

LEECHWELL GARDEN ASSOCIATION MEETING

Held Tuesday 8th November at 5.30pm in Totnes Fire Station

PRESENT: Jim Carfrae, David Mitchell, Janet Mitchell, Robert Vint, Stephanie Parker, Liz Warnes, Roma Church, Wendy Reid

1. **APOLOGIES:** Sue Holmes, Ed Vidler, Jill Tomalin, Catherine Munro

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th October were adopted

3. MATTERS ARISING

Licence – a meeting has been arranged at Follaton with Ross K on November 17th at 2pm. Keith Rennels has proposed fingerboard sites on Sue's Garden Trail.

4. REPORTS

- a. Pool Group:** Dave reported that he and Shirley has met to discuss the pool project. Given that Alex will no longer be producing a plan, they decided that if funds could be found that Charlotte Rathbone (who of course knows the garden well) could be commissioned to produce a plan (at least the hard landscaping side, not the planting). It was suggested a figure of £250 might suffice. Following discussion with Ed, Charlotte was approached and said she would be glad to help. Shirley and Dave also felt that they would be able to drain the pool themselves when John Clipson could attend. Unfortunately the sudden death of John's wife has put his visit on hold for a while – Jim will advise when it's possible. Janet will be seeing Peter Randall-Page in the next week or so and will discuss the spout with him.
- b. Sculpture Unveiling/Anniversary Event:** Janet showed the thank-you card from Rosie Mushgrave. Everyone felt the even had gone wonderfully well and it was agreed that an annual event in October would be an excellent way of raising funds and celebrating the year. Janet proposed various ground cover plants (pachysandra, wild thyme, camomile) that could be planted around the bases of the sculptures. It was agreed she should ask Rosie what she would prefer.
- c. Herb Garden banks:** it was agreed that Jeannette Willington and Susan Taylor should take over responsibility for this from SHDC.
- d. Volunteers:** Roma said that she would like to see a leaflet/feedback/mail box in the garden, like the one Catherine has installed in the Lamb. Given our healthy financial situation (see item 10) It was agreed that **Roma** should ask Catherine for details.

5. TOMBOLA PRIZES

It was agreed that the unclaimed Tombola prizes should be used for a forthcoming Quiz Night. **Jim** agreed to ask Kathy at the Bay Horse when this could be arranged.

6. BAT AND BIRD BOXES

Jim will install the boxes provided he has some assistance. **Dave** offered to help and lend his ladder.

7. DAISY TRAIL

Totnes Children's Centre would like to use the garden to host some hidden Daisy Trail boxes (like the Dartmoor postboxes). This was agreed in principle, we await a firm, detailed proposal.

8. GARDEN RESPONSIBILITIES

Roma felt that things and worked well over the last 6 months but that more volunteers would be needed in the Spring (see AOB below).

9. ROMA PROJECT

Roma was approached by Liz Meadows at the Anniversary Event about the possibility of a mosaic project for the garden. It was agreed she should forward details to Janet.

10. SUSTAINABILITY GRANT

Jim outlined the spending so far. We have to spend the remainder (£1000+) in the next three months or so. It was agreed to hold springtime event to get more volunteers (see item 8) – the first week in May was thought suitable – with a plant sale and refreshments. The next committee meeting (see item 12 below), will be devoted to this topic.

11. AOB

Rosie Musgrave is producing a postcard featuring a photo of the “Three Guardians” and offered to provide the LGA with a copy of the photo that we could use for publicity purposes. It was agreed that we should look for other high-quality photos of the garden that could be used to produce postcards.

Robert mentioned that a consultation event on proposals for the Rotherfold will be held on Tuesday 22nd November at the **Guildhall** (not the Bay Horse) starting at 7pm.

Dave gave Roma the key to the Garden Noticeboard, and a poster (“Who Made What”) detailing who made the various ‘objects’ (pergola, seating, playstructure, gates, 3 guardians etc) we commissioned using the Community Spaces grant.

12. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be at 6.30 on Wednesday 7th December at Leechwell Cottage. It will focus on how to spend the remainder of the Sustainability Grant and be followed by a party starting around 7.30 – partners welcome.

DM 9.11.11