

GRACE & FLAVOUR DIRECTORS' MEETING

AGM – 17th November 2016

Location:	The Wheelhouse, West Horsley
Directors Present:	John Fluker, John Whitlock, David Payne, Lyn Payne, Ray Beard, Ashley Brown, Nicki Douet, Amanda de Haast, Su Johnston, Helena Stuart-Matthews & Michael Trower
Apologies:	Brigitte Ince & Ed Woodhouse
Chairman	John Fluker
Minute Taker:	Jane King

Agenda Item	Discussion Points
1. Welcome by Chairman: John Fluker	<p>Everyone was welcomed to the 8th AGM.</p> <p>First thing I need is your approval to chair the meeting. <i>Proposer: Pat Robbins and Seconder: Mark Blower.</i> Members' approval by show of hands.</p> <p>Resignations:</p> <p>Resigning by rotation Su Johnston, John Whitlock, Lyn and David Payne. David Payne has decided to step down. The other resigning Directors have put themselves forward for re-election. <i>Proposer: Heather Spackman and Seconder: Charles Hope.</i> Members' approval by show of hands.</p> <p>Thank you to David Payne for his hard work. Gift presented and applauded by all present.</p> <p>There has only been one name put forward as Director, Robin Satow. <i>Proposer: Bob Ewen and Seconder: Nicki Douet.</i> Members' approval by show of hands.</p>
2. Chairman's Report:	<p>Garden still looking good.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potting Shed – Congratulations to David Payne, Rob Treble and team. The potting shed has been very useful for events this year, especially the birthday party and OGM. • Lavender – Almost all of the lavender died over the wet winter and spring. Tom has done a fantastic job and replanted over 100 plants. They are doing brilliantly considering how small they were when planted. • Car Park – Tom has done a lot of tidying up for which we are very grateful. • Flowers – Helena has done a fantastic job. 326 bunches sold this year. Thank to all who supported this by buying them. Spontaneous round of applause. • Tithe – 24 boxes for 12 weeks. Thank you to Helena and team. Thank you too to John W and team of course for growing the vegetables. • Apple Press Event – New event and was very popular. 40 litres of apple juice produced. Apple pressing event again next year. • Fruit – Thank you to David and Dana-Leigh. Fruit excellent again this year. • Allotment Party – Well attended and good fun. Perfect weather. • Future – Pottina shed priority is the tilina of kitchen floor and toilet area. Then fit

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fruit – Thank you to David and Dana-Leigh. Fruit excellent again this year. • Allotment Party – Well attended and good fun. Perfect weather. • Future – Potting shed priority is the tiling of kitchen floor and toilet area. Then fit kitchen units, kindly donated. The gutters will follow later. In the garden we are hoping to do a fruit cage. The decision is not yet made as to whether we buy one or have a go at fabricating ourselves.
<p>3. Allotments: Michael Trower</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plots - all plots are under cultivation and there is no waiting list. • Fees – were raised by £2 per full plot and £1 per half plot from September 2016. The first increase since the inception of the scheme. • Parish Councils – have been invoiced for the Allotment Management Fee. A new 3 year agreement will need to be negotiated for 2017-2020. • Drainage – Money has been set aside to improve the drainage. • Poplar Tree – felling of one poplar tree is needed due to Honey Fungus. The National Trust will be felling it soon. The other one is fine. All allotment holders have been advised. Telescopic platform will be needed on Ripley Lane with traffic control. Will take 3-4 days to do the work. <p>Questions/Comments:</p> <p>Member: One of the key objections to Grace and Flavour was removal of the poplar trees. The application was changed due to the complaints.</p> <p>Response: The National Trust has to remove the poplar tree due to the Honey Fungus. The laurel may have to be thinned too to allow access to the tree. Possibly the laurel nearer the road.</p>
<p>4. Garden Manager's report: John Whitlock</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues 2015 slide – Background comparison for 2016. Whitefly sprayed this year. Courgettes still being cropped 1st November. • 2015 Future slide – Most achieved in 2016. Decided not to build raised beds. New polytunnel cover and we have grown tomatoes successfully this year. Bob and Mark did a fantastic job on paths on short bed. More rhubarb has been planted. Vine still there on the list for the future. • Success 2016 compared to 2015 Slide – More Romanesco and runner beans for longer. • Success 2016 Slide – Deciding how much to grow is difficult. We are trying to spread over a longer time eg. calabrese, runner beans. Jeremy continues to do a magnificent job on compost. Tim has been producing leaf mould. Cucumbers and courgettes grew in 50/50 leaf mould and compost. Herbs moved onto main garden. • Disappointments Slide – Peas problematic germination and mice problems. Garlic was cropped too late and split. Carrots not too bad. 600g autumn carrot cropped. • 2017 Slide – Ray is hoping to buy some more asparagus. Going to try grafted aubergines. As long as we buy early will be quite cheap. <p>Questions:</p> <p>Why do we grow so many broad beans? Mice eat half. Weather can damage up to half. Sown one bed so far. Spring caught up with autumn crop this year. Worries about germination. We might start cropping earlier next year. Member suggested finding another outlet for them.</p> <p>Update on Shredder. Just to mention shredder was crowd funded. Got the bulk of the money in 3 or 4 days and £390 raised. Great success.</p> <p>What was the strategy for 2 similar polytunnels? To enable us to rotate a little bit. Flexibility particularly in the summer. Have grown tomatoes for 3 years in the same ground. Have started cropping winter salad.</p> <p>What about the greenhouse? John W has been using his kitchen. There is now a greenhouse on site and the plan is to have it available for next spring/March. It is small and we do not need a big one. Propagation will probably still be in John's lounge. Would be wonderful to change our planning to get some heat into the garden.</p> <p>Any desire for another polytunnel? I don't know. More polytunnels means you</p>

