

RAGA Minutes 3rd July 2017

Gledhow Sports and Social Club

Present: Paul, Margaret, Brian, John, Primrose, Steve, Peter, Cath.

Will Jennings also attended to discuss the upcoming BBQ

1. **Welcome** : From Paul
2. **Apologies**: Patrick and Bob
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on** Tuesday 9th May 2017 were approved as a correct record.
4. **Matters arising not on this agenda**: Question about the slight changes made to the plans submitted to LCC. Paul clarified this. Clarification was also made about strimmer hire, there is just one available at the moment and Paul is trying to source a replacement battery for the other one. The loan list is in the sales container.
5. **Plot Inspection - follow-up action**: Just [REDACTED] giving cause for concern, letter sent with the intention keep an eye on the plot as it has been a problem in the past and hints have been made as to “not bothering to plant anything this year.”
6. **Update on plots let and plots now available**: Just one vacant it is intended to re align this with [REDACTED] plot so the split will be E/W. Peter is seeing a prospective tenant soon so it may well be let then. 1 Starter bed is vacant. A start has been made on Plot 8. The 8 week trial is approaching its end for some new plot holders, some haven't done very much so Peter and Paul will be monitoring this.
7. **Treasure's Report**: John reported that as of 29/6 there was a balance of £29,058.87 with one invoice outstanding. Income from the shop was less

than half for the same period last year. Various reasons were put forward for this, much reduced stock, possibility of people not realizing it was open, no bulk purchases available due to lack of space and the fact that it was only open on a Sunday. John suggested that careful thought should be given to the relaunch of the shop when we are in a position to do so and we should try to maximize income from sales. Ideas:- banner, advertising in local free publications, tempting opening offers. Paul will ask Barbara Greenwood if it can be open on BBQ day. Cath offered to make a sign.

John mentioned signatories to the account, one of whom is Margaret Pickersgill and asked for a Formal Minute for an additional person to be added and MP relieved of the task. Steve Wilde agreed to be the additional person. John will make the necessary application.

8. **Update on Planning Application and proposed Substation:** Paul reported that the application had gone in and the fee had been paid, there had been some delay due to the non- delivery of a crucial email. On 29/6 a person from Planning was on site taking photos, she mentioned the Planning Portal on the website to Paul but it has proved difficult to locate. Notices will go on lamp posts and neighbours will be consulted. Luke at LCC contacted Paul and told him that the Substation will go ahead, and all works re installation of an electricity supply will be done for us. So far we have no idea of the location of the Substation. Communication is always very slow.
9. **Correspondence/website:** Nothing.
10. **Summer BBQ 8th July 2017:** 33 people have signed up so far. All gazebos will be used ie 1 large and 2 small. We will meet at 9.30 am which should allow ample time to set up and then return home if we want to. Pat will bring the BBQ. Will is going to deal with the purchase of all edible things and soft drinks and Paul and I will get the other things that is, plates, cutlery etc. plus tea, coffee and milk. Brian will bring table cloths. We will have at least two large tables and might be able to rig up something on the trestles

that Peter will provide. Cool boxes may be helpful with ice packs. The pump flasks will be available and Steve will bring some smaller ones. All attendees are to bring their own chairs and beer and or wine if they wish.

11. **Photographic recording of events and site development:** Cath has agreed to do this; it will ensure we have interesting images for the newsletters and the website. They would also make a nice display for Open Gardens. Peter put in a plea for a notice board that could be seen from the pavement. It was suggested that to keep costs down we could use the rather under used one on the eastern path.
12. **Thursday Volunteer group:** Margaret reported that a lot of tidying had been done to the edge of the car park, we have had to resort to burning a lot of debris, we would rather not have to do this so she asked for the go ahead to purchase a petrol shredder and a hedge trimmer. This was agreed to. Paul will deal with this. The stumpery has been extended and some planting done in this area and in the hedging on the Old Park Road Boundary. The wild harvest hedge had grown really well this year and we think it would be wise to top it at fence height to hopefully stimulate lateral growth lower down. Steve and Karin's Demo Bed is looking lovely and productive. With regard to the shredder there was a discussion about plot holders being able to use it, it was decided that perhaps it could be made available at a supervised session in the autumn and that plot holders could offer a small charge for its use.
13. **Date for Autumn Plot Inspection:** Saturday 16th September 10am. It was noted that poor or no maintenance of paths is something to which we could pay particular attention also the proximity of plants, shrubs etc too near paths.
14. **Non-members on site/ security issues:** None reported
15. **Date of next meeting:** Monday 18th September GSSC 7.30pm
16. **Any other urgent business:** John Slupec has volunteered to research new water barrels for the tap points. Some are in a poor state. Cath mentioned overhanging trees and was told that we can deal ourselves with any branch

not exceeding wrist thickness but some are very high. Paul has already contacted John Roebuck about the burnt trees so will also get some clarification about the others as well. Peter asked if the top path could have scalpings on it. This will be looked into; perhaps we could have two tracks to accommodate car tyres.

There was no further business.