Roehampton Garden Society Annual General Meeting

6.45pm Wednesday 26th November 2014 St Margaret's Church Hall

1. Welcome

Jackie Savage welcomed everyone to the meeting including our Vice-Presidents Sheila Konig, Derrick Ratcliffe and George Scandrett and Life Members Pat Davis and David Rossiter. Justine Greening MP who is our President will arrive during proceedings and present the Cups. There is to be no recording of these procedings. The membership have not given permission for a recording. Minutes will be available in the December Bulletin and a draft version will be posted on our website. She invited everyone to stay after the meeting for refreshments and to do a little Christmas shopping at the "Store" stall.

2. Apologies for absence

There were apologies for absence from: -

Paula Alderson, Robert Dark, Tony Hawksley, Estelle Hughes, Alan Rake, David Savage and Albert Tuin.

Present were: -

Janet Ward

Alexander Apperley Pauline Benjamin Vicki Bennett Ciaran Carr Liz Chrominska George Casley Susan Clark Jenny Cobb Michael Cooper Pat Dark Laura Davis Pat Davis Artan Deliallisi Jo Eskdale Helen Finch **Anthony Fitzsimmons** Vivien Fowler Josephine George Charles Gillbe Shirley Gillbe Jenny Gorle John Ireland Peter Knight Sheila Konig Alison Linton Robert Linton Carol Martinez **Dorthe Nielson** Georgina O'Reilly John O'Reilly Sarah Purcell Raj Patel Susan MacDonald David MacDonald Barbara McCall Dave McCall Pip Melotte John O'Reilly Derrrick Ratcliffe **David Rossiter Gary Rose** Ann Rossiter Jackie Savage **George Scandrett** Carol Sewell **Stewart Tamsett** Melanie Tham Gill Tamsett

3. **Minutes of the 2013 AGM – 27th November 2013**

These were published in draft form in the December 2013 Bulletin and emailed to the membership last Sunday (23rd Nov). They were agreed as a true record.

Greg Willcox

4. Minutes of the EGM – 25th June 2014

These minutes have been on the web site since June 2014 and emailed to the membership last Sunday (23rd Nov) – they were agreed as a true record.

Bill Young

(51) ++

5. Chair's report to include Amendment to Rule 3

It has been another busy and productive year for the Roehampton Garden Society.

There have been a variety of visits including to Wisley, Chiswick House Camelia Festival and the Wandsworth Dump (Re-cycling facility). Our events have included, for example, participating in the Gardeners' Question Time organised by Friends of Putney Library, hosting a Wildlife Workshop in our newly painted Store in the Spring as well as 2 Bonfire Parties in early November. All this as well as the 2 wonderful Shows.

We have purchased a Filemaker database for all our membership records. This will simplify our record keeping and mean we can produce individual invoices to send to you so you can pay your rents directly into the bank, as many of you have asked for, but only if you wish to do so, you may also pay by cheque or cash.

At the last AGM there was a request for all committee meeting minutes to be posted on the website and this now done each month. We also put a copy of the Bulletin and update "Dates for your Diary" where we add suggestions of horticultural courses and so on. Always worth a look.

You may have noticed that we are trialling a new style lock on the gate for the Pleasance alltoments. We have engaged a local locksmith who with one of our committee members has devised a solution that we hope means you can all keep your keys and we don't have to keep replacing broken padlocks at great expense (and annoyance). Once we are happy with this lock we will put them on the other 3 gates.

There is also a Post Box to be fixed to the Gate of the Pleasance as we now have an official post office address! This is necessary for becoming a Charity.

I hope you have bought your copy of our very first RGS calendar — with photos of our allotments taken by 3 of our members. They are on sale this evening along with Christmas gifts for gardeners! Next year we hope to have a selection of images to choose from taken by more of our members. As long as they are taken of one of our sites they will be considered. I think we will be particularly looking for photos of the sites in winter.

I am sorry to report that this year there was a lengthy dispute between the committee and a new tenant, over a requested plot move, which we were unable to resolve internally and had to refer to Wandsworth Council. I would like to thank Jerry Birtles (Chief Parks Officer) and Geraldine Kelly (Allotment Officer) and all the committee for the time and consideration they gave this matter. I am relieved to report that the Council found that the committee had not acted improperly and they welcomed our initiative, which had started in February, on

the development of a Plot Letting Policy and re-wording of Rule 3 which they thought "could

I hope that now all those concerned can enjoy their plots and leave the dispute behind them.

be more clearly defined and give clearer guidance to members".

