

## GRACE & FLAVOUR DIRECTORS' MEETING

Directors' Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2019

<b>Place:</b>	<b>The Wesley Room, Methodist Church</b>
<b>Directors Present:</b>	Ray Beard, Ashley Brown, Amanda de Haast, Nicki Douet, John Fluker, Robin Satow, Helena Stuart-Matthews, Rob Treble, Michael Trower and John Whitlock.
<b>Apologies:</b>	Bob Spackman
<b>Chairman:</b>	Amanda de Haast
<b>Minute Taker:</b>	Nicki Douet
<b>Agenda Item</b>	
<b>1.0 Welcome</b>	
Amanda welcomed all those present.	
<b>2.0 Minutes of last meeting</b>	
Approved by all present; actions reviewed.	
<b>3.0 Actions from last meeting</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Documentation</b> – List of what and where – Bob has passed a large amount of paperwork to Ashley. Amanda has contacted Su Johnston to ascertain if she still has any. <b>Action: Ongoing</b>
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Wall Repair update</b> – The National Trust has advised that as things currently stand there is no money to re-build the west wall or dismantle it and install a new close board fence. Their top priority is to maintain the safety of site users and have put forward 2 possible options: 1. Fence the wall either side to create an exclusion zone approximately 3m wide each side in order to ensure a safe distance is maintained by users from the structure. 2. G + F members to undertake the work on a voluntary basis; a controlled take down of the wall to a safe height reducing the risk of it falling and improving the structural integrity of the wall that would be left. This would still require deer fence to be installed behind the wall in order to protect the crops as clearly the wall would be less of a deterrent.  The meeting agreed that option 1 would mean losing too much of the garden especially the fruit cages. It is unlikely that our insurance would cover option 2.  Rob said that he is seeking the advice of a contractor working at West Horsley Place regarding a temporary but long term solution, including costings, of using engineered scaffolding to 'prop' the wall up from the outside. <b>Action: Rob</b>
<b>3.3</b>	<b>Bodging group update</b> – The shave horses are almost finished; a pole lathe will be made next.
<b>3.4</b>	<b>Water harvesting update</b> – Michael contacted a number of local parish councils but most don't have allotments. Ripley PC replied that they charge £39 for each allotment (they are larger than the G + F allotments) and the income generated covers their water bill but they

larger than the G + F allotments, and the income generated covers their water bill but they would not be able to police the water usage. Most Ripley allotment holders have their own water harvesting. Helena pointed out that the water pressure at G + F would be insufficient for allotment hoses.  
Rob asked whether another dip tank would help. Discussed; agreed that the 4 on the allotments are sufficient and well-sited. Michael will respond.

3.5	<b>Diseased silver birch, stump grinding and Lime tree pollarding</b> – The silver birch has been removed and the lime trees pollarded. The stump grinding is ongoing. <b>Action: Ongoing</b>
3.6	<b>Posting on NextDoor</b> – Ashley just needs a verification code which he should receive soon. This will allow him to post on NextDoor. <b>Action: Ashley</b>
3.7	<b>Pea stick &amp; bean pole harvesting</b> – Robin reported that 8 G + F members helped today. A slightly larger quantity was harvested than in January so it is anticipated that we have enough for the year. <b>Action: Robin to write and thank Surrey Wildlife Trust</b>
3.8	<b>Succession planning</b> – <b>Action: Ongoing</b>
3.9	<b>10<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration &amp; Open Day on 29<sup>th</sup> June</b> – Suggestions offered included – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Labelling all beds for visitors viewing (Gerry Robbins is renewing fruit trees labels).</li> <li>• Invite gardening Clubs to whom talks have been given. <b>Action: Bob</b></li> <li>• Invite the June Brocksom, who is a tithe recipient to open the event. <b>Action: Amanda</b></li> <li>• Bodging demo.</li> <li>• Wildlife walks led by Eddie.</li> <li>• Free refreshments, but flower and veg. sales.</li> <li>• Music (try U3A Music Group – also Ken Macintyre).</li> <li>• Overflow parking (Dene Place).</li> <li>• Picnics on Tom's Terrace.</li> <li>• Advertising – Horsley News (Bob as contact); Horsley Directory; HCPS Magazine (Rob. T. as contact); Parish Council website.</li> </ul>
4.0	<b>Finance Report</b> (Ashley) Report attached.  <b>Fruit trees</b> – We need one fruit tree to fill a gap. It has been suggested that the avenue could be extended in which case another 4 trees will need to be purchased as well as spikes and posts but this will be in the next financial year. Agreed to re-assess at the end of the year regarding one tree that <i>may</i> need to come out.  <b>Gas bottle cage</b> – Fixed in place with a combination padlock.
5.0	<b>Garden Update</b> (John W)  <b>Squashes</b> – To be grown in the area between the greenhouse and polytunnel that has been covered with black plastic for 2 years.  <b>Asparagus</b> – Add another bed where courgette has been grown for a long time. For a while there will be 3 asparagus beds but the new one will not produce a crop for a couple of years.  <b>Tool stations</b> – One is complete, second to be done. A mix of tools should be kept at each station. It was agreed to buy 3 more hoes. <b>Action: John W</b>  <b>Compost bin covers</b> – Complete. <b>Raspberry cane supports</b> – To be done later when required.  <b>Trug tubs</b> – John W suggested we buy a few as useful receptacles and light, e.g. when weeding. Agreed. <b>Action: John W</b>

