

Clay Farm Community Garden Garden
held at 17.30hrs on 5 October 2023 in the Garden Building

Present: Diego Magrini (DM), Carol Wright (CW), Julian Querino (JQ), Serena Michell (SM), Chris Taylor (CT), Catriona Gatti (CG), Julian Hickling (JH), Rebecca Jones (RJ), Bruce White (BW), Jane White (JW) and Liz Cox (LC).

Apologies: Emma Darnell, Philippa Slatter, Carol Holloway and Ian Storr

JQ welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Minutes** of the previous AGM had been circulated at the time and were agreed.
2. **Financial Report** CW presented the accounts relating to 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. Income totalled £2138.21 and Expenditure was £2290.56. In addition, the account is holding £441.72 for the Clay Farm food account. The current balance, excluding this, is £2338.08.
3. **Table & seating** BW & LC reported on their discussions with Colin Walker, who has taken over as Countryside/Vistry's contact. A planning application had been submitted, which was incorrect. As a result a new application would be required. It was agreed that we needed to see any new application before it was submitted to the Council to avoid a situation arising where we had to object. LC had sent Nils Norman's drawings to Colin Walker and was asked to send the drawings to Hannah(Countryside) and the Council, if she could find a contact. It was agreed that it would be wise to ask for a site visit by the planning officer.
4. **Membership form and website updating** It was agreed that the Garden should have a list of members. It was agreed that there would be no membership fee. There would be a web version and a paper version of the membership form, which would ask for name, postcode and email addresses. Phone numbers were to be optional. CG agreed to become Membership Secretary. DM will continue to update the website.
5. **Licence & Maintenance Plan** There is nothing to report.
6. **Events: Past and Future** CW presented the annual activity report, which will be filed with these minutes. Several future events are planned: Plant Swap 28 October, Pumpkin carving 29 October, Christmas Crafting 18 November, Eco Market 26 November and a Christmas event 14 December.
7. **Food Trucks** will continue each Thursday evening until 23 November.
8. **Garden planting & repairs** BW sees the next year as maintaining what we've got. He would like to sort out the vegetable bed with fencing and gates. The pond is waiting for the Council to sort it out. There is a grant for this work. BW is experimenting with an organic method of weed removal from paths etc. He will also contact Guy Belcher for advice on other possible solutions. BW reported that the volunteer situation had eased and various groups were working well and managing themselves.
9. **Election of Committee and Officers:** Chair JQ, Secretary LC, Treasurer CW, Membership Secretary CG, Committee members: SM, DM, JW, BW and CT.
- 10 **AOB** As there was no other business the meeting ended at 19.10hrs.