GRACE & FLAVOUR DIRECTORS' MEETING 8 January 2026

Present	Beverley (Chair), Gerry, Ray, Michael, Jane, Rob, John F, Helena and Stephen (and Rob Harris)
Apologies	John W
Minute Taker	John F

REF	ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
1.	**Paper from Rob Harris in connection with proposed irrigation at G & F**	See attached document provided by Rob Harris which he explained to the meeting in detail. There followed a long discussion of the practicalities but it became clear that Proposal 1a could proceed without any modification of the water supply in the Garden but that for Proposal 1b to proceed it would be likely to be necessary to provide more standpipes. It was further agreed that on John W's return from holiday there should be a meeting of John W, Rob Harris, Rob T and Ray before the visit to Farnham to view the irrigation system there. Stephen confirmed that we can afford both 1a and 1b but that we needed to hear further from David with regard to the next two polytunnels.	John W Rob Harris Rob T Ray
2	**Minutes of Last Meeting (June)**	Approved	
3.	**Matters Arising**	With regard to our proposal to increase the management fee for the allotments we have had a positive response from West Horsley but nothing from East Horsley. We have received a grant for the new polytunnel which means we can proceed with the purchase. We have also received donations from two groups of anonymous donors and a donation of new garden equipment for which we are very grateful. The new allotment dip tank should now be ordered.	MT RT RT
4.	**Garden Report**	In his absence John W provided a written report (copy attached). With regard to flowers Helena confirmed that we are just waiting for the daffodils to come up. Beverley confirmed that a good start had been made on the winter pruning of the fruit trees.	
5.	**Finance Report**	Treasurer's report for 3 months ending 31st December 2025 Sales of produce to members held up well throughout the quarter, totaling £1,787 from 1st October to 31st December 2025. This compares to £1,617 in the same quarter in 2024. Member sales in December 2025 were £537 compared to £535 in December 2023. Annual allotment funds of £2,002 in total were received in advance for this year from our two parish councils and allotment holders. All allotments are occupied with one in process of changing over.	

		We are most grateful to the Horsley Community Fund for facilitating a grant to Grace and Flavour CIC. The funds of £2000 were received with our thanks in December to Surrey Community Foundation. These funds are ring fenced for covering the expense of a new polytunnel. The order will be placed shortly for delivery in spring. Our thanks also to members who gave two most generous donations totaling £1000 in December. We also thank a member for donating £123 of garden irrigation equipment. All donors wished to remain anonymous. Expenditure during the first quarter was £1538 with £263 of this in December. The main areas of expenditure were Cost of Sales (manure and seeds), grounds maintenance and tank covers. We gained an overall cash surplus in the quarter sufficient to cover anticipated polytunnel purchase and additional expenses in the next quarter.	
6.	**G&F Website & Communications**	All OK but old accounts should be removed from website	MB
7.	**Allotments Report**	1. There is a vacant half plot in which some interest has been shown but nothing concrete yet. 2. Tom Suffolk wants to swap his allotment for a whole or half an allotment closer to the car park.	MT
8.	**Estate Management Report**	1. The team has straightened up the guttering on one of the polytunnels. 2. As we now have the funds for the new polytunnel this will be ordered in February for delivery in mid to late March.	RT RT
8.	**Wildlife Report**	GR reported that he and Tim would shortly be cleaning out the nest boxes as this was easier as a two man job.	
9.	**Health and Safety**	Kim Tolley the local first responder met GR with regard to the AED and it is clear that the battery does need to be protected during very cold weather. However due to our lack of an electricity supply the measures that we would need to take are expensive and not necessarily satisfactory. It was agreed that during spells of very cold weather the AED would be removed and taken to a Director's home and a note would be left in the case directing anyone in need of an AED to Dene Place. Kim Tolley also offered resuscitation training which it was agreed would be a very good idea for all. This would take place on a date to be agreed this summer. She also mentioned a bleed kit which it was also agreed would be a good idea. It would cost £89.00.	GR GR
10.	**AOB**	1. Deputies for functions: Stephen and Michael as one pairing and Beverley and Gerry as the other pairing make most sense. 2. Update on Christmas Tree for St Martins: We have received a thank you from Judy Young and our thanks go out to Jane King who did a wonderful job on the tree. 3. NGS Impact Report: 2025 was a record year with a 10% increase in Surrey to charity, with a national amount of £3.8 million.	GR and MT BN BN

		4. Possible support for Ripple Effect Charity: This supports sustainable agriculture in East Africa and they want to partner with community gardens in the UK. Any support would result in a plaque confirming this but it was felt that such support might be better given to somewhere like the place in Sri Lanka where Carolyn goes which means that we have much more of a connection with it. 5. Handbook revision – Beverley to review although very comprehensively reviewed last year.	BN BN
11	**Meeting Highlights**	1. **Polytunnel.** The third polytunnel will be ordered. 2. **Irrigation**. An open bed trial will go ahead. It is likely that additional standpipes will be required. 3. **AED.** During very cold weather, to preserve the battery, the AED will be removed. A note will be left in the case, directing anyone in need of an AED to Dene Place. Resuscitation training will be provided in the summer. 4. **Dip Tank.** The new allotment dip tank will be ordered.	

Next Meeting: Thursday 12th February 2026 7.30pm, Wesley Room

Chair: Beverley Nash Minute Taker: John W