

MINUTES FOR LEECHWELL GARDEN ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING
3rd October 2023 held in Re-Economy Centre.

PRESENT: David Mitchell (Chair), David Martin, Sue Holmes, Robert Vint, Ernesto Antonio, Rory Batt

1. APOLOGIES: Lu Ovary, Paul Church, Shirley Prendergast

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting on 6nd September 2023 were approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING: Sue reminded us that it is **exactly** 13 years since the garden opened and 20 since Susie Boyd, Dave and Shirley first got involved in planning it. Dave agreed to bring refreshments to the next meeting to celebrate.

4. Welcome to Rory Batt: The committee welcomed Rory Batt to his first meeting. As a Grove School parent and frequent visitor to the garden he will be very useful!

5. Noticeboard: Dave showed the A1 noticeboard he had ordered from Colour Frog. David and Ernesto have agreed to fix up the wooden posts (to be positioned between the main gate and the plant table).

6. Finances: Paul had provided the following information:

- £3648 in the LGA Bank Account
- £2376 is currently unallocated
- £1272 allocated for the Wild Life Garden (Totnes Trust grant and Ernesto's sponsored walk)

Given our current annual expenditure includes around £1000 paid to Ross and donations have dropped considerably, we have to find new ways to raise funds. Following a lengthy discussion it was agreed that we should have an event to 'open' the new noticeboard in the next month and use the publicity for that to appeal for donations and Rory volunteered to 'consult' Grove School parents. It was also agreed that we should try to get SHDC to do some of the work currently done by Ross (see next item)

7. Meeting with SHDC: Rob Sekula at SHDC has agreed to meet with Sue (and Cllr Anna Presswell and Ernesto) to discuss ways in which SHDC could reduce our outgoings.

8. Wildlife Garden: Ernesto has begun arranging the necessary supplies (a large membrane for example as well as some rebar).

AOB: Sue reminded the committee that we need to hold an AGM before the end of the year (as December's meeting?).

Next meeting. 7th November 2023 in the Re-Economy Centre