

Baildon Horticultural Society

Minutes of Zoom Meeting 10 May 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
Eric Waterworth EW
Charlotte Martin CM

1. Apologies – Mike Webster MW, Claire Waterworth CW

2. Chairs opening remarks – JT mentioned that he had spotted RW painting the telephone box and thanked him. He advised that he had been contacted by the “Walkers are Welcome Group” who had asked to visit the allotments. A provisional date of 29 June has been booked. The new Chair of Baildon Town Council has asked if the Society would like a regular stall at the Farmer’s Market. This was discussed briefly and will be discussed further at the away day. (**Action – all at away day**)

3. Actions from previous Zoom Meetings:

- New website – RW confirmed that this was progressing and would be operational in a few weeks time (**Action -RW**)
- Charlestown Door Repair – DT has spoken to Simon and it should be fixed in the next couple of weeks (**Action – Simon**)
- Let tenants know how to turn water off – (**Action for winter**)
- Water butts – Cost £30. Included in bid to Bradford Council and awaiting decision.
- Thompson Lane Improvements – JT been in touch with EW. Defer at moment.
- Skip – went ok
- Organise meeting about shop – quick meeting has been held and need to discuss further at the away day. May need a sub-committee. Need to consider whether orders can be placed through the website for collection. There is congestion on site on Sunday mornings. (**Action – away day**)
- Circulate amended rules – done
- Town Council Sponsoring show – agreed will have back page
- Telephone box project - JT reported that unfortunately the Town Council Officer is not able to help at the moment.
- Plot 50 – letter was circulated
- Gate – tenants were notified about the revised hours for leaving the gate open.
- Review Insurance – IH reported that he was still waiting for a response from the Insurer but that whilst personal effects were insured nothing within the tenants’ sheds was.
- Tree Nursery – article was included in the last newsletter
- Use of weedkiller – JT has spoken to the Town Clerk and it is to be brought up at the Environment Committee. LM advised that she had spoken to Friends of the Earth. There is no safe herbicide.
- No Mow May – link was circulated
- Away Day – issues at golf club. Possible dates discussed and IH to contact club. (**Action – IH**)

4. Members Issues – complaint received about use of weedkiller on lane to smallholding plots. JT to speak to the plot holder who had carried out the spraying. (**Action – JT**)

5. Reports

- Allotment Officers:

Charlestown – CM reported that there were 15 on the waiting list and no plots coming up. There are around 10/11 new plot holders.

Thompson Lane - LM reported that there were 20 on the waiting list. A preliminary inspection had been carried out for the allotment competition and everything was looking good. The solar panels are working well. There are 7 new plot holders.

The form is being used for new sheds and is proving to be very useful. CM is keeping the forms with the Tenancy Agreements.

LM advised that Crossley Evans were going to quote for taking away the container at Thompson Lane. JT wondered whether in its place it might be possible to have a communal greenhouse with heated propagators using the solar power.

- Treasurer – JT reported that there was £8,369 in the current account but that there was a bill for £480 waiting to be paid (PL mentioned that there had been a delivery the previous week and a bill for around £500 was expected) and that there was £8,169 in reserves. He noted that since March, Acorn had been paid £3,231 and that £650 of this was VAT that the Society couldn't reclaim. He suggested the need to review our spending. The Society only makes around 10% on the goods purchased. A charity shop makes around 40%. Another matter to be discussed at the away day. (**Action – Away day**). JT also noted the need for a half yearly financial report and audit.
- Secretary – nothing to report
- Health and Safety – No issues to report.
- Show Secretary – DT reported that she and RW had been through the schedule and had already got 6 sponsors and was waiting for others to get back to her. Everything was going to plan with volunteers and judges in place. JT mentioned that we should encourage all plot holders to enter produce into the show.

6. Projects

Telephone Boxes

RW advised that he had been painting the telephone box and railings and that he would then look at the interior and that there would also be a need for hard landscaping. The cobbled floor would be re-instated and raised timber beds constructed. He intended to make it look like planting had returned to nature and there would be a link to brewing in the planting. It was agreed that a sign should be placed onto the site saying "renovations by Baildon Horticultural Society".

RW advised that he had salvaged glass and frames which could be used for the Station Road telephone box. (**Action ongoing by RW**)

Electricity for huts

JT reported that he was awaiting the outcome of the grant application to Bradford Council but that a commitment had been made to install solar panels whatever the outcome of this bid.

Community/Communal Plot.

IH reported that one of the tenants of the Community Plot would be taking on his own plot and would therefore be vacating the community plot and he would approach the next person on the waiting list. He noted that manure had been added to the two beds which would be good for the next person. (**Action -IH**)

7. BHS Clothing

Views were sought on whether to source clothing with the BHS logo. Quotes(approx.) had been provided:

Polo shirt - £7.25

Gilet - £10-12

Suggested colour – green

RW to look into designs (**Action – RW**) and liaise with CM. The possibility of a photoshoot to promote was discussed.

It was agreed to have sample sizes and get money up front before placing an order.

8. New Tap, Charlestown

Some of the smallholders have to carry water quite a distance. They have offered to dig a channel to link up to the main supply. The plumber would then be able to connect it for around £120. CM confirmed that water butts were insufficient and would run dry. The Committee agreed to this action. JT to inform the smallholders (**Action JT**).

9. Chippings

It was agreed that the Society should continue to have these delivered to Charlestown and LM asked that a source be found for Thompson Lane.

10 Away Day

- SW noted that unfortunately she had missed off a couple of items from the list and apologised for this (Education Building, Psychology of Allotment Use)
- .

JT asked IH to agree a date for the meeting with the golf club. (**Action – IH**)

11. AOB

None

12. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 14 June 7:00. Hopefully to be the last zoom meeting.