

RGS Committee Meeting – Sunday 2nd July 2017 at 9am

1. Jackie Savage (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were apologies for absence from Pat Dark, Carol Martinez and Gill Tamsett

Present were: -

Liz Chrominska	Mike Cooper	Helen Finch
Shirley Gillbe	Janis Humberstone	Ali Linton (minutes)
Georgina O'Reilly	Mariangela Renshaw	Brad Sanderson
Greg Willcox		

2. To note the agreed minutes of the meeting on Sunday 7th May 2017

The minutes agreed ex-committee have been posted on the web site.

3. Matters arising

i. Water - David Renshaw (DR) was welcomed to the meeting, he has some knowledge about sinking a bore hole and was happy to share it on an informal basis. He made the following points: -

a. A "consultant" is required initially to survey the area and make suggestions about the likelihood of finding water on the site. Possible cost £2,000.

b. There are 2 types, take away and extraction – we need extraction.

c. We would not need a licence as the amount of water we would extract is less than the amount notifiable.

d. Deep extractions are very expensive

e. Shallow extractions (10 – 20m) into the alluvial layer are much cheaper (?£15,000.00) and this might be within our budget.

d. Shallow extractions have complications, the water source might dry up, contain minerals that would affect our crops (?iron) and more worrying become polluted should a local sewer leak.

e. Site 3 is not flat and it would be beneficial to allow for a fall thus increasing the water pressure. We **don't have space** for a reservoir but a storage tank could be installed.

f. Maintenance costs are minimal eg cleaning the pump.

g. Electricity is required to run the pump – we would need to put electricity on site 3.

h. The work needed to sink the bore would be invasive and disruptive but on completion the pump etc would be neat and tidy – **photo's were circulated.**

i. There is a web-site showing all bore holes and there are 3 within 1/2 a mile.

j. In finishing he suggested that we explore all types of water capture such as harvesting rainwater from roofs.

DR was thanked for all his information and left the meeting.

MC's brother is a geologist and he agreed to ask him for maps of the area. Action: MC

AL reported that she had contacted the plumber who has been very helpful mending several leaks to ask him if he would quote for replacing the pipework and installing new taps and tanks. She had also gone to **mybuilder.com but hadn't contacted Thames Water. It was obvious that regardless of our source of water** we are going to require a whole new pipework and tank/tap system on site 3 and suggested that she circulates a map of site 3 showing a suggested route for the new pipes and the positioning of the taps/tanks before the next meeting. This could then be agreed and used as a specification for the new works, we could then obtain quotes and also ask Thames Water for their advice.

Action: AL

ii. Communal area on Site 3 GW was thanked, the new communal area has been much admired and it is working well.

iii. DHR tabletop sale JH reported that they had had interest in the RGS and sold £18 worth of goods from the store.

4. Chair's report

i. Lease / Charity update. JS reported that on 26th June she chased up a response from Peter Tiernan in order to report to this committee meeting. This is his reply on 26 June:

You are correct that I was aiming to report to Senior Members on this 50-year lease proposal at a peppercorn rent earlier this month.

Since we last corresponded my draft report has been circulated and reviewed by a number of internal Council departments who in turn have raised a number of additional points that warranted further consideration. This is routine practice for a report of this nature. Certain key personnel have been away on annual leave and unfortunately this in turn has led to some unanticipated delays in being able to obtain the relevant information.

I now appear to have the bulk of the outstanding information and presently I am liaising with the Council's Borough Solicitor's team to settle the remaining issues. I will continue to chase the Borough Solicitor's team on this matter but the upshot of this is that I am now aiming to submit my report to the Senior Members on 31st July 2017.

She was thanked for her tenacity and patience!

5. The Show - Saturday 24th June

MR reported that the show had been very successful, well attended and the teas and produce stall especially were very busy. The exhibits looked rather sparse maybe because the roses are over but they entries as reflected in the accounts were up! The produce stall sold everything. The auction was not as profitable as usual but no spare cakes had been available and the produce for auction was less varied.

