 25% of the average annual figure.	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Garden update</b>	<p>Weather and pests have been an issue this winter. We are perhaps a little behind with spreading manure. We have emptied the fruit cage but now need to work on asparagus beds and old rhubarb beds.</p> <p>All the potatoes, onions, shallots and seeds have been ordered.</p>	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Allotments - update</b>	Nothing to report.	
<b>9.</b>	<b>G+F Website &amp; Comms.</b>	Nothing to report, but see matters arising (3).	
<b>10.</b>	<b>Building team update</b>	New wires have been put on the wall to extend the training of the blackberries. There a number of small projects to be done.	
<b>11.</b>	<b>Wildlife – update</b>	All the nest boxes have been cleared out. Some may need a little work. The pond is at the highest level ever seen. The newly planted hedges appear to be fine.	

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12.	AOB	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. RT suggested we should purchase a new slate notice for the pillar as you enter the garden, cost £115 inc VAT. This was agreed, RT to purchase. It was agreed it should say Grace and Flavour Community Kitchen Garden. A simpler sign for the allotments will be needed for our NGS Sunday.</li><li>2. It was agreed that we need a sub committee to oversee the NGS Day. A number of people expressed interest in helping, including BN and AB. GR will invite CW and VR to join too. Will need to select a spokesperson.</li><li>3. Gerry and Pat will bring milk on Thursday as well as Saturday.</li></ol>	RT  GR
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**Next Meeting: Thursday 9th February 2023 7.30pm, Methodist Hall Wesley Meeting Room**

**Chairman:** Gerry Robbins **Minute Taker:** Beverley Nash