

**Minutes of the 71st ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING of WORTHING ALLOTMENTS AND
GARDENS ASSOCIATION
held at Chesswood Junior School on
Wednesday 20th NOVEMBER 2019
at 7.30 p.m.**

22 Members attended with apologies from Dave Tucker, Graham North, John Daly, Mr and Mrs Cuer-Green W.H.S (Les & Jenny).

President's Welcome

Terry Edwards welcomed all those attending. Thanked all those who volunteer in the shops & at the annual show, and to those who are members of the Committee.

Apologies, Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of the previous AGM were accepted as an accurate record.

Proposed: Ann Peters, Seconded: Terry Edwards.

Chair's Report

Jack Powis chaired the meeting. Jack made it clear that this was a temporary arrangement until a new Chairman accepts the post.

Trading Secretary's Report

- **Thank you** to all people who help out in any way at the 3 WAGA shops, especially the people who manage them: Angie at WT, Ann at Humber and Richard at Chesswood.

- **The shops are advice to members and non-members as places to meet others, ask for advice, get ideas and share successes and failures.**

- **Trading** has been very good this year. All three shops have had consistently good sales figures, but the one thing which has improved the most is the increasing use by members of the shop at Chesswood. Richard Lawson and his excellent team have worked really hard to make the shop popular and attractive again. As well as changing the shop layout, they have run coffee drop-ins, book sales and other social events. This has really helped to raise the profile of the shop again so that people see it as a friendly welcoming place. Well done to them for all this extra effort. Due to this their sales have increased considerably.

- **New seasons seeds** are now in all 3 shops. These have been ordered in by shop managers with particular emphasis on new varieties which can offer better resistance to diseases. We also have a full range of organic seeds at WT and Chesswood, and Humber will be introducing them gradually there too.
- **Slug Pellet Ban;** Earlier in 2019 the Government banned slug pellets containing Metaldehyde. We sold all the stock we had in the shops and increased the amount of environmentally friendly products we sold. The ban was appealed and it is now legal to sell the 'nasties' again, but we have decided not to restock them in line with the trend to look after our wildlife at the sites. Obviously, it is legal for people to buy them elsewhere and use them on their plots, but you will not be able to buy them in the shops.
- **Roundup;** For several years there has been controversy surrounding this product and there, an increasing number of countries where it is banned due to its link to cancer. It has been reported recently that it has been dropped by a number of UK retailers. We do still have some of this product in the shops and are selling it at CP at the moment. In the last year it has been a very slow-moving product. When this stock is sold we will not be replacing it. We do have alternatives in the shops including an organic product.
- **Seed potatoes** will arrive at the end of January and we have already taken lots of orders.
- **Onion Sets;** There will be no Santero onion sets next year as there have been lots of problems with growing them again. We do have Santero seeds so members can grow them from seed if they wish. We will be stocking an alternative, Sturon which we have sold many times before. In addition, we will have the usual Red Karmen onions and Golden Gourmet shallots.
- **Garlic;** In the Autumn we had 4 varieties of garlic, plus Elephant garlic. We also had red and white onion sets which sold out really quickly in all 3 shops.
- **Christmas raffles** will start on Saturday 30th November with a range of prizes. If you would like to donate anything to one of these raffles that would be great. The draws will take place on Sunday 22nd December
- **Please have your membership card** with you when you come to the shop just in case we don't recognise you.
- **Development project;** We are proposing to further update the shop at the Chesswood Farm site by changing the door so it is similar to the one on the social area at Humber.

Show Secretary's Report

Saturday, 31st August, we held our 42nd Annual Horticultural Show, at Oak Grove College for the ninth time. At a time when many organisations struggle to put on a show, we had over 400 exhibits, an all-time record. Outside, in the gardens, there were more stalls than usual helping to bring in nearly £900 and cover the cost of the show. This is such a lovely place to spend an afternoon and the weather was perfect. The event was very well attended and it has developed into such a friendly occasion as well as a chance for members to show off their talents and results of a year's hard work.

In the main hall, there were exhibits of a very high standard and it was so pleasing to see newcomers taking part and picking up awards that were shared between eighteen different people, confirming that our show really is for everyone.

The front garden and allotment competitions were well supported this year and Best Front Garden belongs to Andrew Collis, Best Kept Allotment Rosemary Hill and Most Improved Allotment Ross Ayling.

The lasting memory of the afternoon was a very friendly atmosphere everywhere, with so many happy people enjoying themselves. I need to thank all the competitors for giving their time and effort to put on such a wonderful display; it is most generous of them, and of course our wonderful team of helpers who set up on Friday evening, worked all Saturday afternoon making the event work like clockwork, almost, and clearing it all away like magic at the end, also all of you who donated cakes and produce. What would we do without them? Finally, if you did not take part this year, there is always next year!

Congratulations to you all. This is the biggest and best show in the area and we should be very proud of it.

Membership Secretary's Report

Our membership now stands at 531, a number that has been falling slowly over the years. Nevertheless, the loyalty of our members is good as they do use the stores and help the Association to thrive. Hopefully, the introduction of a new renewal date and new cards has now settled down.

Secretary's and Acting Treasurers Report

Daryl Alden presented the independently examined accounts. He explained that there had been a healthy surplus made this year by the shops which had been achieved by a combination of stock reduction and skilful purchasing.

