

LEECHWELL GARDEN ASSOCIATION

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 14th February 2012 at Totnes Fire Station.

1. Present: Ed Vidler; Wendy Reid; Robert Vint; Janet Mitchell; Roma Church; Liz Warnes; David Mitchell; Jill Tomalin

2. Apologies: Jim Carfrae; Sue Holmes; Stephanie Parker; Catherine Munro; Keith Rennells

3. Minutes of the previous meeting: Confirmed as accurate.

4. Matters Arising

None.

5. Reports

Pool Project: big thanks due to those who have been involved in draining the pool. Charlotte, John will be at pool on Wednesday 15th. Jill putting together a project plan with dates etc. SHDC now willing to pay £250 for Charlotte's time. Janet has kept Peter R-P informed of progress - Public Art funding due from Ross shortly. Jill to follow up on possibility of securing small grant for funding from Town Council.

Sculpture Planting: white vinca minor preferred to blue. Agreed Janet should purchase c25 Gertrude Jekyll plants, with budget of up to £125 in March. Wendy willing to help plant. Wendy to ask Keith how best to protect new plants, as tendency for children to trample on existing ones.

Volunteers: first monthly session being held on 15th February. Not many people responding. Agreed Roma should develop badges for volunteers. Roma is working with Catherine to develop joint approach with the Lamb. The shed is great, the leaflets box purchased. Agreed Roma will need money for leaflets and LGA promotional signs etc - this to be discussed at next meeting, Roma to prepare outline costs. Keith and Alex are putting together ideas for tasks. Keith has secured outline agreement for four car parking permits for volunteers, and is liaising with Catherine on this..

6. Public Realm

There was a recent meeting of "gardening" groups hosted by Carol Wellwood with proposal to set up new forum. This may provide opportunities for sharing volunteers, tasks etc, and working together. There is a separate group which has met once to propose a wider public realm partnership. Ed is attending the follow up meeting.

7. Bat and Bird Boxes.

Keith will ask SHDC maintenance team to install boxes. We still need to source bird boxes. Roma to confirm how many are required and Jill to seek advice and possible discount from the RSPB.

8. Spring Event

Date changed to 20th May, subject to confirmation with Jim. Roma confirmed it will involve cake and plant stalls, stalls from other Totnes groups, activities from groups such as Dangerous Dads and Muddy Mums etc. Can we sell surplus Woodland Trust trees? Ed to investigate. Possibility of storyteller? Clive Fairweather or Transition Tales may be able to help.

9. SHDC Activity

A written report was received from Keith:

- i) the paths and borders are to be sprayed this week. SHDC Property have been asked to follow up by resurfacing as required.
- ii) the lower pool will also be repaired
- iii) the apple tree will be inspected to ensure it is sound.
- iv) the second draft of the Herb Garden panel has been produced and is with Jeanette.

v) we need to sort out compost bins. Can we hold a possible workshop re composting? Both leaf composting, and more "heavy duty" composting possibly. **Roma** to ask David for advice.

vi) The entrance sign is temporary. We should consider what we need on a permanent sign. Elements currently omitted include info on volunteering, prohibition on bikes, acknowledgement of Rosie. **All** to visit garden and consider what else is missing, and forward to **Dave** who will collate responses for confirmation at next meeting

vii) Keith is still working on garden trail signs.

The committee wished to thank Keith and acknowledge his professional approach to keeping us informed with his comprehensive report via these minutes.

10. Mosaic

The people offering to undertake a mosaic have been offered another site, and so will not be working with us on this occasion.

11. AOB

Ed reported that Ross has said that events are now moving re the Heathway West Management Company. Ed has written to Ross laying out what will then need to be discussed re the licence, a possible agreement with the residents about opening the garden, and discussion on the third entrance etc.

NEXT MEETING: 5.30pm, TUESDAY 13th MARCH, VENUE TO BE CONFIRMED.