

Minutes of the Black Pear Gardening Club Committee Meeting

Held at Callow End Village Hall on 19th October 2013

PRESENT Brian Irene Cathy Pam Jasmine Ken Audrey Janet June Lorna Roger and Barbara

APOLOGIES were received from Marina Duffell- together with a letter explaining due to family circumstances she was unable to attend the meeting and also sadly felt she had to resign from the Committee in order to give more time to caring for her husband.

MINUTES of the last meeting were taken as read

MATTERS ARISING Brian mentioned the Gardener's Market held in May and wondered, in view of the small amount of profit made, whether to carry on in the same format. It was agreed it was very good publicity for the club and although the profit was small we hope for better results in 2014. It was agreed to hold another Gardeners Market and the venue next time would be Powick Village Hall – where we would be having our monthly meetings in 2014. It was suggested to avoid congestion in the car park that it would be useful to have a CAR PARK FULL sign placed at the bottom of the drive into the hall, and only allow disabled parking near the hall. It was decided to leave it until January to decide whether a sub committee would be formed to organize the event.

It was suggested the event could be advertised at Pershore College and two committee members would be able to display the posters there. Tombola would be run again. Brian suggested that a seed sowing session would be a good idea on the day with the club providing the relevant compost and seeds. The coach trip to the Botanical Gardens in Wales made a loss of £54 with disappointing numbers signing up. 32 people went on the outing but it was felt members did not realise what a special place it was to visit and there were no flyers available to give more information. Regarding proposed outings in the future it was suggested members could choose from a list of possible gardens and the most popular would be considered.

TREASURERS REPORT The treasurer reported £840 in the bank account and over 50 members had already paid their annual subscription for 2014.

THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME FOR 2014 IS AS FOLLOWS;

January 18th Brian Skeys Belgian Floriade 2012

Feb 1st Jenny McGowran Gardens visited in Japan

March 15th Patrick Clement Halesowen Conservation Group

April 19th in Visit to Ashwood Nursery

May 17th Gardener's Market

June 21st Roger and Angela Pendleton Japanese Gardens
July 19th Visit to Roger and Barbara Parker's garden (members)
August Outing to be arranged
September 20th Adrian James – photographer's own garden in Offenham
October Julia Mitchell and Joanne Yates of JJ Nurseries talk on Penstemons
November AGM with Neil Cook – talk on re-creation of Hanbury Hall gardens
December Christmas meal

AGM 2013 It was decided to keep the format the same as in 2012 i.e. AGM business first followed by refreshments and then the speaker in the second half. Irene and Janet would bring mince pies and there would be a plant stall. Marina had already notified the Committee she would be standing down and Ken and Audrey said they would prefer to stand down, but if no one else was elected on to the Committee then they would be happy to stay for another year.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS Roger and Barbara Parker are already well in hand with the programme for 2015 which will include a visit to Catherine and Andy Andrews garden in West Malvern.

A visit to Harlow Carr was also a possibility with an option of an overnight stay (or two)

Irene brought up the subject of the raffle at the Christmas meal and it was decided – as last year each committee member would donate and gift which would be made up into a hamper by Irene.

June offered to sell the tickets on the day.

Date of next meeting will be after the AGM on 16th October 2013