

Baildon Horticultural Society
Minutes of the Meeting on 13 March 2023
Zoom

Present – John Turner (JT), Dawn Tinsley (DT), Charlotte Martin (CM), Louise Mallinson (LM), Robin Weedon (RW), Richard Nottidge (RN), Sue Wheatley (SW), Ian Helyar (IH), Louise Davies (LD), Susan Kean (SK), Jon Roughton (JR), Dale Holgate (DH)

1. Apologies for absence: None received

2. Chairs opening remarks

JT highlighted his concerns about zoom meetings and his hope that once the Committee met again in person there would be a more rounded discussion. He reported that Baildon Town Council were going to provide £1500 towards the cost of clearing the smallholder plot which had asbestos on it. The contribution from the Society had been paid and was £1,000.

3. Actions from previous meetings

- Agreed to leave the rule change regarding weedkiller use on communal areas.
- The open gardens day was discussed and it was agreed that we would do something ourselves as there were so many gardens to see and our sites were separate. It was agreed that we have an open day (maybe with stalls) instead. RW suggested that we do this in National Allotment week, which he thought was in August. (**Action – discuss further next meeting**)
- Amend risk assessment. This can now be done (**JT to contact IH**)
- Defibrillator – DH reported that he had looked into this. There is a national register which shows ones nearby (eg Nuffield, Tesco). Agreed a sign to be displayed at allotments (**DT to organise**)
- SW updated the Committee about the proposed trip to Bridgewater. She referred to the note that had been presented to the January meeting and the Committee resolution to organise a trip for 13 May 2023 for a subsidised cost of £10 a ticket. She advised that she had been in touch with the RHS and the date was available and that she had also spoken to the coach company that Eldwick and Gilstead used and the quote was £620 for coach hire for the day. SW to draft an e-mail for circulation to members. (**Action SW**)

- Donald Butterfield Cup – DT had circulated an e-mail and the Committee agreed the proposal (**Action DT**)
- Hole by gate – 2 packs of tarmac were waiting for better weather (**Action DH**)

4. Member's issues

None

5. Reports

Allotment Officers:-

CM advised that at Charlestown there are 9 on the waiting list for a garden plot and one on the smallholder waiting list. The need for repair to a retaining wall was discussed. CM is seeking quotes (**Action CM**)

LM advised that at Thompson Lane there were 7 on the waiting list. Electricity and water are now available in the communal greenhouse. A re-chargeable hedge trimmer might be purchased. Currently only one person is using the greenhouse. LM to e-mail tenants (**Action LM**)

Treasurer – discussed bonds and key deposits. It was agreed that an estimate would be made for the accounts and recorded in detail going forward. (**Action LD**)

Secretary – Nothing to report

Health and Safety Officer- Allotments looking much neater

Show Secretary – everything in hand.

6. Education Building

After discussion and a vote the building was named “ Ed Shed”. JT is due to do a presentation to the Town Council about the building. He will be asking for a grant of £1,100 towards the cost of decoration. The Town Council have expressed concerns about the installation of a wood burning stove on environmental grounds. The proposal is to purchase a quiet generator which can be used for a fan heater and also lighting (all wiring is in place). JT reported that he had applied for a grant for solar power and that this would have implications for the roof of the building. SW queried whether it would actually be used in the winter and evening thus needing heating and lighting. JT advised that he was confident that there were lots of things it could be used for and that he had put a list together (**Action JT**)

7. Charlestown Gate Opening

Agreed that the gate could now be left open provided at least 2 cars in car park

8. water turn on

DH has a water pipe to repair and then the water can be turned back on at Charlestown (**Action DH**)

9. Member benefits

JT wanted to list benefits, which were agreed as:

- Free manure and chippings (when available)
- Subsidised trips
- Seed swap
- Sales huts
- Newsletter
- Show entry
- Talks and Ed Shed Courses
- Communal Greenhouse

10. Bridgewater Trip – discussed above

11.AOB.

SW mentioned that she'd been trying to find out if Eldwick and Gilstead were doing talks this year but hadn't found anything. LM had also tried to check. JT to contact (**Action JT**)

IH mentioned the proliferation of the unsightly gas line posts and wondered if it was a matter for us. JT to mention to TC (**Action JT**)

12. Date of Next Meeting

AGM - 7:00 TUESDAY 11 April at Baildon Golf Club (moved from Monday due to Easter)