	<p>lounge. Would be wonderful to change our planning to get some heat into the garden.</p> <p>Any desire for another polytunnel? I don't know. More polytunnels means you have more you can grow. It does put pressure on waterers. Long term maybe.</p>
<p>5. Membership: Su Johnston</p>	<p>Numbers: There seems to be a consistent number of 40 active members. Around 40 people here tonight. Need to keep communicating to both East and West Horsley. Constant stream of requests to visit. Target next year is to grow in numbers.</p>
<p>6. Financial Results: Ashley Brown</p>	<p>Presentation of slides.</p> <p>Forecast 2015/2016 Slide: average income is down. Spent a bit less on expenses. £11,971 in bank at end of financial year.</p> <p>Expenses Slide: Tree cutting expensive. Allotment drainage is in the budget for next year. Lawn mower purchased.</p> <p>Potting Shed: £38,000 spent to date. £25,239 funding received.</p> <p>Graph Slide: To show and compare income over the years.</p> <p>Forecast Slide: Fairly similar to last year. Allotments accounts now. Averages of income and expenses shown.</p> <p>Potting Shed 2016/2017 Slide: To show breakdown of costs to date and breakdown of expected costs.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>How much contingency is held back? Just over £4,000. Tiny amount of interest earned.</p>
<p>7. Website: Ashley Brown</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is being updated regularly. • A "year by year" photo page is being built. • Any suggestions for the website were invited. • Slide – Showing viewed and most popular pages.
<p>8. Wildlife: John Fluker for Ed Woodhouse in his absence</p>	<p>Presentation of slides prepared by Ed Woodhouse.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring 2016 – evil spring this year. Cold wet and Windy. 75% of our tit chicks died of hunger and not the cold. • Blackbirds – in the shed hatched a lot later. Two other nests were predated, they were about a foot off the ground in the herb area first and then the rhubarb. • Large Bird Boxes – were taken over by the squirrels. • Barn Owls – roosted in the very large box. • Mandarin Duck – nested again this year. • Pond – has grown into a real wildlife pond this year. Eddie says that he is looking forward to the spring. • Thank you – to everyone for their help and ideas with the garden wildlife.
<p>9. AOB:</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>10. Thanks and Close: John Fluker</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you to the directors for making their reports tonight. • Thank you to those who organised this evening including tea and coffee. • Thank you to you all for coming this evening and continuing to support this great community project. • Finally, buy a calendar or two and a big thank you to the U3A for the photographs for this year's calendar.

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