

MINUTES OF THE BLACK PEAR GARDENING CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD AT 47A ST ANDREWS ROAD MALVERN ON 30TH SEPTEMBER 2015

APOLOGIES Janet T Janet B Lorna and Jasmine. Present Brian, Pam, Roger Barbara, Cheryl Margaret and Cathy.

MINUTES Were taken as read and agreed

MATTERS ARISING It was felt the Gardener's Market in May was a success this year (a little disappointing in 2014) bringing in a profit of £233. 49. The general consensus of opinion was that we should continue in the same format for 2016 which was to open from 11am for 2 hours. The date will be 21st May and as Pam will not be in the country in January or February, Margaret Guy has kindly agreed to contact the Stallholders during her absence.

The trip to Waterperry in August was very successful, the weather was kind and there was a varied aspect of garden design and planting schemes to suit everyone (including a good plant centre, coffee shop and museum.

TREASURER'S REPORT Cathy reported a balance of £1870 in the bank.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH Roger and Barbara reported that the Berkeley had now been booked. A deposit of £100 had been paid in June and the remainder £150 will be paid in early October. Barbara and Roger agreed to obtain a menu from the Berkeley in readiness for our next meeting on 17th October.

FAYE TURNER MEMORIAL GARDEN AT WORCESTER ROYAL HOSPITAL

During the summer a letter was received by Brian from Craig Burchell asking if the Club would be willing to support maintaining the above memorial garden – which is for parents who have recently lost a baby to enable them to use this quiet space for themselves. It currently needed about £300 spent on it to bring it up to a maintainable standard – ie hard landscaping and new planting etc. The committee were asked for their opinion and the majority felt it would be a good thing to support and would be willing to make a donation – but not quite sure whether this would be a one off donation or an annual donation. Brian stated that would be our decision. It was agreed Brian would get in touch with Mr Burchell again and ask if David and Cynthia (other helpers) would like to come to our meeting on 18th October to explain to our members of their proposition regarding

planting etc. And ongoing expenses, and also whether other Gardening Clubs are going to be involved. It was agreed that the raffle at this meeting along with a retiring collection would be donated to the memorial garden.

PROGRAMME 2016 The June meeting will be a visit to Stocktonbury Gardens near Leominster and Brian wondered if it would be worth considering hiring a coach for this visit. A quote has been obtained from Aston's for £245 which would pick up in Croft Road in Worcester. It was discussed whether enough members would be interested, although in principal the committee thought it a good idea. It is proposed to ask Tamsin Westhorpe – who is now manager at Stocktonbury to bring along some photos or slides of the garden, when she comes to give her talk at the March meeting. A decision will be made nearer the time. The August Outing – Trentham Gardens in Stoke on Trent was suggested by Brian and the committee thought it a good idea Monday 22nd August was suggested and a coach for 53 persons would cost £380. The cost admission for a group would be £7 50. Margaret Guy also suggested Ralph Court Gardens in Edwin Ralph – near Bromyard. It is a garden recently opened to the public which is proving very popular as it is “themed” i e nursery rhymes etc, but apparently parking is very limited so a coach would probably not be possible. However we will bear this in mind for another time.

Val Bourne will be the speaker for October. The cost for her talk and travelling will be £400. It was suggested that we make this meeting a “Special Talk” and open it to all. Brian suggested various options of entrance charges and the general census opf opion was to charge £5 for everyone (members and visitors alike) and to hold a more substantial raffle. It was proposed that the proceeds of the raffle should go to charity and which particular one could be decided by the members early next year. The £5 fee would include refreshments. Flyers would be printed and circulated to other Gardening Clubs and posters displayed around the area as well. Brian also mentioned the costs for the speakers for 2015 has been £400 but this will be considerably more in 2016. Barbara informed the Committee that it may be possible to invite Francis Houghton to the Gardener's Market to sell honey and also Harold Poyner who paints birds/flowers and could sell cards etc.

The programme for 2016 is now planned as follows.

January	Inspirational gardens of the East	Brian Skeys
February	Nature in Focus	Rosemary Winnell
March	Life as a Garden Magazine Editor	Tamsin Westhorpe
April	Bears ears and Painted Ladies	Pat and Robin Fishe
May	Gardener's Market	
June	Visit to Stocktonbury	

July Visit to Jill and David Briggs garden Malvern Wells

August Annual Outing – Trentham Gardens (TBC)

September Visit to Malcolm Styles Garden (Bonsai)

October Talk Spring Cottage Val Bourne

November A G M The Garden in Winter and Topical tips Bob Hare

December Christmas lunch (TBA)

A G M Brian proposed that for the AGM in November 2015 the same format be adopted as last year which was the AGM business first followed by the break and refreshments (mince and apple pies) and after the break the main talk

Date of next meeting January 16th 2016 after the club meeting.