

GRACE & FLAVOUR OGM

OGM – 11th May 2019

Place	The Potting Shed
Directors Present	Ray Beard, Ashley Brown, Amanda de Haast, Nicki Douet, Robin Satow, Helena Stuart-Matthews and Rob Treble
Apologies	John Fluker, Bob & Heather Spackman, Michael Trower, John Whitlock and Eddie Woodhouse
Chairman	Amanda de Haast
Minute Taker	Nicki Douet

Agenda Items

1.0 Chairman's welcome and report - Amanda de Haast

GRACE & FLAVOUR OGM

Good afternoon, welcome to our 2019 Ordinary General Meeting and thank you for coming.

I have to be honest and say that I had hoped that we would not need an OGM as I have a feeling that most of you know what has gone on and is planned for the garden already. However Ashley assured me that it is written in some document that the terms of being a CIC (Community Interest Company) means we have to hold an OGM, so here we are.

I plan to make a brief report on past and future events, there are a couple of reports to be read and Ashley will update us on our financial situation and there will be a chance for you to ask questions, make suggestions, air grievances etc.

Since the 2018 AGM in November 'we', as in those volunteering (or in this case Rob and the building team) at the garden have

- Installed a dipping trough by Polytunnel 2 together with a tool station and a second station by the fruit trees so this together with the station by the vegetable wash area means you have no excuse for not finding the necessary equipment to get the job done. The garden is a safer place for the stations and they are working well.
- The Pergola is finished and 3 vines planted. It will be several years before they can provide us with any decent shade so in the meantime we have recycled some of the green screening barrier that was no longer needed to help for now.

The Potting shed has had a big tidy up and when the weather improves and we can regularly sit out, work will begin to clear the floor for levelling screed to go down at the kitchen end and the floor sealed and painted throughout. The walls will be brushed down and sealed – and then I think that will be that. We will have the most wonderful space to use, bar general maintenance.

Our tree management programme continued with the remaining three lime trees being pollarded, the oak stumps ground out and the diseased silver birch taken down. We have had notification that several trees on the roadside boundary will be sprayed for Oak Processionary Moth (OPM) which has been gaining much press recently. One session of spraying has taken place with another due next week. The trees will be monitored and should you see anything of concern (white, fine, hairy nests or trains of caterpillars moving up and down the trunk) please make it known as they can be highly irritant.

Ashley: Please be reminded that due to the OPM, no wood is to be taken off site.

The terrace is looking well established and it is hard to recall the mound of rubble and detritus that lurked at the top of the garden, and is now buried under the lawn. It will be good to see it used this summer as opposed to us standing there, admiring the stripes.

Eddie's report will be read later but in the meantime he has to be congratulated for the work he has put into taming and clearing the wilderness beyond the North wall. Please make sure you venture through the gate and see what he has created – stag beetle hotels, bug retreats and all manner of environments to encourage the little, the slimy, the feathered and winged creatures that make up our expanding wildlife family.

We attended the successful WH WI Link Together tea in January where we joined many other local organisations to spread the word and raise our profile within the village. We gave away carrots, chatted to lots of people and it would be nice to think that some will appear either to buy our produce or even come to lend a hand.

The Bodgers have completed two shave horses and a pole lathe which means they are on the cusp of producing some recognisable and useful pieces such as stools or even a bench. We are very grateful to Sue and David Reeve for giving up their time and heading up this group of amateur enthusiasts (or is that enthusiastic amateurs?).

GRACE & FLAVOUR OGM

2.0 Garden report - Written by John Whitlock, presented by Ray Beard

Overall a good winter with plenty of vegetables available each week, perhaps the only disappointment was a shortage of parsnips. However there have been many other vegetables to compensate with exceptional yields of carrots and purple & white sprouting broccoli. The salads have come good in the polytunnels and we have had a great crop of early pea shoots.

The new gardening year has been challenging again with cool temperatures generally and little rain. However the first spinach, spring onions and radishes have been picked, with turnips and salads (probably) next week. The asparagus crop seems to be better than last year and there is lots of rhubarb.