This brings me to our request that you, the members, approve the re-wording of Rule 3 relating to our Plot Letting Policy. I circulated the documents to you all about a month ago and have had a several replies and some suggestions, which I thank you for.

Our Plot Letting policy is different to the other Wandsworth sites (which are not self-managing) and where no moves (unless there are the most compelling circumstances) and requests for additional land are not allowed. Of course allowing moves and adding land takes up a lot of time but the committee is keen to preserve the historical practice of the RGS. We allow our tenants to move plots and to be able to add more land to their holding (up to the limit of 5 rods per household). The purpose of the re-wording is to make the Rule more clearly defined and communicated whilst retaining the advantage of flexibility. I propose (and Helen Finch seconds) that we change the wording of our Rule 3 as you can see on the white paper on your chairs.

There was a great deal of discussion about the proposed Rule 3.

The following points were raised:-

- i. Rule 3 had not always been applied and this had caused a major problem.
- ii. Plot swopping is no longer allowed. Before we had a waiting list plotholders moved frequently as there were often "spare" plots.
- iii. The new rule 3 is more clearly defined.
- iv. Plotholders who want to "move" = 1 percent of the plotholders.
- v. All "discussions" relating to moves should be put in writing (email).
- vi. Greater transparency woud be achieved by recording in writing (email) areas of dispute, an audit trail would protect the committee.
- vii. Misunderstandings can occur and "face to face" discussions can help to prevent this all such discussions should be followed by an email summarising the discussion.
- viii. All plotholders sign a tenancy agreement with WBC who do not allow "swops" but often new tenants are so pleased to have reached the top of the list that they don't read it very carefully.
- ix. The committee work from their "Procedures for dealing with a dispute".
- x. "Swops" i.e. amicable moves between friendly plotholders are not allowed.
- xi. Plotholders can only move if they come to the top of the waiting list.
- xii. The secondary waiting list is made up of people who have reached the top of the primary list but wish to defer tenancy i.e. work commitments, planned retirement, illness and other personal reasons. When they are ready to cultivate a plot they go to the top of the primary list.
- xiii. In the case of illness fellow plotholders and other volunteers often help cultivate plots, this promotes the community spirit of the RGS. The plotholder is still responsible for the plot and the site secretaries and site manager must be informed.

Rule 3 "Offering Plots to Let" Only Wandsworth residents over the age of 18 will be eligible for an allotment. 5 rods is the maximum holding per household. New tenants will usually be offered plots of 2 to 3.5 rods (inclusive). An existing tenant (whose name is on the Primary Waiting List) may be offered plots as additional land up to the maximum total of 5 rods per household. Only existing tenants will be offered plots of 4 rods or more. To take up a larger plot the tenant may need to move.

Two waiting lists will be kept: the Primary Waiting List and the Secondary Waiting List. The Primary Waiting List will be for potential tenants who want an allotment and existing tenants wanting more land or to move who will be added to the bottom in order of date of application. When at the top of the list the person will be contacted.

The Secondary Waiting List is for those who have reached the top of the Primary Waiting List but who are unable to take a plot at the time it is offered. It will be the responsibility of the person on the Secondary Waiting List to make contact (e.g. email

root@roehamptonallotments.co.uk) when they are able to take on a plot.

After much discussion this was carried unanimously with the one addition "or to move" after "wanting more land".

I cannot name everyone in person from the large number of volunteers that are now helping the RGS in so many ways! From all those committee and sub committee people who, for example, work to let and inspect plots, are preparing to become a Charity, write the bulletin, collect rents, help with deliveries, serve in the Store, publish our Calendar, fix broken locks, help at the Shows and AGMs and clean the toilets — what would we do without you all!

Of course more volunteers are always needed please email us root@roehamptonallotments.co.uk

However there are 2 very special volunteers who we would like to thank and I pass you over to Georgina who will thank Paula Alderson and Derrick Ratcliffe who are resigning from the Committee tonight.

Georgina O'Reilly summarised the huge amount of work done by Vice Presidents Paula and Derrick. They were instrumental in saving sites 2 and 3 from development and instrumental in the RGS becoming a self managing site. PA has had her plot since 1995 and will continue to help anyone needing horticultural advice. DR has had his plot since 1978 and like PA has been a committee member for many years he has agreed to continue co-ordinating the manure deliveries! She presented a gift on behalf of the RGS and a similar one has been sent to PA.

6. **Update on becoming a Charity**

Update on becoming a Charity Anthony Fitzsimmons reiterated what had been agreed at the EGM held in June.

