

MINUTES FOR LEECHWELL GARDEN ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday 7th November 2018 6pm at the REconomy Centre

PRESENT: David Mitchell (Chair), Roma Church, David Martin, Pete Taylor, Keith Rennells

1. APOLOGIES: Shirley Prendergast, Lu Overy, Jim Carfrae, Frances Gillmore, Jeannette Wellington

2. MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting of the 3rd October were approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING:

None not covered below.

4. RHS Affiliation

Dave handed over the latest RHS Newsletter and Garden magazine to Roma.

5. FALLEN TREE REPLACEMENT

SHDC do not have a stump grinder but it was agreed that Keith should ask them to make the remaining stump safe for young children using the sandpit. Alex Whish has agreed to pay for a replacement and is happy with a corkscrew willow. Keith will source a suitable tree and sort out how SHDC will pay.

Action: Keith progress the matter

6. SANDPIT

The committee agreed that the new cover made things much easier and congratulated Shirley on setting up a regular monthly cleaning/raking/disinfecting group.

7. SUSIE'S GATE

Everyone was delighted with the new gate. Dave has prompted Robert Vint to ensure his £400 grant comes through and will remind Jacqui Hodgson about her £1000 promise.

Action: Dave to prompt Jacqui

Dave raised the idea of a notice to go on the wall beside the gate and Pete agreed to draft the text. He and Dave briefly discussed the idea of an official opening (by the Mayor, Judy Westacott?) and agreed it was a good idea.

Action: Pete to draft the text

8. MAIN GATE PROBLEM

Spencer Larcombe examined the gates and agreed that it was fixable, though he did not have the time to do it then. It was agreed we should commission Spencer to do the work (less than a day, but more than an hour).

Action: Dave to contact Spencer

9. SEATING PROBLEMS

It was agreed that we should get Mike Gardner of Woodmanship to either tidy the chessboard seat or replace it.

Action: Dave to contact Mike

Dave and David had agreed a plan to stabilise the wobbly bench in the herb garden by fixing a tannelised plank across the legs at the back.

Action: Dave and David to fix

10. NEW NOTICES

Dave had obtained four notices from Day Signs (litter sign, two donation signs and an updated "Who Made What" sign) and fixed them in place. He paid the £43 bill and will submit the invoice to Jeannette at the next meeting.

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11. GARDEN NEWS

None in Jeannette's absence.

12. SHDC NEWS

SHDC have agreed to repair the capping of the wall behind the herb garden. Keith has arranged to meet with Gavin of SHDC to discuss how to deal with the lower pools and stream (clearing out the sand, improving the pool edges etc) and will let the committee know when this is to be so we can attend.

Keith has discussed the repair of the paths with SHDC. They have agreed that they will renew the bark chip part of the path. Keith asked if we had any objection to the bark path being sprayed to kill the weeds and grass before the new bark is laid. We said no.

SHDC do not have the resources to deal with the rolled stone part (150m or so) or replace the wooden edging. They have agreed to make a contribution to the cost however. Keith suggested that since that path is intended to facilitate disabled access we should be able to get a grant of some sort. He has agreed to get two costings for the work – one to replace the rolled stone and the other to use an artificial resin-bound surface.

Action: Keith to progress

13. AOB:

Jim Carfrae had asked to be taken off the committee since he has not been able to attend meetings for some time. It was agreed to leave him on until the AGM (probably in the early Spring).

NEXT MEETING: The next Committee meeting will be on **Wednesday 5th December 2018** at **Leechwell Cottage**, starting at 6pm. Unfortunately the REconomy Centre is unavailable on that date (nor a week later)

Action: Dave to reserve room (**DONE**)