

Baildon Horticultural Society

Minutes of Zoom Meeting 12 April 2021

TAKING PART

John Turner JT (Chair)
Louise Mallinson LM
Robin Weedon RW
Sue Wheatley SW
Ian Helyar IH
Dawn Tinsley DT
Richard Nottidge RN
Peter Linley PL

1. Apologies – Mike Webster MW, Eric Waterworth EW, Claire Waterworth CW, Charlotte Martin CM.

2. Chairs opening remarks – JT updated the Committee about the Treasurer. JT reported that there had been 2 more burst pipes at Charlestown. A plot holder had mended one but a plumber had been called out for the other. (the tap closest to the hut). Someone has put a double tap on this and the plumber thinks this may have caused the problem. No one attending the meeting had authorised the double tap. It was agreed that it would be helpful to notify all plot holders about how to turn the taps off. (**Action – DT**). JT advised that he had made an application to Bradford Council for a grant under the Community Chest Scheme, for water butts. The idea is that butts could be provided to plot holders who are prepared to add guttering to their sheds to collect rain water. JT will look into a cheap source of water butts. (**Action – JT**). If the grant application is successful then members will need to be informed through the newsletter and social media.

3.Actions from previous Zoom Meetings:

- New website – RW confirmed that this was progressing and gave a demo of his work to date. He advised that he wanted to personalise the website and would therefore take photographs at both sites (**Action -RW**)
- Charlestown Door Repair – still outstanding. DT to speak to Simon (**Action – DT and Simon**)
- Water supply- has been turned back on.
- Shop rota – DT reported that this wasn't required as Simon and Steve were assisting as before and others were on call if required.
- Show – the Headteacher has confirmed that she is happy for the school to be used. Date 5th September
- Open gardens – on hold until 2022
- Telephone boxes – see item 7
- Electricity for huts – see item 8
- Repair to Thompson Lane Hut- work has been completed
- Other improvements at Thompson Lane – deferred. EW to talk to JT (**Action -JT and EW**)
- Community Plot – see item 9
- Handover to Temporary Treasurer – Clive Hall has taken over the bulk of the work but JT is doing the internet banking side, ensuring invoices are paid and then passing the information to Clive Hall to include in the spreadsheet.
- Permission for sheds, greenhouses, polytunnels – the form has already been used for a few sheds and is proving to be useful.
- Skip – DT reported that this had been ordered for Saturday.
- Meeting about shop – JT to organise (**Action - JT**)

4. Decision between meetings

The Committee agreed the following amendments to the rules:

- following wording added to rule 18 "and will result in immediate disciplinary action"

- Following wording added to rule 24 (c) " or is abusive and threatening towards Committee Members"

SW reported that when she made the changes she spotted an issue with paragraph numbering and would therefore address this.

JT wanted to make sure everyone had an up to date copy of the rules. SW advised that whenever she made changes she sent them to RW to update the website but would send the amended rules to all Committee members as well. **(Action- SW)**

5. Members Issues – None

6. Reports

- Allotment Officers:

Charlestown – CM reported (via e-mail) that there were 12 on the waiting list and that a further plot might become available.

Thompson Lane - LM reported that there were 18 on the waiting list and that the new plot holders were getting on well.

- Treasurer – JT reported that there was £10,061 in the current account but that there was an invoice of around £1600 to come in and that there was £8,169 in reserves.
- Secretary – nothing to report
- Health and Safety – No issues to report; Indeed the site is looking much improved.
- Show Secretary – show to be held on 5 September. Judges are in place for the allotment competition and DT advised that she already had 4 sponsors and one new one. She mentioned that the Town Council had been going to sponsor last year's show and wanted to know if they were going to sponsor this year's show and if so that RW would need an advert. JT to speak to Town Clerk (**Action- JT**). DT reported that the intention was initially only to have an online schedule. The schedule can be printed as late as the end of July.

7. Telephone Boxes

RW has started work on the box near The Junction PH. He has removed the glass. However, the project has been delayed because he wants to speak to the landlord and the pub isn't scheduled to open until May. Addition volunteers are also required. (**Action – DT**). Input is also required from Mark at the Town Council (**Action – JT**).

8. Electricity for huts

RN reported that the solar panels had now been installed at Thompson Lane and that he and Mike Webster had spent a couple of days installing CCTV, security lights and also internal lights. LM asked that a big thank you be recorded for their hard work.

9. Community/Communal Plot.

IH reported that the Community Plot was now fully occupied and that the parcel holders were all enthusiastic and had started work improving the soil on the plot and were using the greenhouses. He thanked DT for providing a third compost bin. IH reported that he had stressed to the new tenants the need to comply with Covid requirements. The bed that is to be used for flowers for pollinators has been

dug over but still needs to be planted up and that if anyone had any spare herbs/flowers to let him know.

10. Plot 50

JT advised that Bradford Council had decided that the building did not require the submission of an application for planning permission. Work has been agreed with the plot holder about how to make it a disabled plot including the construction of raised beds. The plot will be a disabled plot in perpetuity and if the tenant vacates the plot the building will remain. An inspection of the work will be carried out in September. **(Action – JT)**

11. Public Access

The previous decision to allow the Charlestown gate to be left open because of the risk of Covid was reviewed and it was agreed that as the days were getting longer it could be left open between the hours of 9:00 and 19:00 provided there were cars in the main car park. DT to send e-mail to advise tenants. **(Action -DT)**.

In addition, a sign is to be displayed advising that the site is private property and for members only.

LM advised that Thompson Lane was open during the day and early evening.

JT advised that he had put a grant application in for solar panels at Charlestown for £2,750 but that the decision had been delayed until after 15 May due to the local elections. The Society will need to fund CCTV cameras and security lighting and possibly all the work if a grant is not forthcoming.

12. Education Facility

Deferred until away day.

13. Insurance

LM explained that there was some confusion regarding what our Insurance covered and IH agreed to look into it. **(Action -IH)**

14.Tree Nursery

RN advised that an area was being used at Thompson Lane for growing trees and that there were around 500 because it hadn't been possible to plant then due to covid. Additional trees will be required and a message is to be circulated to members and an item included in the Newsletter. **(Action – DT)**

15. Council's use of Weedkiller

LM reported that grass verges had been sprayed near Thompson Lane and Roberts Park and concern was expressed that this was harmful to bees and pollinators. She agreed to look into this further (**Action – LM**). JT advised that he would speak to the Town Clerk. **(Action – JT)** and asked RN to raise at the Environment Committee of the Town Council **(Action – RN)**.

LM also mentioned "No Mow May" and agreed to send a link round about this **(Action -LM)**

16. Away Day

JT explained that what he had in mind was an afternoon meeting with tea. IH to check with the golf club about when a meeting will be possible. **(Action – IH)**

17.Away Day Action List

To include:

- Fundraising

- Education Building
- Psychology of Allotment Use

17. AOB

None

18. Date of Next Meeting

Zoom Monday 10 May 19:00