GRACE & FLAVOUR DIRECTORS' MEETING Minutes Thursday 10th August 2023: at 7.30pm (G & F Potting Shed)

REF	ITEM	ACTION
Present	Gerry - Chair: Beverley, Vicky, Carolyn, Helena, Rob, John W, Michael, and John F	
Minute Taker	John F	
	Apologies: Ashley and Ray	
1.	Minutes of Last Meeting: Accepted and signed by Gerry.	
2.	Actions from last meeting	
	 Vegetable prices and Members' discounts – All now rectified and updated on the website. NGS Open Day & Payment: 207 visitors (2 Free) £1025 less part toilet hire £141.60 Total sent to NGS and received by them £883.40. The figure for Cherry Trees being checked. (note added after meeting: £910 paid). As a separate issue Carolyn mentioned trying to arrange a visit from them with carers There was then a discussion as to whether we would have an open day in 2024 and if so whether it would be an NGS open day. Generally the idea was favourably received but it was felt that the membership views should be sought. Gerry will arrange for an appropriate email to be sent out to everyone. Induction and new members email: Induction is working well but there is too much in the email. A WhatsApp message (or paper copy) would be much better. Virtually all skills sheets have been updated. 51 active members of which17 are new. We must endeavour to keep track of everyone/everything if future. First Aid Training event Thursday 17th August. Gerry has not yet had a chance to talk to Tony as he is on holiday at the moment. 	GR All GR BN
3	Topic Leads (attached) All agreed that these were OK subject to Beverley being identified as lead for Skills Sheet. The list will be added to the Handbook as an appendix and announced on one of the regular work days.	GR
4	Dog Rules We should stick with the guidance we already have but as there are some who do not stick to the rules we should send out a stiffly worded reminder of the possible consequences should the rules be disregarded.	MT
5	SWT Community Celebratory Evening 3 rd August Very interesting networking opportunity. Lots of local projects going on. Mostly pure wildlife, not vegetable gardens with an element of wildlife encouragement like us. However the projects were making a difference in reversing the severe decline in species.	
6	 Finance report: Gerry read out a brief report from Ashley as he was absent and this is attached. The main comment was that we do not seem to be bringing in as much from sales of vegetables as previous years which seems strange in view of the quantities being produced. This will need to be monitored. Beverley said that several of newer members did not have the G&F bank details yet. Mention was made of potential for sums of money to be made available to G & F from West Horsley Parish Council and Horsley Community Fund. It was felt that these might be used to pay for the patio and the new weed bins. Finance subcommittee meeting to be held in September, 	АВ

7	G & F Website and Communications Nothing from Ashley with regard to this.	
8	 Garden Report Fantastic range of vegetables. Great plums etc. Wet weather benefits some crops but not peppers. Squash has done really well but now needs some sun. We could remove some leaves to aid the ripening of the squash We need some more mesh as there are holes in quite a few pieces which makes it unusable. We will therefore need to purchase some new mesh. Big issues: Massive potato cropping to be carried out as under half cropped at the moment. And we desperately need some weed bins as the present method of dealing with disposal is not satisfactory Rob says that will be the builders next job 	JW
9	Allotments - 1. The gate code has been changed. 2. There are ongoing problems with the padlock and padlocking. Another reminder will be needed. 3. Plots 1 and 27 have been given up and will be unoccupied from September. 4. Some wasps' nests have been dealt with. 5. With regard to dogs this was dealt with earlier in the meeting (see Item 4).	MT
10	Building Team 1. Team has been busy finishing off the patio. 2. The next job is building the weedbins after dealing with the front gate on Saturday.	RT
11	Wildlife: 1.Clare Harris, the Surrey Wildlife Liaison Officer is visiting the Garden at her instigation on 31st August 2. The water in the pond is going down. There is a tear in the liner but RT believes the large reeds may be the problem. They will be removed to see if this helps.	GR
12	 AOB 1.Parking on the verge is potentially very dangerous as it interferes with sight lines of those leaving the car park. We must put a reminder in the newsletter reminding members that it is not permitted. 2. Plastic veg trays: lots seem not to have been returned. JW will remind everyone at coffee time. 3. MT to buy more weed trugs. 4. MT confirmed that he reads the water meter and that water useage went up in the early summer but very much less has been used more recently. 5. NGS Gala Banbury is on 8th September but no-one expressed a wish to attend 	MT/AB JW MT MT All

Next Meeting: Thursday 14th September 2023 in the Wesley Meeting Room, Methodist Hall at 7.30pm.

Chairman: Gerry Robbins Minute Taker: John W