The following projects were some of the ways that the money generated for the shops and subscription is spent:

- The Special Projects Group (Robin Chapman and Dave Tucker) have completed the Humber Meeting room.
- Chesswood shop front improvement proposed.
- Planning for the future replacement of the shipping containers when they are no longer serviceable with a solution that allows the easier delivery of compost and heavy stock to make life easier for the shop staff

WAGA Accumulated Fund at 30th September 2019

Balance brought forward	19,806.94
Surplus for the year (Without Stock Adjustment)	4,480.45
Change in Stock Value	-1,844.46
Adjusted Asset Value	-206.66
	<u>£22,236.27</u>

Represented by:		2018-2019	2017-2018
Bank Account (30th Sep)	Current Account	<u>13,193.14</u>	<u>9,101.88</u>
Cash in Tills	West Tarring	40.00	40.00
	Chesswood	40.00	40.00
	Humber	40.00	40.00
		<u>120.00</u>	<u>120.00</u>
Stock at Cost Price	West Tarring	2,470.86	3,148.03
	Chesswood	1,827.15	3,170.93
	Humber	1,884.06	1,707.57
		<u>6,182.07</u>	<u>8,026.53</u>
Fargro Shares		<u>220.00</u>	<u>220.00</u>
Creditors and Debtors		<u>0.00</u>	<u>-389.19</u>
Assets	Office Equipment	792.81	932.72
	Buildings	1,350.00	1,350.00
	Machinery	378.25	445.00
		<u>2,521.06</u>	<u>2,727.72</u>
Total Assets		<u>£22,236.27</u>	<u>£19,806.94</u>

I have examined the Association's accounting records, bank statements and supporting information. The above accounts have been prepared from the records and represent a true and fair view of the Association's financial position at 30th September 2019.

Independent Examiner

Anthony Waton



25/10/2019

Income and Expenditure 2018-2019			
	Income	Expenditure	Surplus
Shop	22,929.47	17,945.24	4,984.23
Social Activities	2,116.20	1,852.79	263.41
Annual Show	903.71	1,066.90	-163.19
Plot Holder	0.00	333.20	-333.20
Facilities	0.00	662.36	-662.36
Expenses (Consumables)	0.00	1,454.96	-1,454.96
Printing(per sheet)	0.00	87.80	-87.80
Mileage	0.00	41.11	-41.11
Subscriptions	1,702.00	0.00	1,702.00
Donations	527.53	0.00	527.53
Dividends	11.00	0.00	11.00
Interest	0.00	0.00	
Honoraria	0.00	0.00	
Meeting Costs	0.00	265.10	-265.10
	£ 28,189.91	£ 23,709.46	4,480.45

Income and Expenditure 2017-2018			
	Income	Expenditure	Surplus
Shop	21,835.75	20,796.05	1,039.70
Social Activities	2,501.00	2,521.20	-20.20
Annual Show	649.11	789.73	-140.62
Plot Holder	0.00	317.60	-317.60
Facilities	0.00	1,945.26	-1,945.26
Expenses (Consumables)	0.00	1,344.98	-1,344.98
Printing (per sheet)	0.00	109.95	-109.95
Mileage	0.00	136.07	-136.07
Subscriptions	1,634.50	0.00	1,634.50
Donations	156.55	0.00	156.55
Dividends	0.00	0.00	
Interest	0.00	0.00	
Honoraria	0.00	0.00	
Meeting Costs	0.00	242.93	-242.93
	£ 26,776.91	£ 28,203.77	-1,426.86

Total Surplus	4,480.45
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Total Surplus	-1,426.86
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Election of Committee Members

There were no nominations for new committee members, so the members listed below were proposed by Ian Dunster and seconded by John Scrace.

Peter Brereton was not included in the vote as both he and the committee have agreed that a trial period is necessary before appointing a new chairman.

Election of Committee Members

Hon President	Terry Edwards
Chair (Trial Period)	Peter Brereton
Secretary & Acting Treasurer	Daryl Alden (Director WAGA Ltd)
Trading Secretary	Janet Robins (Director WAGA Ltd)
Show Secretary	Jack Powis
Show Secretary's Understudy	Sue Lipman
Membership Sec	Margo Hollingdale
Social Secretary	Nandani Munro
Webmaster and Newsletter Editor	Pearl Morgan
Bookkeeper	Angie Hewitt
Special Projects	Robin Chapman
Special Projects (Humber)	Dave Tucker
Chesswood Shop Rep	Richard Lawson
Humber Shop Rep	Ann Peters
Humber Overseer	Graham North

Election of a new Honorary President

The committee would like to thank Terry Edwards for serving as our honorary president for the last 3 years. The committee invited Ian Dunster to serve as honorary President for the next 3 years and we are pleased to report that Ian has accepted this position.

President's Cup

The President's Cup was awarded to Richard Lawson for his excellent work in the Chesswood Shop.

Any Other Business

Derek Lethby asked: Would it be possible to have lectures during the year? The committee agreed to investigate this.

Peter Hannam asked: Is there a breakdown of trading figures for each of the 3 WAGA shops? Janet Robins answered that these numbers had been calculated.

Peter Hannam asked: if WAM members who were not WAGA members had been approached to join WAGA? Daryl Alden responded that this would be difficult to do because of GDPR restriction on addresses. John Scrace volunteered to include the WAGA leaflet in a future WAM email distribution.