

MINUTES FOR LEECHWELL GARDEN ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 10.12.2024

Present: David Mitchell (Chair), Belinda Batt, Lou Ovary, Claire Morley, Alicia Grace, Robert Vint, David Martin, Sue Holmes, Ernesto Antonio, Shirley Prendergast (Sec)

Apologies: Paul Church (Treasurer) Rory Batt.

1. Chair's Report for 2024

- a. Two very successful events were organised during the year, the Easter Egg Hunt at the end of March and the Art Event to install Robin Lacey's water sculpture in late July. These had a very positive impact on our finances, including some regular repeat PayPal donations throughout the year.
- b. The small backless bench in the herb garden was replaced by Dave, David and Ernesto (repair of pergola is in hand using wood provided by Rory)
- c. Sue and Ernesto continued work creating the woodland area
- d. Dave provided keys to gates and sheds for new committee members.
- e. Dave, Shirley, David and Lu are leaving the committee.

Dave is confident that the LGA will be in good hands in future!

2. Summary of Work in the Garden (Lu) Attached.

3. LGA Account: Treasurer's Summary for 2024 (Paul) Attached. The balance as of 30.11.24 was £9,880.52

4. Votes for:

- a. **Vote for change to LGA Constitution: to hold the Leechwell Garden Association AGM in October of the year rather than December.**
Agreed, exact date to be decided.
- b. **Vote to transfer management of the Immersion Pool to SHDC.**
Agreed. Dave will write to Robb Sekula SHDC with cc. to Phill MacMahon at Historic England.

5. Election of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

Claire Morley was elected as the new Chair.

Robert Vint was elected as Secretary

Paul Church re-elected as Treasurer

6. Membership of LGA Committee from 10.12.2024:

Claire Morley (Chair), Robert Vint (Sec), Paul Church (Treasurer), Belinda Batt, Rory Batt, Alicia Grace. (Rory remains on the Committee but pressure of work means that he will not always be able to attend meetings)

In addition:

- Dave and Sue have offered to attend LGA meetings informally, in an advisory non-voting capacity, if and when required.
- David and Lu have offered to (informally) liaise with Heathway residents.
- Shirley has offered support to the Chair in looking at past documentation/history of garden if needed.
- Shirley, Dave and David, if required, will liaise with SHDC and HE regarding the Immersion Pool.

7. General Discussion (before and after formal business of the AGM)

- a. Woodland garden-** Sue raised issue of expenses for the Woodland Garden and will contact Paul.
- b. Audit of LGA Accounts.** Alicia raised issue of having an Accountable Body to audit accounts for AGM. Agreed to discuss with Paul.
- c. Heathway Residents Committee-** will no longer have formal membership on LGA now Lu and David have left the Committee. Claire will make contact with HRC.
- d. Issues of inclusivity, accessibility and volunteering.** Agreed that these issues need to be reviewed in order to open up membership and successfully find and include more people in the running of the garden. (This includes consideration of location where LGA meetings take place). Towards this end, Claire will contact SHCA group to create listings specifically for gardening volunteers with a timetable of all local opportunities.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 5.30, Tuesday 7th January 2025, Re-economy Centre

