

GRACE & FLAVOUR DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES
Thursday 11th January 2024: at 7.30pm

Present	Gerry (Chair), Beverley, Vicky, Rob, Michael, John F		
Apologies	Carolyn, Helena and Ashley		
Minute Taker	John W		
REF	ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
1.	Minutes of Last Meeting (Dec 2023)	Approved.	
2.	Actions from last meeting	The lease for the garden is not due for renewal until 24 th March 2035.	
2.1	Company Records Retention	Ashley has already circulated an email amplifying the relevant rules.	
2.2	Lease Duration / S Archer's Reply	The lease for the garden is not due for renewal until 24 th March 2035. The reply said that they had no plans to change the garden lease. However, there is no guarantee this will be the case in 11 years' time. They normally look at new leases 12 months before their renewal. She did not address the depreciation question. We agreed to leave following this up at the moment but raise it again no later than 2030.	
2.3	Vegetable Prices: feedback from members	All the responses so far were positive apart from one. This response was read out at the meeting. We thought it was necessary to highlight the food bank and tithe commitments on the website. This we felt was part of our community commitment. GR to contact Helena about the Cobham Foodbank Link We agreed to remove the supporting members category of membership. All non-working members to pay prices without discount. This and the proposal to change the discount banding should be discussed at the OGM in May before a final decision.	GR / HSM
2.4	AED Battery Life	Ongoing.	RT
2.5	AGM Minutes Corrections	The corrections have been made and are now on the website.	
2.6	Tool Audit	Gerry has completed a tool audit. All the Wolf Tools that we use have a handle. It was agreed that Bob S could purchase wax/oil for the maintenance of the tool handles. We need some secateurs for general garden use (not Felco for tree pruning). Gerry suggested one pair of Wilkinson single handed side shears and one pair of moderately priced secateurs. Gerry to contact Helena to discuss the appropriate purchase.	GR
2.7	Catalyst Project Visits	Sandy has informed us that Catalyst have decided against the proposed visits to G+F.	

GRACE & FLAVOUR DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES
Thursday 11th January 2024: at 7.30pm

2.8	Homeschool ed Children request	We agreed that we support children coming to the garden. However, they should always be under the supervision of a parent or a responsible adult.	
2.9	Paintings Exhibition	Issues raised: Would it break the terms of our lease? Are the paintings only of G&F? Is it a selling exhibition? How would that work? We thought if it went ahead that holding the exhibition at the same time as the NGS day would overcome any parking problems. Rob and Ray to look at the viability of using the potting shed and deciding the number of paintings that could be displayed if the exhibition went ahead.	RB / RT
2.10	NGS Plant Sales	Beverley has produced a short paragraph about the possibility of a plant sale on the NGS day. She will send to Gerry for it to be sent out to members via a newsletter. NGS Owners Lunch is to be held at West Horsley Place Gerry and Beverley to attend. Stationery for the day has been ordered. The first committee meeting will be held in April when Carolyn returns.	BN /GR
3.	Finance report (Attached)	Ashley was absent but in brief it was reported that spending is down this financial year and sales are steady.	
4.	G+F Website and Communications	A new website front page has been introduced. The aim is to gradually go through the site making appropriate changes. Gerry is consulting with Ashley.	GR /AB
5.	Garden update	John is in the process of purchasing seeds etc. He may have spare Pink Fir potatoes to sell to allotment holders. Gardening committee to meet next week. (<i>Meeting postponed.</i>) The group probably needs expanding to include someone with an interest in the flowers in the garden. HSM to invited when appropriate	JW GR
6.	Allotments - update	Michael is seeing someone tomorrow who is interested in taking over the spare ½ allotment. In addition, at present there are two people are on the waiting list. Michael is to send an e mail to discover how much interest there is for a further manure delivery for allotment holders. Michael and Rob to look at a design for covers to be attached to the allotment dipping tanks. Gerry to send a note to thank Heather for clearing the weeds from the daffodil bed at the entrance to the GF garden.	MT /RT GR
7.	Building team update	Their main concern is whether Ashley is able to put in a bid for a grant to cover the cost of repairing the raised beds. They aim to pollard the willow tree in the cleared part of the east hedge area.	AB

GRACE & FLAVOUR DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES
Thursday 11th January 2024: at 7.30pm

8.	Wildlife – update	Gerry is to go back to Spring Reach nursery to purchase one year whips for the east wall hedge. Pat and Gerry have cleaned out the nest boxes. One owl box needs to be taken down and redesigned in order to enable it to be cleaned by removing a back panel.	GR
12.	AOB	<p>Handbook Revisions</p> <p>Garden sub-committee – remove Bob Spackman and Justine Rego</p> <p>“Accelerants not used” is incorrect and will be re-worded.</p> <p>The lease/ insurance suggests we cannot “Work with heat” except to burn debris. To be clarified with AB at next meeting.</p> <p>Only assistance and guide dogs will be permitted in the community garden. All dogs should be kept on a lead at all times.</p> <p>The constitution should be added as a new appendix as members should read it and sign to say they have read it.</p> <p><i>(Note added after meeting: In view of length of the constitution, GR will highlight items most relevant to new members to aid reading!)</i></p>	<p>GR</p> <p>AB</p> <p>GR</p>

Next Meeting: Thursday 8th February 2023 7.30pm, Garden

Chairman: Gerry Robbins Minute Taker: Beverley Nash