

AGM held on 10 September 2023 at ICG Caravan 11 am

Attendees: Chris Brooks (chair), Lindsey Fallon (minutes), Chris Allen, Mike Thompson, Ed Brooks, Sue Scott, Martin Baxter, Adele Downer, David Robertson, Karl Deakin

1. Apologies: Carolyn Brooks, Angela Foukes, Helen Green.

2. Annual Report

Chris issued copies of the report and it is available on the website. Chris has moved all the meeting minutes and pruning notes, etc from the previous website to the current site.

3. Treasurer's Report

The accounts have been reviewed by Alan Booth. Lindsey gave a verbal comment on the accounts for 2022-23 and gave an update on the current financial position.

2022-23 Accounts:

At the start of the year, we had a healthy balance of £4,891.88.

Expenditure during the year was £1,403.44, with the largest expense being for relining the pond and netting to trap falling leaves. We also bought the plumbing supplies to link the new IBCs for water capture & storage.

Income during the year included a grant from DCC of £200 to help with plumbing costs and £375 from Transition Potato Day profits, however the total was only £656.62. We didn't hold any plant sales during the year and no Gift Aid was claimed but this is being claimed in 2023-24. This has left a balance of only £4,145.06 to start the 2023-24 Financial year. Update to the report: The current account balance is £4,479.68 which includes income from plant sales this year.

Chris B explained that the pipework to take the stored water down the garden has been purchased and awaiting purchase of the stand pipes and taps.

It should be noted that the donation of £1,000 received from Mansfield Building Society will now be absorbed into the general purpose fund and no longer held in Reserve, as we are unable to build any permanent structures on the site.

In 2023-24, we have also received approximately £200 worth of compost donated by Wickes & they have also supplied the damp-proof membrane placed under the new compost bins.

Pathways have also provided paint and brushes when they came to repaint the sheds.

4. Trustees

We need a minimum of 5 Trustees to remain as a Charity. Ed and Martin are standing down. Chris B is relinquishing his position as Chair and Mike Thompson has agreed to take over with immediate effect. Lindsey wishes to be replaced as Treasurer and Adele has offered to take over. Lindsey will provide a detailed handover including the current spreadsheet & how it is constructed & will provide details of claiming Gift Aid. Lindsey will arrange to obtain the forms to pass over access to the bank account. Chris A, Chris B & Lindsey are willing to remain as Trustees. (Trustees are now Mike T, Chris A, Lindsey F, Adele D, Chris B)

5. A.O.B.

A list of sub-groups needs to be agreed. To maintain and construct infrastructure within the garden requires a separate team to that which arranges to growing plans and purchases the seeds and plans the layout of the beds each year. Chris A, Chris B, Ed B and others form the Infrastructure team and the Growing team has comprised Martin, Angela and Helen in previous years. Martin has stepped down and it is hoped Helen and Angela will continue to run this group. Infrastructure comprises such tasks as Painting, decking, water piping, cleaning structures and general maintenance. There is a need to acquire more decking planks.

David suggested an addition to the records for the garden where identification is needed of the crops that have grown well and where it has been grown and also plans are needed to identify what produce should be harvested each day. He suggested nominated individuals should ensure a detailed scan of the produce should be formally recorded as described. This would then feed into the plans for the next growing season to identify what should be grown that year. This should be in addition to the notes recorded by Sue S and in more detail.

Mike T will contact Angela and Helen regarding leading the Growing team.

It was noted that strawberry runners need to be potted up now to ensure replacement plants are grown next year and to provide plants for the 'towers' that sold well this year.

Chris B thanked the attendees and particular thanks to the team leads who have worked hard throughout the year. The AGM was then closed.