

MINUTES OF THE BLACK PEAR GARDENING CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
ON THE 8TH APRIL 2014 AT WINNINGTON GARDENS HANLEY SWAN

APOLOGIES Jasmine, Lorna and June

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING WERE APPROVED

MATTERS ARISING The proposed Coach trip to Yeo Valley, Somerset has only 19 takers at the moment. It was felt there was still plenty of time for members to still sign up. The fund raising Coffee Morning is to be held at Cathy's home and garden on 6th August. Donations of cakes for the refreshments will be asked for at the next 3 meetings. Members will be able to bring their own plants to sell on a 50/50 basis.

TREASURER'S REPORT Cathy reported a balance of £1.073.48 in the bank.

GARDENER'S MARKET. Cathy informed the Committee that the following stallholders has confirmed they would be coming on the 17th May :

Harrolds Hardy Plants

Hoo House Nursery

Jim Hill plants

Margaret Stone

Ann Beatey (Neals Yard)

Douglas Gregor – photography

Cathy Snelgar

Roger and Barbara Parker

BPGC own stall

Possibly Worcestershire Wildlife trust.

Brian will have a table given over to seed sowing and there will be a table manned by Jasmine for recruitment of new members. Members will "man" the BPGC stall and Pam (with help) will run the tombola. Geraldine Williams (member) may have a display promoting her own "landscape gardening" business. Stallholders may choose themselves where to set up within the hall. The

refreshments will be served at the top of the room. Powick and Callow End Schools will be given advertising flyers and Posters for distribution. There will be Posters in the entrance of the Powick Parish Hall and Roger will put out signs on the roundabout. Brian informed the committee that St Peters Garden Centre have donated sunflower seeds and 3 bags of compost for the seed sowing. Roger will supply the pots. Offers of help have been received from Sue Irwin, Betty Mills and Jenny Morrison, plus Geraldine Williams on the BPGC Plant Stall. Irene promised to recruit members to help with refreshments, price agreed as last year £2.50 for tea and cake, tea only £1. Last year the cakes were bought in at a cost of £30 and the takings were £84. It was suggested to ask Barbara if the cakes could be bought direct (rather than through a shop) at a possible reduced price. Janet offered to bring the Tea, coffee, squash milk etc. As there had not been much time to ask for donations for the Tombola Pam will purchase some of them. Regarding Publicity, the event will be put in the "Whats On" section of the Malvern Gazette and enquiries will be made of the cost of an advert also. It is hoped that with more effort – we will make more profit than last year.

GLOUCESTER FEDERATION OF GARDENING SOCIETIES Brian confirmed the majority of the committee had agreed to become affiliated to the GFCS following the email he had previously sent out. Douglas mentioned by email that if you search for garden clubs in Worcestershire ours is the third one on the list. Brian then produced an Information Sheet issued by the above whose main aim is to offer help, guidance and support to individual Gardening Clubs (not restricted to Gloucestershire). They themselves are affiliated to the RHS. They have a very good Website, and the fee would be £12 a year. Other clubs in Worcestershire are members and they have a stand at the Autumn Garden Show in Malvern, plus access to the Speaker's List. Brian suggested that we should apply to join whilst still keeping our affiliation with the RHS. The Committee agreed.

PROGRAMME UPDATE 2015 April meeting was still not booked but Irene had met Megan Taylor from Coddington, who was considering if she could open for our group to visit in April. It is close to Coddington Vinyard so possible a joint visit could be organised. Also the speaker for the AGM still has to be thought about.

A O B A communication had been received from Boughton Park Golf and Country Club informing us that the Christmas meal this December would now be priced at £15.50 for 2 courses plus a fee of £15 an hour extra. The cost would be £17 per person to cover the cost of the room charge of £45. 12.30 – 3.30pm. 3 Hours. The Committee voted to accept the £17 a head.

Sadly Ken and Audrey, along with Irene have decided to stand down at the next AGM in November. They have all worked extremely hard for the Club and will be very much missed. It is hope that at the next AGM it will be possible to recruit some "new blood" with new ideas. Ken mentioned that when sitting at the back of the hall when a speaker is talking he was experiencing "echoing" and found it difficult to hear and wondered if the PA system could be "sorted." A comment taken on board. Brian agreed to look into the cost.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING 8th September at 47a St Andrews Road, Malvern.