

GRACE & FLAVOUR DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES
Thursday 8th February 2024: at 7.30pm

Present	Gerry (Chair), Beverley, John W, Ray, Michael, Rob, Vicky, Ashley		
Apologies	John F, Helena, Carolyn		
Minute Taker	Beverley		
REF	ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
1.	Minutes of Last Meeting (January)	Approved	
2.	Actions from last meeting		
2.1	Food Bank Description	Helena has provided GR with a paragraph on the Food Bank to include in the handbook. It was agreed that this should also be on the website. JW has agreed with Helena not to have a separate foodbank bed but to grow more in the garden. (Also see item 8)	GR
2.2	AED Battery Life	Ongoing.	RT
2.3	Garden Tools	A pair of good secateurs, a pruning saw and grass shears have been bought. It was agreed that these should not be in general circulation. The fruit pruning tools will be put in the fruit pruning box. Currently AB has the saw and Anne B the secateurs. Two older pairs of secateurs have been donated and are in the tray next to the knives. Grass shears in small green shed. Bob S is aiming to finish oiling the tool handles next week.	
2.4	Paintings Exhibition	RT reckons that around 10 small paintings (A3 size) can fit on the walls of the potting shed at reasonable eye height. Paintings could also be set up on easels (outside, if weather good). It was agreed that the paintings exhibition should be a feature of the Open Day, with just the details to be decided.	
2.5	NGS Open Day	An email about plant sales was sent to members. Additional offers came from Anne B (including manning the stall), Lesley P, Tim B and Berenice Grundy. VR and AB also offered plants. The stall could be on Tom's patio, to take advantage of the shade. GR, JW and BN will be attending the NGS lunch at West Horsley Place on 17/3. GR will be away the week before the Open Day but will come down early on the Sunday.	
3.	Expenses Policy Revision	Action: AB will review the expenses policy on the website. Action: RT will review the H&S policy which, like many of the policies, has not been reviewed for some time.	AB RT
4.	WHPC Awards for Service to Community	Action: GR volunteered to fill in the form and then circulate.	GR

GRACE & FLAVOUR DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 8th February 2024: at 7.30pm

5.	Squires Gardens "Love Where You Live" Competition	Thanks to Tom Suffolk for drawing our attention to this item. Gift vouchers are being offered (3x£1k, 4x£500). Action: GR will find out if G&F qualifies to enter. Action: VR volunteered to fill in the application form.	GR VR
6.	Finance report	To date income is possibly slightly ahead, with reduced spend. EHPC recently paid £500 towards the cost of the patio. 1 plum tree has been bought. The first water bill of £288 has been received. AB has started a tree surgery contingency fund. There is still compost to buy but few seeds. Action: AB will approach WHPC regarding funding for the raised bed. Feet bracing is also required for the fruit cage.	AB
7.	G&F Website and Communications including website updating	The directors expressed their appreciation to AB for updating the website. Every page has changed, Vegetable of the month has been introduced – this month Kale. JW agreed to provide a garden update four times a year. Action: GR will compose a newsletter for Tony to send out regarding the new website and asking if anything is missing.	GR
8.	Garden Report	The Food Bank bed will not be separate this year – with extra vegetables from the main garden being taken to the Food Bank. The plan is to use the area for potatoes. JW spoke to Helena about the herb bed. It could be re-sited in front of the potting shed. The chard bed next to the path could be used for flowers. The Gardening Group meeting needs to be rescheduled. There was a discussion about whether to grow sweetcorn this year, given the badger activity. We are on target to prepare for sowing and planting from next week. The potato supplier is behind with orders.	
9.	Allotments Report	MT allocated an allotment today. There are two half allotments vacant. Everyone had the manure they wanted. The strip in the allotments next to G+F entrance will be planted with Cosmos to look good on the Open Day.	
11.	Building Team Report	The Building Team has focused on wood treatment to the props on the west wall. All inside vertical props are done. There is a lot of weed amongst the props. This will be strimmed and weed suppressant will be sought. The team will replace the rotted vertical along Holly Avenue. The team has also looked at the reported ash die back in the car park.	
12.	Wildlife	Roman Zischka, the NT Tree Officer, inspected the trees, predominantly from the viewpoint of safety of people in the garden. Within the wall is rated high activity with outside the wall rated low activity. In general, the report was pretty favourable. He advised removing the bench from under the silver birch, but did not require it to be cordoned off. The pond is full! GR and RB have repaired the rotten base of the big owl box and rested it in one of the limes.	

GRACE & FLAVOUR DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES
Thursday 8th February 2024: at 7.30pm

13	AOB	<p>The defibrillator pads have been replaced at a cost of £60. The registration website has been updated.</p> <p>The fruit trees in Hollier Avenue and along the wall have been pruned. Another pass is required. The trees in the allotment remain to be done.</p> <p>Someone from Bookham wants to do a tour. The request is to be forwarded to JW to consider.</p> <p>Action: MT will update the large equipment register, which dates back to 2015.</p> <p>There are 4 DoE students, who will be starting on 24 Feb.</p> <p>Action: AB will update the fruit tree list and put it on the website.</p> <p>It was agreed that it would be useful to obtain a litter picker.</p>	<p>MT</p> <p>AB</p>
-----------	------------	---	---------------------

Next Meeting: Thursday 14 March 2024 7.30pm, Wesley Room, Methodist Hall, WH
Chairman: Gerry Robbins **Minute Taker:** Vicky Rutherford