GRACE & FLAVOUR DIRECTORS' MEETING 11 June 2026

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

REF	ITEM	NOTES	ACTION
1.	**Minutes of April Directors' Meeting for approval and Review of OGM**	Minutes approved. All OK: water pressure, lavender and moles, although three moles removed for £90 was not a great return.	
2.	**Matters Arising not covered elsewhere**	Reassess mole removal next year.	All
3.	**Garden Report**	In his absence John W provided a written report: The weather has been the most challenging for a number of years. Changing from frosts and cold overnight temperatures well into May to the highest May temperatures recorded. We have started to extend the number of vegetables now available to members as the range of 2026 sown crops begin to mature. With no significant failures I am pleased with what we are producing. Three types of peas are available, we are reaping the benefits of now having three pea cages, (although one may need some attention next year to make it more stable and possibly some new netting will be required) The impact of good irrigation can be seen in probably the best broad bean crop we have ever had not just the quantity but importantly the quality of the beans. As a result we have a real glut. We are expanding the amount of irrigation gradually and starting to experiment with its introduction into the polytunnels. With the additional polytunnel on stream, we have completed our indoor summer planting. Ray continues to achieve wonders in the tomato and cucumber tunnels. I am hoping that Tim and Anne will care for the new polytunnel with support from others. One great success story is the garlic that we have grown overwinter in one of the polytunnels. Firstly it is an organic variety from Tamar seeds. Secondly it is cheaper than the Isle of Wight varieties. Thirdly it is the best we have ever grown. We aim to expand our indoor garlic growing next year, where rust on the leaves is less of a problem. Our biggest issue, as in some previous years, is the damage that occurs in the frames. We have lost at least 3 sowings of little gem lettuce. A whole tray of cauliflowers was chopped off by partridges or perhaps pigeons(?) in a manner not experienced before, definitely not slugs. Also we have had mice	

		and birds eating seeds in the polytunnels. Hopefully these will all be overcome with additional sowings. However the tithe will be short of lettuces for a few weeks. In spite of some late frosts, the fruit trees are looking very good. Beverley and Michael have been working extremely hard to summer prune the plum trees. We are optimistic about our fruit harvest again this year. The soft fruits in the fruit cage, blackberries and raspberries similarly are excellent. Bob, Heather, Tim and Ray have cared for them through the winter and spring. Helena has had some gorgeous flowers available for members. The paeonies were stunning. Many more tender plants are being put out at the moment Trevor continues to work wonders supporting peas, constructing bean poles and outdoor cucumber supports (no wonder he and Rob were given awards for their contributions to village life) Wednesday weeders are back making a great impression. A real success story that Carolyn has led. In June and July the range of crops that become available is expanding (fennel, pointed cabbage, and a few cauliflowers this week). However, we need to sow, plant, prune, crop and weed. Unfortunately it is often the weeding that gets put aside. Without an open day I hope we can try to do our best to keep the place looking good as well as having excellent organically grown vegetables, fruit and flowers. New potatoes cropped this morning for the first time this year.	
4.	**Company Secretary Report**	Confirmation statement has been submitted. The next requirement will be submission of accounts in September/October.	
5.	**Finance Report**	**Finance Report - month ending 30th April 2026** The total of sales to members during April 2025 was £478 compared with £345 in April 2024. In addition we received with thanks a £50 donation from a member for one of the four water garden pictures in water colour kindly donated to Grace and Flavour CIC. Expenditure this April was £746 being cost of sales at £273, purchases of new equipment costing £420 (for fruit cage netting and valves for the stand pipes) and other minor costs of £45. The resulting cash deficit for the month was £218 . Our current account balance was £7,350 at the end of April 2025.	

		Finance Report - month ending 31st May 2026 Sales to members during May 2026 were £608 in total compared with £559 in May 2025 and £478 in April 2026. In addition, our thanks go to Bob Spackman for his kind donation of £70 arising from the proceeds of a talk he gave in Ashtead. Expenditure in total this May was £364 including irrigation fittings for phase 1 trials, three visits by a mole catcher to allotment area, Companies House fees (for Confirmation statement), water and general maintenance. The cash surplus of income less expenditure was £315 in May 2026. Our current account balance at the month end is £7664. Crop irrigation resumed in earnest during May in the recent prolonged spell of recent dry weather. Our usage in May was significantly higher than normal. Taking into account increased prices it is anticipated that our water supply costs for May (billed to us in June) will be about £425.	
6.	**Website & Communications**	Website up to date. The hosting fee has been paid. Adjourn discussion of vegetable of the month until next month when John W will be in attendance. Another newsetter required. Mention the Summer Social on 11th July and include a montage of the construction of the new polytunnel. Rob has photos and as many members as are available on Saturday are to gather in front of the new polytunnel for a photo with Rob and his team cutting a ribbon. Beverley now has created two distribution lists: 1. Directors and 2. Active members	John W
7.	**Allotments Report**	1. Dip tank covers done 2. New dip tank installed and all OK. 3. One person on waiting list. 4. Michael has completed a survey for WHPC 5. Dead apple tree now mainly gone. 6. Gate code changed	MT
8.	**Estate Management Report**	1. New polytunnel completed. Thanks to Rob and his team: Tony Milliship, Bruce Edwards and Tony Sampson. 2. Irrigation: Stand pipes now up and running. The top taps are for the irrigation systems and the bottom taps are for general garden use.	RT RT
9.	**Health & Safety**	An email has been received from the Defib trainers who are suggesting 1st July but this clashes with the Surrey Hills Society visit. Therefore request an alternative date (Done: 17/7). Leave the question of what to do with the Poplar trees in the car park to the National Trust as they are responsible for all the trees.	GR

		The timber bridge between the car park and the potting shed will be replaced with paving slabs on top of scalpings and sharp sand.	RT
10.	**Wildlife Report**	Great difficulty in the current very hot weather keeping up with the water level in the pond as any water to be added from the mains must be allowed to rest for some time before adding to the pond to allow the chlorine to dissipate.	GR
	AOB	1. Vegetable Prices – Recently updated. 2. Shed clearance : Mowers now gone. 3. Summer Evening Social 11th July 6pm to 8pm and Blitz Week will be mentioned the next Newsletter. Sign up sheets for Blitz. 4. Donations – Still being discussed 5. Horsley in Bloom entered & judging 16th June. (Helena and Stephen to attend awards ceremony 3rd July) 6. Garden Visits – Climate Action (only 5 or 6 came) and Surrey Hills Society still to come (1st July) 7. Annual Review of GDPR compliance All OK. 8. Mark previously reported that the toilet had been left in a terrible mess. A notice will be procured to the following effect: Please leave the toilet in the state that you would expect to find it. (Done) 9. Kate Atkins Climate Representative to visit mid July 10. The Social Evening invitation should go out to allotment holders as well as Garden members. (Done)	BN RT RT? BN/MT

Next Meeting: Thursday 9th July 2026 7.30pm, Potting Shed

Chair: Beverley Nash Minute Taker: Mark