- i. The aim is to secure both sites long term for the residents of Wandsworth. The 5 acres would be very valuable if they ceased to be allotments and we are keen to secure it on as long a lease as possible while the political climate is favourable.
- ii. The decision 'in principle' to become a Charity was made at the EGM in June and a great deal of work has been done subsequently. The draft minutes of the EGM have been on the web site since June, circulated to the entire membership last Sunday (Nov 23rd) and were agreed unanimously at the beginning of this meeting.
- iii. WBC are in agreement with the concept and have indicated that they are happy to grant a much longer lease to the proposed new charity but only a shorter one to the RGS as it exists.
- iv. The structure of the Charity will be very similar with a "Board of Trustees" replacing WBC as leaseholders for plotholders, with WBC granting the new charity a new, much longer, lease. The intention is that there will be a committee who manage the plots much as now with another committee to manage the Store.

There was discussion about the cost of setting up the Charity and it was agreed that the Committee would consider the best way to obtain approval from the membership (and whether this might be ballot) before any final steps are taken.

7. <u>Treasurer's Report</u> Elizabeth Chrominska reported: -

As at the last AGM I can report that the Society's finances are strong. This year the financial report comes in a different form, designed to make the figures easier to understand. The table presented to the AGM is a summary of income and expenditure over the last two years (over the periods 1 October to 30 September) in the 3 main areas of activity: the Store, Shows and managing the allotment sites. The Store has made a profit of over £1k, slightly up on the previous year. We do not aim to make a large profit but to provide members with good value for money products which they need to get the most out of their plots. For the first time we are offering seeds, at a discounted price, for which the initial investment was £1.3k. The Shows also made a profit - about £150 more than last year. 2014 saw the completion of the refurbishment of the Store - painting of the interior, which came to just over £1k. The RGS collects rents and manages the

allotment sites, for which we get 20% of the rents collected. This is used for repairs and maintenance, and includes security (locks and keys). Allotment expenditure is up on last year mainly because we purchased a shredder. To summarise, we have more money than last year in our bank accounts, in cash and in the form of assets: £24.1k last year and £26.4k this year.

8. <u>Trading Secretary's Report</u> Barbara MacCall reported: -

It has been quite a year for our beloved Store; having had a total 'make-over!'
Before I report on just how it all happened and how the Store is doing now, I would just like to thank Alan Rake for running the Store, successfully, for so many years which has meant that we had a great base from which to develop and extend it today - many thanks Alan!

So.... the Store re-born!

When Alan retired from the role of Trading Secretary, a Store Sub-Committee (SSC) was formed to run the Store now, comprising of:

Jackie Savage, Barbara McCall, Georgina O'Reilly, Carol Martinez, Raj Patel and Liz Chrominska. We saw our aim as this:

"The Store should be run for the benefit of its Members, to share knowledge of gardening, to act as a community hub and to provide good quality gardening products at competitive prices. The SSC is committed to acting in an ethical and environmentally responsible manner for its Members."

We first met in the winter of December 2013 to devise a plan of action:

- 1. To thoroughly tidy up, sort out and clean out the Store
- 2. To check with Wandsworth Borough Council that we could decorate and change the use of the Store
- 3. Mike Cooper was to investigate the possibility of the Store having mains water
- 4. To totally re-wire the Store
- 5. To instal a kitchen area, with hot and cold running water
- 6. To investigate the possibility of painting the Store

All of these ideas were to be presented to the RGS Committee for approval, once estimates had been obtained.

It began....!

In the depths of winter 2013, we had an amazing sort out of the Store and then a clean!! There was decades of dust and thankfully, many people came along to help. Once all the dust was removed then all the shelving was cleaned and some reshaped to meet the new needs of the Store.

Trading continued around the refurbishments, which was not too difficult as our opening hours were only on Sunday of course! Stock that could be boxed up and stored was, mostly in greenhouses and the sheds of members and the toilets/shredder shed/small shed on Site Bulky stock like the bags of manure and compost, tables, ladders, chairs etc., were stacked up outside and wrapped up in huge tarpaulins against the elements. Imagine all this was done in the freezing cold by many good-hearted members! Precious items such as our old till, antique desk and scales were taken home for safe keeping by various SSC members. After much investigation, the Store was finally connected to the mains water supply, the kitchen units installed and the whole Store was re-wired, making it safe and increasing the number of sockets and great lighting! The final job was the painting of the Store! Mike Cooper filled in all the holes and dips in the walls prior to painting, then a specialist Company sprayed the whole Store! Then all the Store was restocked with the shelving forming a self-service system. A new tablecloth was also bought as a finishing touch to the

new Cafe area! All this work occurred in the Spring and the day finally came to open the new Store! Members thought it was amazing and all the SSC were highly delighted with the outcome and response!

