

**Baildon Horticultural Society
Minutes of the Meeting on 09 May 2023
Baildon Golf Club**

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

1. Apologies for absence: Richard Nottidge (RN) Ian Helyar (IH),

2. Chairs opening remarks

JT noted that it was his last meeting as Chair and that after the meeting he had to do a presentation to the Town Council about the grants that they had provided to BHS.

3. Actions from previous meetings

- The National Allotment week is 7-13 August. The Committee agreed that we would open one of the allotment sites. RW will put something together. Advertise at the open gardens. Maybe have some stalls? (Action RW)
- Hole by the gate is to be repaired next week. (Action DH)
- The structural advice has confirmed that losing the retaining wall could bring the hillside down. Await a written report (Action DH)
- Chris Wright unfortunately don't have any scrapings as Bradford Council are using them all. Monitor (Action DH)
- RW confirmed that he had put a page onto our website about trips and talks. He will do some posters to display on notice boards and in the Conservatory at Thompson Lane. SW (with the help of DT) had e-mailed reminders previously and would endeavour to do so again. (Actions RW and SW)
- JT advised that Greenscape had provided a quote and that a second quote was being obtained. JT suggested that BHS should try and seek quotes for any work required in the future. There was some concern about the removal of a hedge. The Committee resolved to ask the Sub-Committee to meet to discuss and also involve the affected plot holder and report back to the June meeting. (LM had been late and wasn't around for this discussion she provided further clarification later).

4. Member's issues

A smallholder isn't happy that the gate can now be left open during the day. It was agreed that we had tried various permutations and that the current requirements should remain.

5. Reports

Allotment Officers:-

CM advised that at Charlestown there are 8 on the waiting list. Most plots are in a good condition with none coming up.

LM advised that at Thompson Lane there were 10 on the waiting list and no plots coming up.

Treasurer – Tabled her quarterly report. The Committee thanked her and found it very clear. She asked whether she should transfer any monies from the current to the savings account.

JT wondered whether the Society should half the amount it kept in reserve and set up a building fund. (He based this on the requirement for charities to have between 1/4 -1/2 of annual turnover as reserve. BHS currently has 1/2). This is something that would need to be considered at the AGM.

DT asked JT to explain sources of grants. They are:

1. Skylark grant from the Town Council. Community Groups can apply once a year for a grant of up to £500
2. The Shipley Area Committee of Bradford Council has a community chest grant of up to £500 for community groups
3. Can apply to the Town Council for larger grants for specific projects. These grants can be up to £2,000
4. At times the Government gives Councils money to allocate for specific types of projects.
5. National Lottery Grants for very large projects.

JT also explained that Bradford Council gives the Town Council £3,000 towards the running of the allotments which is why the BHS rent to the Town Council is only around £1,000.

Secretary – Nothing to report

Health and Safety Officer- Nothing to Report. SK raised the first aid training that she had been looking into. The trainer she knew was able to do the training for £25.50 per head and the training could be for up to 12 people. She had looked into room options. The larger hall at St Hughes costs £23 per hour to hire. Mike Webster is looking into an alternative venue. May apply for a Skylark Grant. RN is looking into alternative grant options. SK advised that places would be allocated on a first come first served basis with places split between Charlestown and Thompson Lane.

Show Secretary – everything in hand. Managed to get around £1,700 in sponsorship. DT highlighted her concerns about the BHS tables that are stored at Sandals School. The school uses them regularly and they are getting broken and the school then bins them. There isn't a contract with the school. She explained her concerns about the significant hire charge for the school when they are freely using out tables. Agreed someone needs to speak to their Business Manager (Action JT)

6.Chair Proposal

JT thanked LM and JR for volunteering to share the role of Chair until December. The resolution was carried.

7.Bridgewater Trip

SW advised that she now had 42/43 people coming. It was noted that the trip had encouraged people to join the Society. She would send out another reminder e-mail before Saturday. SK mentioned the Park run but LM thought there would still be sufficient space for parking. (Action SW).

8. AOB

The cat at Charlestown which had been there for around 20 years had unfortunately had to be put to sleep. It was agreed that BHS should pay the vet's bill.

12. Date of Next Meeting

7:00 Monday 12 June at Baildon Golf Club