

Baildon Horticultural Society

Minutes of Zoom Meeting 12 July 2021

TAKING PART

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

1. Apologies – Mike Webster MW, Claire Waterworth CW, Charlotte Martin CM, Ian Helyar IH

2. Chairs opening remarks – JT noted that a barbeque had been held at Charlestown the previous day and thanked the organisers. He advised that the Town Clerk and Chair of the Town Council had been shown round the site and were both impressed. The Beavers had also visited the site for their gardening/horticulture badge, assisted by CM and DT with RW taking photographs of the visit, which unfortunately was in the rain.

3. Actions from previous Zoom Meetings:

- JT advised that he had had problems getting the Committee together for the away day and that the golf club had confirmed that they could host an extended meeting on the day of the next Committee meeting (from 7:00 to 10:00). The Committee confirmed that they were happy to do this. (**Action SW to ask IH to book the golf club**).
- Let tenants know how to turn water back on (**Action for winter**)
- Thompson Lane – see item 8 below
- Society Membership (**Action SW – still outstanding**)
- Health and Safety Inspection – SW advised that IH had sent an e-mail to JT. No issues at Charlestown. He would arrange an inspection for Thompson Lane with LM (**Action IH**)
- Photo of greenhouse- done
- Tabards for show – Cost £6:50 but need logo. RW dealing with (**Action – RW**)
- Clothing (**Action – RW**)
- Complaint about Cockerels – dealt with

4. Members' Issues

Theft of wheelbarrow. The Committee agreed that if it was another plot holder then it was misconduct and would justify instant termination of tenancy.

The weed issue was discussed. Main issue relates to bindweed and mare's tail. Some plot holders cultivate wildflowers for pollinators and nettles to make compost with which is acceptable. (**Action SW to draft e-mail and DT to circulate and also SW to draft letters to be handed out; include the need to keep hedges to 5ft**).

The roadside hedge has now been trimmed back but a shrub is growing over the entrance from the neighbouring house. (**Action – JT, to ask the owner in first instance to cut it back**)

5. Reports

- Allotment Officers:

Charlestown – DT reported (on the allotment officer's behalf) that there were 19 on the waiting list. One tenant had recently been evicted and a tenant from the community plot had just taken

over the plot. There were no other vacancies. Two improvement letters had been sent out and a termination of tenancy letter.

Thompson Lane - LM reported that there were 18 on the waiting list and no vacant plots.

- Treasurer – JT reported that since November 2020 income had been £17,560 and expenditure £16,228.
- Secretary – SW advised that she had nothing to report.
- Health and Safety – IH not at the meeting.
- Show Secretary – DT advised that she had just received the Schedule and that it looked good. She will be seeking volunteers to deliver it. DT and CM will visit the Weeton Show. There was then a discussion about who would be handing out the prizes at the show.

6. Projects :

Telephone Boxes

RW has progressed and it is looking good. RW is getting support from the pub landlord.

Electricity for huts

This was installed at Charlestown on Friday. RN and JT have installed the lighting today but were not able to do the CCTV due to the rain.

Community/Communal Plot.

SW reported that IH had asked that discussion about this be deferred until the next meeting. There were concerns about the lack of maintenance of the beds. JT suggested that this be a separate Agenda item next time not just under projects (**Action – SW**)

7. Treasurer

Unfortunately, CW is unlikely to be in a position to act as Treasurer until at least December so an alternative arrangement needs to be considered. JT and DT have spent a lot of time trying to sort things out. The spreadsheet that is used needs improving. The Committee authorised JT and DT to meet with a local accountant to see if she could help out in the interim with the financial management of the Society, and then report back to the Committee via e-mail. (**Action – JT, DT**). If there are to be changes to how the Society organises its financial management this will need to be considered by the AGM.

DT advised that she would need a Show Treasurer.

8. Thompson Lane Improvements

A quote of £2,800 had been received for the provision of a new concrete base. This had been looked into and an alternative quote of £350 had been received. The possibility of a wooden structure was being considered – to be used for propagators. An approximate costing for this was £1,500. However, a plot holder had offered a free conservatory and this was being considered. (**Action – MW**). SW advised that the need for planning permission should be investigated.

JT commented that there was a budget of £2,500; although where this was from was not made clear.

JT advised that when he had shown the Town Clerk and Chair around Charlestown he had explained his vision for a building to them and the possibility of it being used for community purposes for example work with the scouts and beavers and for educational talks. SW expressed concern that this had been raised with the Town Council when it had not been discussed by the Committee.

The working party will continue to look at options and costings for a new building at Thompson Lane and will put a proposal to the Committee.

9. Use of Solar Power at Charlestown

The power will be used for lighting and CCTV cameras however there will be additional power available. Options for using this were discussed:

- A hatching area for chicks
- Charging for battery operated tools (this was investigated further however the supply is 12V and they need 240V)
- Heater for shop in winter
- Boiling kettle

10. AOB

The dangerous greenhouse at Thompson Lane has been removed.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 9 August, 19:00 – 22:00, at Baildon Golf Club. The monthly meeting will be held first followed by an informal discussion about the vision for the Society.