

# CHISWICK HORTICULTURAL AND ALLOTMENTS SOCIETY

The meeting of the  
Chiswick Horticultural and Allotments Society (CHS) Committee  
held on Wednesday 25 February 2015 at 7.30pm at  
the CHS Trading Hut, Staveley Road, Chiswick W4

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## MINUTES

### 1. Attendance

Alastair Britten  
David Burton  
Michael Flinders  
Ben Jones  
Jill Morris  
Andrew Steele  
Everard Whitehouse

In attendance – Fran Goloway, Joanne Hodges.

Apologies – John Gill.

### 2. Minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2015

The minutes were approved.

### 3. Matters arising

Standpipes – Andrew and Ben have been trying to arrange a meeting with the relevant people to contest the Council's position which, as expressed in Andrew Smith's letter of 23 October 2014, is that they have no intention of altering the new standpipes. Mr. Smith is apparently leaving, so no meeting has been possible. Ben to try to approach the Council itself (perhaps the Mayor) and both will continue to press Jim Buchan at Carillon.

Handbook – As Everard is planning on leaving the Committee after the Autumn events, he will not be able to serve on the handbook sub-committee, which will now be Andrew, Jill and Alastair.

### 4. Events and Activities

a) Boat trip – Nothing new to report.

b) Centenary dinner – A deposit has been paid for 13 June. Tickets at £45, which may not completely cover the cost, but an amount has been budgeted to pay for it, if necessary. Alastair and Jill to get tickets printed. Agreed to try to get a sponsor – e.g. Fullers, Savills, Winkworth. Everard to contact Fullers.

c) Talk – Val Botts to speak at the Trading Hut on 31 March at 6:30. Price £4 members/£5 non-members.

d) NT visits (Mottisfont & Upton) – Everard reported that a large coach would cost £450 for each trip (based on 35 people going), a smaller coach £350 (based on 25). It was agreed a price of £20 per head for each trip. Non-NT members would have to pay the entry fee as well.

e) schools – Everard reported that Strand on the Green and St. Mary's Primaries have signed up and seeds (tomato, radishes and delphiniums) and seed potatoes been delivered. He is meeting with Grove Park Primary, which he expects will also participate. When the judging is done, we should plan to have a photographer present. Fran and Everard to form a sub-committee on this project.

f) Quiz Night – Saturday 28 November has been booked. Jo to email John to see if he made any progress on a quiz night for March or April. If not, we will drop that.

g) Shows – nothing new to report except that the planned presenter for the autumn show cannot attend.

## 5. Finance Report

Dave to meet with independent examiner this week. Accounts should be ready by end of month. Ben to sign off on the rent review for the lease, which was authorised by the Committee.

£5000 in bank with some bills still due from advertisers. Dave to send out a list of those who haven't paid so they can be chased.

## 6. Website

Jo had emailed the results of the survey which she discussed. Jo recommends we go with a Word Press site which has more flexibility than our current static site. Jo to talk to Everard's son for his thoughts. She will then select a host at her discretion up to an annual cost of £122. Domain name will be growchiswick.

## 7. AGM/EGM

Ben reviewed the documents (notice, agenda, proxy, nomination papers, etc.) which he has prepared for the Extraordinary and Annual General Meetings to be held on 26 April. The Committee approved the proposed change to the Articles, changing the quorum for general meetings in article 9(2) from 35 to 20.

Committee members (and Fran) need to deliver to Ben (by 11 April) their nomination forms and to draft their relevant sections for the annual report.

John reported (by email) that membership to date stands at 136 + 12 new or unexpired members.

## 8. Dates of meetings

March's Committee meeting will be Monday 23 March and April's will be Wednesday 15 April, but all others will be the last Wednesday of the month.

## 9. Any Other Business

a) It was agreed that, for the moment, we would not ask estate agents to advertise our events on boards in front of homes.

b) Dave is suggesting a "super" raffle with especially good prizes – perhaps at the autumn show.

c) We will mount the camera we have in the Hut.

d) Twitter – Fran suggests we set up a Twitter account – agreed. She has reactivated our Facebook account and is getting hits.

e) Jo will respond to Chiswick & Brook Green magazine indicating that Jill & Fran (and perhaps Henry) are happy to be interviewed by them.

f) Jo noted that she gets enquiries as editor of chsw.org and directs them to whomever she thinks can answer them. Please let her know if the person receiving it does not believe they are the right person and copy her on your replies.

g) It was felt inappropriate to propose MW Solicitors to our members, but they would be welcome to advertise in forthcoming handbooks.

h) The small greenhouse which had been kindly offered to us appears to fit badly onto our site, so it was agreed to decline the offer.

i) The Carole Weale tree seems to have died and will need to be replaced.

## Next Committee meeting on 23 March.

## Events

- Saturday 28 February – Dig for Britain talk (Paolo Arrigo)
- Monday 23 March – Committee meeting
- Wednesday 15 April – Committee meeting
- Sunday 26 April – AGM
- Tuesday 5 May – River trip
- Fri/Sat 8/9 May – plant sale

- Wednesday 27 May – Visit to Mottisfont Abbey (NT)
- Saturday 13 June – Centenary dinner
- Sunday 28 June – Summer Show
- Sunday 26 July – Summer party
- Saturday 5 September – Autumn show
- Wednesday 23 September – Visit to Upton House (NT)
- Saturday 28 November – Quiz Night
- Sunday 20 December – Christmas party

### **To do list**

#### Alastair

- Prepare tickets for centenary dinner (with Jill)
- Deliver plants to any other participating schools
- Handbook subcommittee with Jill and Andrew

#### Andrew

- Subcommittee with Jill and Alastair on handbook

#### Ben

- Follow up on standpipes with Council
- Continue work on AGM/EGM materials
- Sign rent review memorandum with Council

#### Dave

- Giant raffle
- Finalise accounts
- Provide committee a list of advertisers who haven't paid

#### Everard

- Contact Fullers about sponsoring centenary dinner
- Further contact schools about our competition
- Subcommittee with Fran about the schools competition

#### Fran

- Set CHAS up on Twitter
- Subcommittee with Everard on schools competition
- Interview with Chiswick and Brook Green magazine

#### Jill

- Subcommittee with Andrew and Alastair on handbook
- Interview with Chiswick & Brook Green magazine
- Get tickets for centenary dinner (with Alastair)
- Get lease from Penny

#### Jo

- Choose new host for website
- Advise Chiswick & Brook Green magazine who will be interviewed
- Email John to see if he has made progress on a March/April quiz night

#### John

- Prepare list of members to whom AGM data must be sent
- Advise how many are not on email
- Look into March/April quiz night

#### Everyone

- Write a section for the annual report
- Chase advertisers who have not paid