

SG Organising group minutes 15.04.2025

Present: Goff, Beverley, James, Peta

Apologies Steve, Clair, Jenni

1) Agreement of previous minutes

1.5) Peta observed how beautiful the garden was looking and thanked everyone for their hard work.

2) Changes to Org group

ACTION: Peta will arrange access for James to the SG email account. James has offered to help us to compile a list of relevant members for communication purposes to ensure that all relevant people are included in the invitation to the AGM.

We would like to recruit some new members to the organising group.

2.5 Volunteers

Bev has nurtured some amazing volunteers, much of this success is due to them being given a specific area to champion.

Sophie R, birds and birdwatching

Sophie B, soil and eco system

Beverley G, Bees

Daniel, woodworking

Alice, flax - we are trying to find her another bed. Goff has contacted Helen F.

There is another volunteer from a teaching background who will support Goff and his work with local schools. This person could be a good candidate for the organising group. **ACTION: Beverley**

3) Funding

CIG funding request sent to PCC for Crafts in the garden - awaiting reply. Bev has planned a programme of activities for the summer and produced a timetable.

The CIL Funding request is being progressed. Jenni & James met with Chris Richards who will liaise with Parks and Gardens. There are a few more actions to get this over the line which Jenni will follow up. We will press ahead with the gate application for renewal before the end of April when the CIL fiscal year ends. We will apply for the funds for the cabin after April 2025 when the new fiscal year begins. James is looking at solutions to ensure we have the project certified in accordance with council requirements.

Although this news about CIL seems very promising we discussed a backup plan where we would apply for Heritage funding to cover the gate and cabin and will keep this strategy in the background.

3.5 Finance

Peta updated on financial status. Insurance due May and we have funds to cover this.

4) Themed Plots Project

The majority of the beds have been allocated to groups.

5) Bees

The garden has received a £100 donation to support this initiative.

Goff has arranged for his friend Trevor, an experienced beekeeper, to guide us through the processes for beekeeping and what is required. This will inform a feasibility study once we understand the level of commitment and equipment required. Goff and Bev to report back on progress.

This is under review as a formal hive will need a lot of care. In the meantime we have planted bee friendly wildflowers around the pond to encourage bee inhabitation.

6) Live Projects

We are in discussion with Sarah Lakey (Vegan Chef) about the Coop event to be held in early September. This will be by invitation so the group is encouraged to come up with names of people to invite. Awaiting ideas for the menu from Sarah. **ACTION: All re invitations**

7. Communication

Bev /James to review comms methods/how they work.

Pumble is a useful and intuitive tool, we need all of the group to sign up so we can communicate smoothly. **ACTION: Clair, Steve, Goff**

We discussed buying a cheap phone to be held by Beverley for incoming calls, mixed opinions on the relevance and additional commitment required, no decision was reached. This would be a one-off payment of approx £12.

8. Lease

This is up for renewal in 2026. Our new trustees will be: Goff, Beverley and Steve

9. AGM

This will need to take place before the end of June 2025. **ACTION: Peta to find a date /time and liaise with James and Beverley about the members being invited.**

9. AOB

Next meeting tbc

