

GRACE & FLAVOUR DIRECTORS' MEETING 10th October 2024

Present	Gerry (Chair), Ray, Michael, Rob, and John F		
Apologies	John W, Carolyn, Helena, Stephen ,and Beverley		
Minute Taker	John F		
REF	ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
1.	Minutes of Last Meeting - Sept.	Approved	GR
2	Matters Arising not covered elsewhere	3.1 New Expenses Policy: This is now on the G & F website but needs to be reloaded with "draft" removed. 3.2.Budget subcommittee: This meeting will be held at the Garden on Thursday 24 th October at 12.30	SSM SSM
4.	Garden Report:	<p>Considering the dreadful weather at the beginning of the season, I think overall it has been a good year. A notable success was the dwarf French beans. We have grown more than in previous years. Many vegetables were produced over the summer in spite of the poor start, such as courgettes, runner beans, squash and Borlotti beans. The pink fir potatoes grown from our own saved potatoes have cropped well. However we have had too many green potatoes!</p> <p>We have grown too many cabbages, pak choi, beetroot and radicchio.</p> <p>We have had some issues with butterflies getting past some of the Enviromesh. We have agreed to replace some next year as much of it has been in use for 10 years. We plan to move a few herbs to the north wall and begin clearing the old herb beds. We also plan to clear part of the flower beds to enable us to reduce the bindweed, perhaps putting a temporary bed next to the raspberries.</p>	JW
5.	Company Secretary Issues:	<p>Our insurance has been renewed. Gerry, Helena and John F will retire by rotation at the AGM. All are willing to stand for re-election.</p> <p>Ashley and Vicky have already resigned as Directors. Carolyn wishes to resign with effect at the AGM in November. There are no current plans to replace them. Any new nominations for appointment as Directors can also be dealt with at the AGM.</p>	
6.	Finance Report:	<p>Sales continued their steady increase through this year's harvest period. Member Sales totalled £1,300 for September, compared to £943 for August. Although less than last year's monthly record (£1,353 September 2023) this is a good crop considering recent inclement weather.</p> <p>A donation of £58 was received and the Directors thank recent visitors to our garden from Little Bookham WI for this.</p> <p>Expenditure in the last month was £830 including £390 for the annual insurance premium. Overall we generated a surplus from garden produce this month of £528 compared with £86 deficit in August.. In addition, allotment fees were received in advance from all plot holders. The associated income will be recognised in the next financial year.</p> <p>This year's results are better than the original forecast. We now have sufficient funds in the current account to increase our separate reserve by £3,000. A suitable account will be investigated.</p> <p>Draft Annual accounts for the financial year ending 30th September2024 will be presented at next month's AGM .</p>	SSM
7.	G&F Website & Communications:	<p>Website: Mark is adding material as it arises. 70% of the work has been done on the new website.</p> <p>Communications: Beverley has analysed the list of names and email addresses of individuals in the database receiving the newsletter, and compared it to a list of active members. There were a half a dozen or so active members who were not on the database. Beverley has contacted them individually and encouraged them to sign up to the newsletter via the website.</p>	MB BN

