

MINUTES OF THE BLACK PEAR GARDENING CLUB HELD AT
19 WINNINGTON GARDENS HANLEY SWAN ON 1ST NOV 2016.

PRESENT Brian, Janet B, Janet T, Cathy, Pam, Lorna, Roger, Margaret, Jasmine, Cheryl.

APOLOGIES Barbara Parker and Jill Briggs

MINUTES were taken as read

MATERS ARISING The proposed Coach trip to Rosemoor in August 2017 which would have included a Flower Festival, is not to be pursued. Brian asked for a show of hands at the last meeting and only about 20 members were interested, thus making it not viable. A final decision will be made in January regarding the August visit, but it was thought The Dorothy Clive Garden would be a good choice.

Val Bourne's talk on the 15th October was very well received and she kept her audience interested throughout – constantly referring to her Best Beloved (partner) and of course touching on creating her present garden as well! We sold 71 tickets (80 would have covered the cost) so we sustained a small loss. However the raffle raised £82 which was given to the charity "Perennial" and a thank you letter had been received back from them. The 2017 speaker for October is Noel Kingsbury and his fee will be £350 + travel. The price for this occasion will be discussed at a later date.

It had been suggested earlier in the year that Mary Skeys could possibly do a floral demo and workshop in November or December, but as she is extremely busy at the moment this has been put on hold.

Update on the 2017 programme. The people booked for April are now not able to come due to illness, so Ross Barber is now going to give a talk on bulbs instead. This will be on Easter Saturday. The date was unfortunately overlooked as Easter Saturday when booking the hall and speaker and it is now too late to change it. We still hope to attract a good number of members.

TREASURER'S REPORT Cathy did not have the exact figure available, but our balance is approx £2.900.

AGM In view of the present wording in the Constitution regarding the change of Officers – to avoid all three positions becoming vacant at the same time Brian has proposed a change of wording in the Constitution which is as follows : THE OFFICERS SHALL BE ELECTED AT THE AGM OF THE CLUB AND SHALL HOLD OFFICE UNTIL THE END OF THE NEXT AGM.

ALSO IF NEW MEMBERS JOIN AFTER JULY THEN IT SHALL BE DEEMED THAT THEIR MEMBERSHIP WILL CONTINUE UNTIL END OF THE FOLLOWING SEPTEMBER – I E FOR 15 MONTHS.

These two items will be brought up at the AGM on the 19th November. Four members of the present Committee will not be standing for re-election and Brian has asked Les Chivers who is willing to join. He asked if the Committee could ask any Club Member who they think would consider joining the Committee. Lorna then suggested that we should elect a Vice Chair, and after a brief discussion Lorna agreed to be considered for that position and it would be voted on by the members of the Committee at the first meeting after the AGM.

Brian also stressed that we will need extra help before the meetings to get out all tables and chairs
Roger Parker has been a willing horse over many years but is now suffering with back problems and will be unable to help. Also help with the catering and washing up would be helpful.

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL DECEMBER 10TH 12 30 – 3 PM

This is to be a Bring and Share lunch. Members will be asked to bring a plate of food either sweet or savoury. Brian will deal with the wine. Lorna has offered to bring a variety of soft drinks. Pam will be responsible for paper plates, napkins, tablecloths, table decorations, plastic beakers, and cutlery. It was decided not to hold a raffle. We will also provide refreshments for the “Gilded Lilies” who are coming to entertain. It was suggested a slightly different table layout for the party i e the Gilded Lilies will be performing from the fireplace wall which will give more viewing space for members. Neither Janet T nor Janet B are able to be there so Barbara and Margaret have offered to help.

Pam offered to provide a Quiz.

AOB The Faye Turner Memorial Garden – Brian mentioned that he had been involved in pruning the wisteria at this garden (see previous minutes) and wondered if the club would be interested in asking the couple who came earlier in the year to return to talk about the project and update members on its progress.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING 18th January 2017 at 47a St Andrews Road Malvern at 7 45pm.