Everyone was thanked for all their hard work and Pat Davis's contribution over the years will be acknowledged at the AGM. Post meeting: **George Scandrett was unable to judge our show because of ill health, so Charles Gillbe and Sheila Konig stepped in at the last minute and were excellent judges.**

Outstanding payments for Show Brochure- Trina's wines (EC) Kings seeds (JS) and Al Forno (HF)

Action: EC JS HF

6. Thefts

JS reported that in June we received 2 strong emails complaining of thefts and demanding the committee do something about it – 1 from each site. She sent an email last Sunday 25th June to all plot holders asking for reports of theft and ideas for stopping it. (There are 250 plot holders!) About 10 people replied. Site 2: 2 replies. 1 about a hose end and the other saying that the person stealing from him has a key to his shed and he knows who he is. I replied that “**In the Agreement that you have with the Council rule 33 states: "In case of incidents concerning personal safety or safety of personal belongings the plot holder is advised to report any crime to the Metropolitan Police".**” He replied that he would be reporting this to the police who are coming on Tuesday at 9am.

On Site 3: 7 replies. 2 were hose ends / connections , 2 were to say no thefts and how much better things are, 1 to complain that he often finds gate open, 1 to suggest ID badges for all members and photo boards!! Nothing relating to thefts or suggestions on what to do. A plea for NO CCTV!! and a suggestion that the plot holder puts up a sign straight away next to plot warning loss of plot if found guilty of stealing.

JS suggested that she email all plot holders saying that she has had very few responses and reminding all members that they are responsible for their own possessions, to be vigilant in reporting thefts to us with a time and date if possible, and a reminder to lock up or take home valuable tools.

7. Treasurer's report

JH is creating an archive of all the account and asked for permission to destroy papers after 7 years – this was agreed.

<u>Show accounts:</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u> (June)
Teas	£190.55	£145
Door	£121.07	£149.19
Tombola	£117.70	£144.50
Tombola (children)	£35.50	£59
Raffle	£70.00	£58
Entries (donations)	£36.00	£34.80
Auction	£92.59	£101.50
Produce	£150.05	£95.20
Store	£16.30	
<u>Total</u> takings	£799.76 (£30 deduction for prizes)	£787.19

8. Allotment Secretaries' reports

Site 2 GO'R reported: -

Plot lettings - None

Plot Inspections

Outstanding issues from May plot inspection.

There are two outstanding partly resolved issues from the may plot inspections.

A plot holder acknowledged the email, but no work was done by the time set. A further serious email was sent 02 06 17. She then said **that she had been ill and off work so, in the light of Geraldine Kelly's advice** last year when we similarly had a plot holder who reported sick, she was given a further deadline to clear the plot. This deadline was met and the plot is now cleared.

Another plot holder has partly responded by partly covering his plot with weed suppressant. However, there is still cause for concern about cultivation.

The next plot inspection is on Tuesday 4 July and these issues will be considered on that occasion.

Thefts

A plot holder has reported the theft of tomato food and a pair of secateurs from his locked shed. He suspects another plot holder who he claims had the key. In the light of a lack of evidence JS has recommended that he contact the police. He has changed the padlock.

Another plot holder has reported thefts of cucumbers.

Site 3 HF reported:

Plot lettings: none

Water points: The water points at plots 83B and 92B seem to have been fixed.

9. Trading Secretary's report

Nothing to report.

10. Bulletin Editor's Report

PD sent a written report requesting copy for the July Bulletin to be in by 28th June and the September Bulletin by 10th August as the Bulletin will be published at the beginning of September with information about the Show to be held on 9th September.

11. Site Manager's report.

SG reported that the plot inspections will be held on 4th July.

i. The plot inspections will be held on 4th July.

ii. WBC Best plot competition They are looking for ideas for a different less competitive "competition" with the aim of encouraging plot holders to utilise their plots effectively. EC reported that there have been 2 self-nominations and 2 requests not to be nominated.

12. Diary Dates for 2016

i. Wisley There are only 2 participants so far but with PD and EC it will go ahead on Tuesday 18th July.

13. AOB - none

The next meeting will be held on **Sunday 3rd September at 9am** in the store.

No meeting in August