The next job was to actually run the Store efficiently, so we all took on different roles: Jackie and I are the Trading Secretaries, ordering stock, Georgina and Liz manage the new Kings Seeds, Carol manages the perishable goods (potatoes, onions, garlic etc) and Raj is our very knowledgeable advisor, and we all work in the Store too!

Georgina initially sourced the seeds from Kings Seeds and we are able to give a 20% discount on the marked price. Liz nows manages this and there is a very comprehensive range of favourites and new ideas, all very popular with members. Carol has developed selling loose potatoes, onions, shallots and garlic. She orders several varieties and then they are sold in the Store, this has worked very well this year and will continue in 2015.

The rest of the stock is ordered and sourced by Jackie and myself. The RGS's favourite Country Natural is our best seller, in the Spring we were ordering 100 bags a month and our price remains very competitive! The unloading of this and other bulky items is often problematic as it requires people able to lift heavy bags. A special thanks to Dave McCall and Mike Ebberson who always unload on Site 2 and, Artan and Dave McCall again on Site 3. In the past others have also helped and thanks to, Dave Savage, John Ireland, Alun Thorpe on Site 2 and Mick Markey.

As well as the regular stock we have new products including root trainers, seaweed, rock dust and other soil improvers, loose liquid fertilisers, good gardening gloves, soil pH testers, trowels and forks, secaturs, loopers, seed trays, calendars, products for seasonal use to deter unwanted insects ready for spring planting, woven netting on a roll, environmesh on a roll. Many items have been re-ordered and we are selling very well, both the Store turnover and profit for the RGS has significantly increased!

New initiatives in running the Store have included:

labels for all loose products, pre-bagging up loose products; info leaflets for all loose products; new containers for all the loose products, a member's stock request book if stock not on the shelves; clear guidelines for Store Volunteer Workers; new shed on site 3 for stocking Country Natural and Composts (upon purchase at the Store, a receipt is issued and exchanged for the goods on Site 3); gardening info available in the Cafe area as well as homemade cakes and other refreshments! The success of the Store is only possible because of all the people who volunteer to work in the Store and help with deliveries. Many thanks to member's partners and children who also came and helped with the great clean up! This year we had a School Visit to Site 2 allotments to study plants and insects and the Store Cafe provided a mini classroom and great refreshment area. The Store also had a stall at Putney Library Gardeners Question Time, the Show this Autumn and the AGM where good sales were made. As yet we have not had a request for parties or wedding receptions, but in 2015 who knows!

9. <u>Show Chair's Report</u> Carol Martinez reported: -

This year has seen another two successful shows. Some changes were introduced to keep the schedule fresh – such as the most fragrant rose and a pot of growing herbs. And fun too – the biggest marrow, longest runner bean, widest sunflower head and heaviest pumpkin being a focal point of the autumn show – with Geoff Smith and his Grandson Oliver's pumpkin an astonishing 52.5 kilos (we expect a bigger one next year Geoff). New competitions saw some lovely flower displays in a range of different teapots and delightful hand tied posies. All of the new categories had entries which is very pleasing.

Our new cookery judge Helen Sabieri – a food writer - has set some new standards for us (she checks for soggy bottoms) and will be helping us choose some different categories for next year to liven it up and keep the bakers interested.

And we do have some fantastic bakers who donate to the cake stall and help to entice those from near and far to come along to the show. And with the help of publicity from the Putney website and Putney Society and sometime Brightside we are attracting new people to every show.

The auction has continued to be a fitting end to the afternoon – where people are willing to pay for and take away all those beans and courgettes which you thought you would never see the end of.

We saw both new novices and children enter this year - both with a very high standard of entries. Can we have a steady supply of these every year please?

We have also tidied up the categories for winning cups with an even spread between the summer and autumn shows as well as the usual annual ones.

I would like to thank everyone who volunteered this year to put up tables and man the stalls and everyone who donated to the cake stall, the raffle and tombola and the produce stall, to George and Helen for judging and to everyone who entered or came along to support our 'village' shows.

10. Allotment Secretary's Reports

Site 2 :- Georgina O'Reilly reported

<u>Lettings.</u> There have been 13 lettings from November 2013 to November 2014. Of these 12 have been to new plot-holders and 1 to an existing plot holder who had come to the top of the list for another plot. 2 larger plots have been split bringing the total number of plots on site 2 to 80.