The broad beans look great, and there have been stacks of peas planted (some inside the fruit cage). We have introduced about 5 different early crop potatoes, planted calabrese, kohlrabi, cabbages, cauliflowers, lettuces, dill, coriander, parsley, wild rocket, beetroot, lots of onions, second early and maincrop potatoes. Sown directly into the ground parsnips, leeks and carrots which are starting to appear. In the polytunnel and greenhouses there is a great range of vegetables getting ready to plant as the temperatures rise and the risk of frost goes.

New beds of asparagus and Jerusalem artichokes have been planted.

The fruit and flowers look magnificent. Helena keeps adding more flower varieties each year. For example lots of dahlias have been planted along the North wall. She is experimenting with different ways of supporting plants too. We intend to combine all the daffodils into one single bed rather than the two short beds we have at present. In addition to the herbs planted in the main garden, the newly fenced herb garden is being refreshed with new plantings.

We have the usual issues. John Fluker and I found over 200 slugs under a small area of weed suppressant placed on a path by the carrots this week. Flea Beetle is about as it has been so dry.

However we continue to grow all our crops organically (except for the manure!!!). I hope we can be as successful as we have been in recent years.

3.0 Wildlife report – Written by Eddie Woodhouse, presented by Nicki Douet

- 18 nest boxes are in use. Blue & Great Tits and also Robins are rearing their young in the new boxes without being predated.
- No large birds at the moment but I live in hope.
- Pond is doing well as is the area around the back, all the new trees have taken, also well seeded with wild flowers and grasses.
- Will do a proper report on the wildlife blog next month.

4.0 Finance report - Ashley Brown

GRACE & FLAVOUR OGM

Please see Treasurer Report at the end of these minutes.

The 2017 / 2018 accounts have been finalised and will be sent to the auditor by 13th May and submitted by 30th June.

Income	£7,265	(compared to £7,304 in 2016/2017)
Expenses	£5,126	(compared to £4,812 in 2016/2017)

Figures for 2018 / 2019 so far are

Income	£5,167	At this same point last year income was £3,837
Expenses	£3,060	plus £1,414 capital spend, e.g. gas cage, tree maintenance, etc.

Question:

Beverley: Why has our income increased?

Response:

Ashley said that, on average, we take about £60 in member's veg sales each week. Ray added that the potatoes and squashes had been stored well and less thrown away so sales had increased.

The current G + F balance is £9,959:

Bank account	£6,307
Contingency fund	£4,000
Cash to bank	£ 282
Less cheques to be cashed	£ 630

5.0 A.O.B.

There was no other business.

6.0 Thanks & Close – Amanda de Haast

Amanda thanked members for coming and said she was looking forward to seeing everyone at the Grace + Flavour Open Day and Party on Saturday 29th June.

GRACE & FLAVOUR OGM

Treasurer Report – Grace & Flavour OGM 11th May 2019

(1) SUMMARY

	<u>OUT</u>	<u>IN</u>
In the bank as at 11th April		£6,307
LESS - Allotment Contingency	(£912)	
LESS - Cheques to be cashed	(£630)	
PLUS - Cash to Bank		£282
PLUS - Contingency Account (Surrey Save)		£4,000
WORKING BALANCE		£9,047

Forecast for 2018/2019

	Details	Amount	Balance	Actuals	
BANK BALANCE	SEP 18		£ 10,253		
INCOME	Allotment - PC's	£ 1,132	£ 7,314	£ 1,132	
	Allotment - Fees	£ 715		£ 728	
	Garden Sales inc Events	£ 4,156		£ 2,796	
	Shop Sales	£ 832		£ 0	
	Donations	£ 479		£ 511	£ 5,167
EXPENSES	Allotment	£ (692)	£ (5,004)	£ (213)	£ (479)
	Water	£ (424)		£ (67)	£ (357)
	Insurance	£ (366)		£ (561)	£ 195
	Cost of Sales	£ (1,328)		£ (1,231)	£ (97)
	Admin	£ (314)		£ (196)	£ (118)
	Maintenance	£ (1,677)		£ (657)	£ (1,020)
	Gas Bottles	£ (202)		£ (135)	£ (67)
				£ (3,060)	£ (1,944)
OTHER	2019 Budget	£ (3,350)	£ (3,350)	£ (3,284)	£ (66)
FORECAST BALANCE	Oct 19		£ 9,213	£ 9,076	
		Difference	£ (1,040)		