

MINUTES FOR LEECHWELL GARDEN ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

21.05.24

41a Fore Street, Totnes, TQ9 5HN (Rory & Belinda's House)

PRESENT: David Mitchell (Chair), David Martin, Robert Vint, Rory Batt, Belinda Jane Batt, Paul Church, Claire Morley

Apologies: Lu Overy, Shirley Prendergast, Ernesto Antonio

UPDATE PREVIOUS MINUTES:

1. **Repairs to pergola.** Rory updated that the oak for the pergola had been delivered in the wrong size and the correct sizes will arrive in the coming week.

MINUTES:

1. **Immersion Pool.** Dave M presented to the Committee the history of the pool. It was agreed by the Committee that further development of the pool should not be a priority for the Committee at this time due to cost and complexity.
2. **Future/Sustainability of the Garden.** It was agreed there is a need to establish necessary/key roles that need filling in the Committee going forward e.g., head gardener, volunteer manager, grants application manager, point person for South Hams etc. To that end, Claire has kindly proposed to speak individually to each long-term Committee member to gain a better understanding of roles and responsibilities, and how things have been run to date, to help inform the future strategy. Dave M has also kindly offered to write a list of the various things that need doing in the garden to help inform the long-term planning. Once all the information has been gathered, Claire, Rory and Belinda will consolidate and propose roles that need filling, ideally by the end of the year when existing long-term Committee members stand down.
3. **Committee WhatsApp Group.** It was proposed by Claire to set up a Committee WhatsApp to ensure fluid communication between members especially on immediate/pressing matters. Belinda agreed to set this up and invite members to provide their numbers if they wished to join.
4. **Contact for those outside of the Committee.**
Link Councillors – they will not join Committee meetings, but Rory will liaise with them where relevant (see for reference the South Hams Community Action newsletter attachment to email, which we propose to

include our events and volunteer requests in going forward).

Sue Holmes – It was proposed that Ernesto be the contact point for feeding back to/from Sue to ensure smooth communication.

- 5. Celebration of Water Event on Sun 21st July.** Claire fed back that she had met with Robin to learn more about the sculpture and discuss the event. Robin was not aware of the change of date from Sat 20th and Claire encouraged all members to ensure anyone they had spoken to about the event had been informed about the change of date – the artist group that Shirley is in touch with (NB Shirley). For the format of the event, it was agreed that Dave M would give a brief introduction and then Robin would be invited to talk a little about the sculpture, before the children's art competition, refreshments etc.

Attending on the day from the Committee will be: Rory, Belinda, Dave M, David, Robert, Claire, Shirley.

Rory agreed to speak to Simon at Pizza Pirates to firm up the plan for provision of pizza at the event.

In terms of roles and responsibilities for the event:

Belinda & Lu – follow up with Morrisons and Happy Apple and collect donations before event to bring (NB need cups and plates – are these included in the ask?)

Belinda/Lu – obtain print paper from TQ Print

Claire – provide pens for art competition, cloth to unveil sculpture

Shirely - Urn & access to power source

David M – bring wallpaper table & ground sheet

Belinda & Rory – bring ground sheet, bin bags

- 6. Rats** – Dave M to follow up on this with S.Hams as it is a pest control issue
- 7. Play Structure** – This will need replacing in the not-too-distant future and will need to be considered as a priority in the long-term planning.
- 8. Update Finances** (information provided following the meeting by Paul) - funds on account are £9643.77. All funds due (just giving, Town Council and SHDC) have now been received.

NEXT MEETINGS

Did not discuss next Committee meeting but propose Tue 30th July 5.30pm – Rory and Belinda happy to host again if others are okay to attend.

Sunday 21st July (Celebration Event) in the Garden (details as above).