Site management - fences/ trees

Following the damaging gales last spring we requested repairs to fences to the rear of two Council properties which have finally been replaced. Another request to a private house owner has also resulted in a replaced fence.

The Society has also erected a temporary fence to the rear of another plot pending the house-owner's reinstatement of their permanent fence next spring.

The gales also caused damage to the tall pine tree on site 2 which was made safe by a tree surgeon last March.

<u>Security</u> Unfortunately, petty thefts from green houses and plots continue from time to time. Even more regrettably, these have had the hallmarks of an 'inside job'. Plot-holders are urged to be vigilant and report all thefts to the Site Secretaries so the situation can be monitored. Plot holders have been much more reliable in locking the gates after them at all times and we are not aware this year of any trespassing from outside.

<u>Community links</u> In July we organised a hands-on learning session about growing vegetables for children from Sacred Heart Primary School and we have agreed to repeat this next year for two groups. Plot holders have contributed to items for the bug hotel that a parent is building at Granard School.

<u>Plot inspections</u> The 4-monthly plot inspection timetable is now well established along with our designated team. The main issues for the team are reasonable levels of cultivation, weed control and path maintenance and responses from plot-holders who receive letters have been positive. We try to take into account the very different circumstances of our members

and ask members to discuss with us any difficulties they are experiencing so this can be considered at inspection times.

<u>Chickens</u> A complaint to Wandsworth Council about the size of one of the chicken structures on site 2 has resulted in the plot-owner having to apply for planning permission retrospectively. This process is on-going, but is a reminder to all members to check the permissible size and location before erecting structures on their plots.

<u>Shredder</u> This year a new shredder has been purchased and is installed in the shed adjacent to the Store. It is a highly effective machine, but needs to be used sensitively. Full instructions and tips on usage are in the shredder shed.

<u>Andrew Fleming-Williams</u> I sadly have to mention the death of one of our plot-holders, Andrew Fleming-Williams, who was unexpectedly taken ill and died this summer. Andrew was a passionate composter and we have him to thank for advice on the new shredder. It was some comfort to him that he was keenly working his plot and harvesting raspberries until shortly before his death.

<u>Thanks</u> Finally, I'd like to extend thanks to the many plot-holders who give of their time freely in many ways, helping with the store deliveries, helping with the disposal of the accumulation of rubbish last winter, managing the bonfire and of course keeping our toilet clean. And for those plot-holders who contact me about issues arising so that the site can be managed as effectively as possible for us all. Thank you all for your ongoing support.

Site 3 Helen Finch reported: -

I took over from Mary Jane Ireland at the beginning of this year. There was little written guidance regarding letting plots, just Rule 3 in the RGS rules. I was mentored by Paula Alderson who with Derrick had done the job of letting plots for many years. Now there was a long waiting list for this public facility I felt it was important to ensure I was doing the right thing. I drafted a policy document and in February we formed a sub-committee to develop it.

<u>Plot lettings:</u> Site 3 had 153 plots at the beginning of the year but 2 have been divided during this year so we now have 155. Over the year since the last AGM there have been a total of 22 lettings (14%), 18 to new tenants and 4 to existing plot holders.

<u>Welcome packs:</u> Jackie and Georgina put together 'Welcome Packs' for new plot holders. I have a sample here. It is a very comprehensive pack aimed to inform new Allotmenteers, to enable them to get help if needed and to encourage them to use the store.

<u>Apple</u> tree The large apple tree on plot 85B was pruned professionally last January. Allotmenteers were invited to watch and learn from the professional so several people braved the winter rains and learned how to prune a fruit tree.

Security No major thefts or vandalism this year but there have been reports of people taking produce and plants from other tenants' plots. A notice about this will be in the December Bulletin covering this issue of theft and trespass.

<u>Plot inspections</u> Georgina has covered the Plot inspections: the problems on Site 3 are very similar to Site 2. The letters to tenants about various problems found at the inspection are aiming to encourage good cultivation and to increase awareness of all the enthusiastic, patient people on our waiting list.

<u>Thanks</u> I would like to take this opportunity to say how valuable Paula's input, support and encouragement has been since I took over as Site Secretary. Also the rest of the committee have been very helpful and supportive. Many thanks to you all. Also since taking on the role of Site Secretary I have become more aware of how the allotment site works as a community. The way people step in when there is a job that needs to be done is very

impressive and is essential for the allotment site to work. So many jobs that need to be done get done through the goodwill and kindness of Allotmenteers. Thanks you all for the help and time you have given to the allotment site.

