

Notes from our meeting this evening:

Greenhouse

Without Trevor's greenhouse it would have been really difficult this year. Priority for next year is a greenhouse, with heating. Ideal size is 6x8 that has good height. Need to have it in place by early March. We should also try doing a hot bed in a poly tunnel as well. All agreed this is our main priority.

Have been offered another poly tunnel but that isn't what is required.

Soft Fruit Protection

Red currents and gooseberries need protection very soon. Need to do weeding in the area. Need to build some frames and netting. No netting on loganberries or raspberries as very hard to remove. Fixing netting to the ground is quite a big issue, bits of wood and bricks provide too many slug homes. Long thin metal tubes or netting pegs. Agreed to try the pegs.

Action: check netting supplies and order some if required, also check poles and balls.
Ashley to buy the pegs

Comfrey

Just beginning to emerge.

Need a list of where we keep things and how we store them - clearly labelled. Need a system and a process and racking in the concrete based shed so that it can be organised properly.

Action: to be added to the next Directors' Meeting.

Schedule

Watering and closing/opening schedule agreed.

Action: John to review instructions and send them round with the schedule.

Winter poly tunnel

Salads have been fabulous but would like to diversify into other crops next winter.

Potatoes

Agreed to try and rotate an area to trial planting potatoes in a different way.

Claire suggested using silage plastic as it kills everything. It was cheaper than the membrane. Doesn't let water through. There was quite a lot of mice living underneath.

Wheel hoe also worth getting out and trying. We need to use as many labour saving devices as possible.

Bonfire

Area being used needs to change. No space on the actual garden or is it best to create a pile to burn in the autumn elsewhere. To the left of Tom's gate - put it on the tarpaulin. Team to agree a spot tomorrow.

Digging

Squash area needs digging or we could plant through the membrane. When it dries out this week it may be easier to dig. Bean trenches also need to be dug. Following this Trevor will put up the frames.

Root trainers

On their last legs and we need to change for next year.
Ordered a pack of five from Pots Direct to try out.

Path

Need to order some more wood chip. Not going to woodchip the two cross paths as there's problems with the rotivater.

Manure

Need to get some more. John W to arrange for the weekend after next.

Mice

Need some more traps, and better ones.

Tools

Do we need to throw some of the rubbish away and buy some decent stuff. Trowels and rakes are needed. The Wolf heads work well and don't appear to be taken, could also paint the tools purple.

Silver grow is really good compost and is working well. Tim to get 2 or 3 bags more.