	<p><b>Heated propagator</b> – New one purchased to replace broken one.</p> <p><b>Potatoes</b> – Chitting in the Potting Shed</p> <p><b>Tasks</b> – About to start sowing. Woodchip spreading and weeding &amp; tidying to be done.</p> <p><b>Duke of Edinburgh</b> – Currently have 2 D of E students and 2 more have asked to volunteer at the garden. Our limit is 6 students.</p>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Allotments</b> (Michael)
	<p><b>WH Parish Council rep</b> – Michael reported that he will give Catherine Young a garden tour.</p> <p><b>Woodchip</b> – Allotment holders can help themselves to woodchip deliveries.</p>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Website</b> (Ashley)
	<p><b>Communications plan</b> - Ashley circulated the latest version of the communications plan which details which events should be featured in the G + F email newsletter for the following month(s).</p> <p>Rob suggested having a number of photos scrolling at the top of the G + F web pages.</p> <p><b>Action: Ashley</b></p>
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Building Team</b> (Rob)
	<p><b>Hand rail</b> – Between entrance path and allotments is complete.</p> <p><b>Floor levelling</b> – Will be done when the weather improves and tea breaks taken outside.</p> <p><b>Potting Shed brick wall</b> – Different methods of cleaning the brickwork are being investigated.</p> <p><b>Path to Dene Place gate and to Potting Shed</b> – To improve wheelchair access. A meeting to be arranged with NT, Dene Place, Amanda &amp; Rob to discuss. <b>Action: Amanda</b></p>
<b>9.0</b>	<b>Noticeboards &amp; photos at Budgens</b>
	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p><b>Action: Amanda to speak to Bob</b></p>
<b>10.0</b>	<b>Proposal to plant hedge on boundaries</b>
	<p>Beyond the west wall, along the boundary with the farmland for wildlife. All issues were considered – plenty of light as trees pollarded, current wildlife habitats, maintenance, effect on livestock in field beyond. Decision taken not to plant hedge.</p>
<b>11.0</b>	<b>Proposal to publish meeting minutes on website</b>
	<p>A few people have asked if the meeting minutes could be published on the G + F website. Discussed and agreed.</p> <p><b>Action: Ashley to post the minutes starting from the 2018 AGM</b></p>

<b>12.0</b>	<b>Membership to Social Farms &amp; Gardens</b>
	<p>Ashley had circulated the website link prior to the meeting. Membership is free and gives access to useful advice and information as well as discounts on products such as insurance.</p> <p><b>Action: Ashley to register G + F as a member</b></p>
<b>13.0</b>	<b>AOB</b>
	<p><b>Visits</b> Surrey Hills Society – <b>Action: John F</b></p> <p>Bookham Bees WI – <b>Action: John W</b></p> <p>Binscombe Medical Centre – <b>Action: Ashley</b></p>

Jane Rotheram, RHS – **Action: Ashley**

**Talk** - Bob or Robin to give a talk to Leatherhead Garden Club at Squires on 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

**Defibrillator** – Serviced and the batteries and pads replaced by a member of Central Surrey Community First Responders.

**Guildford in Bloom** – Ray is liaising.

**G + F ecological report** – Ashley suggested that this report which was prepared for the original planning permission be reviewed.

**Action: Ashley to circulate to the committee**

**Action: All. Report to be reviewed at March meeting**

**WH Parish Magazine** – Charles Hope has requested an article for the magazine. **Action: ??????**

**Ripley Lane hedge** –

**Action: Ashley to check planning details to confirm heights before work is carried out**

**Date of next meeting:**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 – 7:30 pm at The Wesley Room, Methodist Church.**