<u>Waiting List There are 179 people on the waiting list of whom 24 are existing plot holders.</u> Those at the top put their names down in April 2012 so it is taking about 2 ½ to 3 years for new potential tenants to get a plot at the moment. There is a steady stream of people wanting to go on the waiting list. There have been 98 names added to the list since beginning of November 2013, of which 12 are existing plot holders.

11. Site Manager's Report Jackie Savage reported: -

As Paula Alderson is not able to be with us this evening I can report that she has attended the bi-annual meetings with WBC Allotment Team. Among many items of interest this year there has been a lot of discussion about Structures and what size and how many will be allowed on the plots. There was also a change of judge in the Best Plot Competition and he would welcome the plot holder's presence on the plot when he goes round next year.

The other matter of interest to RGS is that of the yearly rubbish collection organised by Wandsworth. This year we have a date (rather than a vague indication covering a few weeks) and this, as you are all aware, is to be this Friday 28th. Let's see how it goes!

12. <u>Bulletin Editor's Report</u> Pat Dark reported:-

Increasing numbers of people are taking their Bulletin by email, currently 225 people, which reduces paper and ink consumption and saves the Society costs. There is inevitably some problems with email addresses so if you would like to get your Bulletin by email and are not please email me your address and I will ensure you are on the mailing list. I have also been phoning people to check addresses, where their email has bounced back.

For the Bulletins we have printed, about 70 in all, we use Quickprint, at Wandsworth Council. They provide a very efficient, quick and reasonably priced service — you will see this in the treasurer's report. I am able to send the Bulletin by email and they have it copied for collection by the next day.

10 Bulletins are produced each year none in January and August. Also the Show stationery, that is the show schedules, entry forms etc.

I welcome feedback and contributions, for example, the photo of John and Artan digging out a bath from a new member's plot, articles, recipes, opinions, photos, new websites, birthdays, wedding & birth announcements as well as obituaries, gossip, jokes etc, Please send them in.

I am considering a link to events taking place in other local community organisations, for example, the Friends of Putney Library, who have an author event tomorrow night at 7.00 pm. We recently advertised the St Margaret's Christmas Fair. Let me know what you think.

13. Election of the Committee 2014-2015

I have the following nominations for the Committee: May I have a proposer and seconder for each name please?

Jackie Savage – Chair & Website Editor proposed by Anthony Fitzsimmons and seconded by Georgina O'Reilly

Carol Martinez – Vice Chair and Chair of Show subcommittee proposed by Jenny Cobb and seconded by Sheila Konig

Liz Chrominska - Treasurer proposed by Carol Sewell and seconded by Jonathan Compson Alison Linton – Minutes' Secretary proposed by Janet Ward and seconded by Carol Martinez Georgina O'Reilly – Site 2 Allotment Secretary proposed by Peter Knight and seconded by Anthony Fitzsimmons

Helen Finch – Site 3 Allotment Sec proposed by David Clark and seconded by Susan Clark Pat Dark – Bulletin Editor proposed by Derrick Ratcliffe and seconded by Sheila Konig Mike Cooper – Security proposed by Bill Young and seconded by Shirley Gillbe Barbara McCall – Trading Secretary proposed by Carol Sewell and seconded by Pip Melotte Bill Young proposed by Carol Martinez and seconded by Sheila Konig Sheila Konig proposed by Jackie Savage and seconded by Helen Finch Melanie Tham – Membership Secretary proposed by Jackie Savage and seconded by Lindsay Maitland.

Gill Tamsett proposed by Helen Finch and seconded by Liz Chrominska Steve Clarke proposed by Jackie Savage and seconded by Carole Sewell Shirley Gillbe – Site Manager for Wandsworth Council and agreed by them (non voting position)

14. **AOB**

Jonathan Compson asked if the committee would do something about the large trees in neighbours' gardens which shadow the plots on the south side of Site 2.

JS and G'O promised they would contact the residents and see what could be done as soon as possible.

A suggestion was made to sell surplus produce at the Store – JS replied that we are not allowed to sell it.

Lindley Maitland thanked the committee for all their hard work on behalf of the Society.

JS welcomed The Right Hon Justine Greening MP to the meeting and she presented the cups.

Christmas Puddings won at the autumn show were given to Estelle Hughes and Albert Tuin (both unable to attend).

The meeting closed at 8.45. Refreshments were served.