

Agenda for Sunday 18 September 2022. 2pm, with social meet up from 3pm.

Chair: Jennie and/or Julia

Notes: Rebecca

1. **Welcome, thank you.** Apologies: Barbara, Jill.
2. **Minutes from the AGM in May 2022** (on website): to agree. Any changes needed?
3. **Guided discussion** (with post-it notes): we would like ideas and/or designs for:
 - a. **Planting:** we have a very nice shrub (*Viburnum plicatum* Kilimanjaro) donated by Immy and Ingrid so could make a new bed. Think we might have space in the garden for two small trees.
 - b. **Garden kitchen/shelter:** need wooden ramp and rails (waiting for detailed advice from Council Access Officer), planting, sides, interior, fittings, furniture, water butts. Have an offer/suggestion for new chairs or a bench.
 - c. **'Orchard in the park':** tree ideas, plant ideas, extras like seating, ways to keep it healthy and looking good, social and learning opportunities. Do we need a sub-group?
 - d. **Volunteering:** how to match people with tasks. Proposal: to keep Monday sessions at 2–4 pm all year round but not to meet in half term holidays (so we can organise things learning and/or social) or state-school Summer holidays (can be too hot and people are away), and not in December and January (too cold). To add on some weekends (or evenings) as required throughout the year.
 - e. **Working parties:** had hoped to have a corporate one on Monday 26 September with 10 people. The group has cancelled, and Rina is looking for alternatives. Other ideas?
 - f. **Being social/events:** we currently have a calendar of meet-ups for volunteers/Friends, including ones for mainly families with small children. Julia and Becca are keen to do St Martin's day on Saturday 12 November and maybe 'something solstice' around 21 December.
 - g. **Using the pizza oven:** how, who, when?
 - h. **Learning and biodiversity:** what should we do the same, what could we do better? New activities. Shall we carry on with organised pond dipping and moth traps (maybe do one earlier in the year). Other activities like bird watching/listening. Butterfly watch.
 - i. **Theme for the year:** proposal to have 2023 'the year of' birds or butterflies (Doug is good on both) – we haven't done much on either of these before and they could be a good focus for social and learning activities too.
 - j. **Planting and watering:** What have we learned from the drought and heatwaves?
 - k. **Finances:** We currently have £414 unallocated funds in the account, after paying for next year's insurance, plus £300 to be re-funded to us by the council (for the pizza oven) plus ~£182 reserved for the polytunnel, plus ~£120 for the kindness garden. There will be some extra funds remaining from the garden shelter project for the ramp and fittings but we don't know how much yet. We will be asking Friends to renew their memberships soon but they join throughout the year. Last year the income from the Friends was ~£760. Possible expenditure includes materials for a picnic bench for children, re-making the compost bins, buying trees and plants. And anything required for the orchard project, which will probably be managed through the gardeners group.
 - l. **Other ideas:** what to do we want to do more of, less of or differently? What could we do if we had more resources, especially volunteers?
4. **Any other business.**
5. **Next Gardeners' Group meetings:** all on Sundays in the garden at 2pm. 12 March 2023 'planning', 14 May 2023 AGM, 17 September 2023 'planning'.