

## MINUTES OF STANWICK COMMUNITY GARDEN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November in Stanwick Club meeting room

Present; Dave Cox (Chairman), Brenda Marshall (Secretary) Clare Annable (Treasurer), Lucy Speirs and Carolyn Brawn.

1. **Apologies** from Janet Carrington
2. **The minutes** of the meeting held onsite on 9<sup>th</sup> June were accepted as being a true record.
3. **Treasurer's report:** We have in the bank a sum of £900.12 and Cash monies of £124.00 giving a total of £1,024.12. This includes the £200 to put towards the replacement of the polytunnel cover. We had a good year for plant sales and we have managed to raise circa £686.00 including the stall sales at the Church fete and sundry fund raising so far this year. If we have monies left over at the end of the financial year we can put more towards the replacement of the polytunnel cover.
4. **Use of the summerhouse:** The summerhouse has been much underused this year. This may be because of the pandemic or it may be because members do not realise that it is available to them to use for free.
5. **Review of the working parties:** We only had three official work party meetings this year. A couple of them worked well and we had one where nobody turned up. We think it is a good idea and will continue to arrange them again in the spring. It was pointed out that we should organise them on the Saturday after the bins are emptied. But agreed that we should hold them on a regular Saturday such as every third Saturday in the month. (TBA)
6. **Use of the polytunnel:** Stanwick Primary has used a small space in the growing bed to grow peppers successfully this year and we will offer them more space next year if they want it. The fact that there was a lot of wastage this year was discussed. Things were planted and then not harvested. We need to make sure that people know that they can help themselves to our crops when they are ready. We always use the polytunnel heavily in the spring when growing plants to sell so we don't feel that we should let any spaces out at the moment but will appreciate help with looking after plants, especially with watering and will have a watering rota set up again next year. The fruit cage produce is usually used to make jams and jellies to sell on our stalls, but after we have used what is needed then they should be offered to members also.
7. **School raised beds:** Now that Stanwick primary have a gardening club there has been fantastic progress. Their raised beds are looking very tidy and well used. We would like to get the parents involved at the weekends and school holidays. Produce is often ready to harvest in the summer holidays and can go unnoticed. We will encourage parents to come to the work parties with their children in the New Year and talk to the school about promoting this. Pre-school have used their raised bed a bit this year and it looks more promising.
8. **Acorn Nursery's raised bed:** This is the only one that is looking very untidy. We cleared it for them in the spring/summer but they haven't done anything to it. The weeds are now

so deep rooted that it will probably need a systemic weed killer sprayed on it next year. We will ask them if they want to continue with it in the spring. Perhaps they could arrange for somebody to clear it for them and prepare it for easy planting.

9. **The Village Christmas Fayre:** The event is 2pm-5pm on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December**. Set up from 10.30am in the gardens next to the village hall. We have a gazebo to erect and battery operated fairy lights, lanterns and bunting to decorate it with. We will be selling savoury foods and cakes to take away. Janet is making sausage rolls, Clare is doing biscuits, Brenda will make a cake and some savoury snacks, Carolyn will make pizzas, Dave (or his better half) will make cookies. A ticket will be given to each visitor to the hall for a draw to see who will turn on the Christmas lights, and of course Santa will be in his grotto. **All help appreciated.**
10. **Update about arrangements for the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations:** These will take place 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Janet and Brenda are attending the village monthly meetings to discuss this. Please find attached the village plans so far. If you have any suggestions in connection with the community garden please let us know. We are planning to decorate the garden with bunting and a scarecrow dressed in red, white and blue. Carolyn is going to keep one raised bed empty to try to make a flower flag. We need to research which flowers would be in bloom by June though. We can also take part in the carnival procession and maybe hand out flowers to people. We need some ideas about using the summerhouse that weekend as well, to bring people into the gardens. We will discuss again at our next meeting.

11. **A.O.B.**

The mini plots and cut flower beds adjacent to the car park are going to be extended back to the fence.

There is still some cutting back of shrubs to do. Carolyn volunteered to do this

There are still some bulbs to plant. Clare and Lucy will try to do.

We decided that our next AGM will take place at the end of February 2022

*Our next meeting will be held in Stanwick Club meeting room in January, date TBA*