Minutes of Agm held 12th March 2011

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AGM Held at North Star Inn, Clarence road, St Leonartds on Sea UK

PRESENT: Chris Jukes, Susan Thomson, Bob Hart, Adrian Penfold, Leslie Kinsey, Lesley Bruce, Yvonne Dignon, Sally Hick, Brian Hick, Shelley Feldman, Karl Horton, John Redmond, Juliet Wickham, Mary Dawson, Michel Guille, Viv Hamblin

CHAIRMAN OF MEETING: Chris Jukes MINUTES TAKEN BY: Sally Hick

APOLOGIES: Amy Leake, Chris Mbaye, Stephanie Fawbert, Georgina Desbruslais

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM: Read and approved

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Read and unanimously approved

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2010: Report given by Bob Hart was approved unanimously. It was pointed out that the largest income was derived from social events and the largest expense was insurance. Having 31 plot-holders and two schools participating will generate an income of £367 this year.

MATTERS ARISING: None

ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE: The following people were elected -

- Chair: Bob Hart (nominated by Susan Thomson and seconded by Lesley Bruce)
- Secretary: Susan Thomson (nominated by Juliet Wickham and seconded by Viv Hamblin)
- Treasurer: Juliet Wickham (nominated by Susan Thomson and seconded by Karl Horton)
- Minutes Secretary: Sally Hick (nominated by Juliet Wickham and seconded by Mary Dawson)
- 5th Member: Yvonne Dignon (nominated by Shelley Feldman and seconded by Chris Jukes)

CHAIR HANDED OVER from Chris Jukes to Bob Hart with a vote of thanks from those present.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- 1. Heritage Open Days (September) It was decided to open the Walled Garden for 2 days and the Ice House for 1, during "Heritage Open Days". They will be manned by a team on a rota basis. It was felt that children's activities, including Punch & Judy and storytelling, would bring in a wider public.
- 2. Coastal Currents -- These events do bring in interest and new members, and so it was decided to support these events also.
- 3. Beehive Issues of "health and safety" and insurance were raised. Susan pointed out that panelling would be needed to ensure the bees left the hive vertically and did not collide with those in the garden if left to their natural horizontal habit of flying. Bob suggested that Saga have an interest in bees and, as a new company in the town, may support the project financially. Yvonne Dignon will investigate "health and safety" issues, Susan Thomson will check the tenancy agreement concerning the keeping of bees, contact schools and compile a feasibility report for the committee. It was unanimously agreed that a beehive would be desirable in principle. Michel Guille knows a beekeeper who might like to have a hive in our garden.
- 4. Thanks A special vote of thanks was suggested by the Chair for the extensive work done in the garden by Mat and Darren Windley, Michel Guille, Mary Dawson, Susan Thomson, Lesley Bruce, Adrian Penfold and Vanessa Saunders. Bob Hart was also thanked. Chris Jukes proposed the vote of thanks which was seconded by Yvonne Dignon.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- Yvonne Dignon offered the use of her van to the BWGA. Acquisition of compost was discussed. As the sources of compost were sometimes problematic, it was decided to possibly acquire horse manure from Crowhurst.
- Bob suggested that members of the BWGA should support the "Friends of Summerfields Wood" events (Green Day, 23rd April, 10:30 – 3:30 and Conservation Task Day, Sunday, 13th March, 10 – 1:30).
- The Bohemia Book Fayre will be held on Saturday, 19th March at St. Peter's Church Hall. The BWGA will share the profits of this event. Volunteers are needed to set out the books on Friday the 18th, from 6 9 pm.
- The wormery is now ready for use, as are other composting systems. We were asked to leave organic waste material in the garden for sorting into the correct bins.
- The garden is in a fit state for more events to be held there, and we will need a committee to coordinate and organise an events calendar. Mary Dawson volunteered to organise children's events and Yvonne Dignon to coordinate. Bob will put a request on the website for members to volunteer to be on the event's committee and pass on any suggestions to Yvonne.
- The meeting was closed at 11:42 am. The Committee will meet 16th March, 10am in the garden.