

# MINUTES FOR LEECHWELL GARDEN ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING

August 24th 2010 5.30pm, Birdwood House, Totnes

**PRESENT:** Sue Holmes (Chair) Jim Carfrae (Phase 2 Project Manager), David Mitchell, Janet Mitchell, Wendy Reid, Jeannette Willington; Jill Tomalin, Anna Lunk, Robert Vint, Alan Gorman; Shirley Prendergast (Sec).

**1. APOLOGIES:** Ed Vidler, Lorette Logie

**2. MINUTES** LGA COMMITTEE MEETING July 28 2010; Agreed

### 3. MATTERS ARISING.

2b. Constitution not yet signed, in hand.

4. Meeting with Community Spaces co-ordinator Jowanna (August 13<sup>th</sup>) went very well. CS most impressed with the work of the LGA, specially the LGA Website, and have asked if we/Dave could produce a Blog to share with a wider community of readers. There are many forms to fill in re the new grant. The final completion date for the Phase 2 project is set for 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2011.

6. Jim's Report to come below.

7. Team Reports ditto.

8. Residents Group is now set up. Noted that we need an accurate account of how plans to lock the gates came into being **DM**

SH 3. Alex Whish SHDC has the use of the pools in hand.

SH 6.6 Launch Tony Whitty Mayor TTC has accepted invitation to officiate.

Alan will liaise with TTC regarding the private view. **AG**

AOB. Dave has Website FAQ underway.

### 4. REPORT FROM JIM CARFRAE PROJECT MANAGER

**a. Pergola-** new designs now complete, with thinner posts, fewer bays and added supporting arches, together giving a lighter more airy appearance. Quote includes concrete supporting posts. There will be an outstanding cost of £500 to find. **Unanimously accepted.**

**b. Picnic table in the herb garden.** After discussion it was decided that the area was too small for a picnic table, which should be located elsewhere. **Unanimously accepted**

**c. Seats in the herb garden.** Decided that there should be 2 seats with backs here and that the Wojka designs were very well made, attractive and had a more formal feel suitable to this area **Unanimously accepted.**

**d. Seat by the play area.** A seat is needed by the play area, but this may or may not be the place for the picnic table. Agreed that if a non picnic table seat placed here it should be the Earthwrights design to match the informal play area already in place. In situ meeting arranged to decide \*whether the picnic table or the seat should be located by the play area, \* a design for and \*an alternative site for, the picnic table. **Unanimously accepted**

**e. Gates.** Decided that the lettering of the arch should be unbroken- ie read as LEECHWELLGARDEN without a gap between words. Also agreed that metalwork matching that of the gates be added to the LH wall adjoining the top Heathway property. This will help security. The additional cost will be about £1200. The householder will contribute to the cost of this and LGA will ask SHDC to provide the rest from the contingency fund, as it makes the garden more secure. **Unanimously accepted**

**f. Stone Walling.** Devon Rural Skills Trust estimate that it will take a two-day workshop with 7-10 volunteers to complete the herb garden wall. Jill will organise this as part of the Volunteers Programme. **JT**

**g. Launch.** Jim has agreed that the LGA will provide refreshments at the event, not Helen Sands who will be organising the overall launch event.

**5. TEAM REPORTS:** held over to next meeting

**6. VOLUNTEERS PROGRAMME:** Jill outlined some early thoughts on what this might consist of and how it might be organised. This is a crucial stage of the garden project, both in terms of Community Spaces funding requirements and in terms of the garden truly being a Community Garden, involving people in decision making and skills which would make the garden self sustaining in the future. BCTV (recent meeting) had noted that the garden was relatively 'finished' so that involvement and helping people to feel genuinely engaged was perhaps more challenging. To date over 50 people had already volunteered to help in the garden. Perhaps we should not recruit more people until we had a clear idea about what they might do and a structure to support their work. Jill has recorded a number of possible volunteer activities- the paths and steps to be made, the herb garden planted and help with the launch. Sue will be involving volunteers in liaising with schools, organising play, activities, wildlife and special events in the garden. There may be other ways of involving volunteers and Jill asked other groups to consider this possibility.

**7. AOB** None

**8. NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>Sept, 2.30pm Shirley to arrange. **Venue agreed Birdwood House**