### **Slimbridge Gardening Club**

## Minutes of the AGM held at the Village Hall Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 7.30pm

**Present:** C. Jeffes (Chairman), J. Chandra (Treasurer), P. Sealey (Secretary), M. Sealey, N. & A. Griffiths, R. Harding, A. Hunt, G. Baker, M. Weeks, J. & J. Mace, D. & L. Porter, R. Curtis, P. Ballard, P. Lewis, D. Purkis, J. Beasley, R. & M. Clift, C. Eveleigh, F. Neale, J. & J. Harris, L. Evans, J. Merrett, C. Beattie, P. Koole.

The Chairman opened the meeting and informed members that the Club had been let down by the proposed speaker for the evening and George Baker (Geranium George) had kindly agreed to give a talk on Pelargoniums following the AGM.

As Mrs. Gilly Stook was not present to give the proposed talk on Berkeley Show, Peter Ballard updated members on the situation regarding the Top Tray Competition at the annual Berkeley Show held on August Bank Holiday. He informed members that as so few clubs have entered the Top Tray Competition in recent years, which he had been sponsoring, he has agreed with the Show Committee to re-allocate the sponsorship to the following classes for Club's to enter instead:-

- (i) Trug of any Vegetables (mixed or single varieties)
- (ii) Collection Vegetables, 4 kinds, to include one dish of potatoes.
- (iii)Collection of Salad Vegetables, 4 kinds.
- (iv)(a) Perpetual Carnations, Vase of 6 blooms. (b) Vase of 6 Spray or Border Carnations.
- (v) A basket, vase or container of Cut Flowers.
- (vi)Collection of Desert Fruit on large dish or plate.

#### 1. Apologies

G. Tarr, S. Gibson, G. Edwards, G. Fryer, C. Howarth, A. Jones.

### 2. Minutes of the AGM held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2014

The minutes having been circulated were signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting. Proposed: G. Baker Seconded: P. Sealey

#### 3. Matters arising

The Chairman informed members, that as agreed at last year's AGM, the subscription for 2015 is now £10 per household.

#### 4. Correspondence

None received.

### 5. Chairman's Report

"This past year, my first as Chairman, has seen some high and low points for the Club. Our membership has increased steadily and the Summer Show is now making a profit. Sadly this year we lost two longstanding and valued members of our Club. Diana Hall our former Treasurer and Dave Tarr, who with his wife Prim ran the raffle and took the door money at shows. Both are greatly missed.

We have had some interesting and varied speakers over the year. One of the highlights being our own George Tarr and Godfrey Fryer explaining and demonstrating how to grow Chrysanthemums, Gladioli and Onions for the show bench, and who can forget that huge hedgehog brought along by Mary Hinton from the Hedgehog Hospital in Tetbury. In April, Deryck Huby fascinated us with his talk on the dying art of salmon fishing using putchers. Our evening visit to member's gardens in June was, despite the weather, very

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enjoyable. Our thanks must go to John and Joyce Mace for sharing their fascinating garden complete with model railway and for providing excellent refreshments at the end of the visit.

In October, Heather Godard-Keys shared her love of exotic plants with us and I am pleased to say that Fibrex Nursery, of which she is part, has just recently been granted a Royal Warrant, one of only 3 in the country.

A lot of people work very hard to make this Club a success. I would like to thank the Committee and all the members who provide the refreshments and help in so many different ways. I would also like to thank Norma for organising our annual outing. We went to Dewstow Garden and Grottoes and Wyndcliffe Court Sculpture Gardens in Wales. Both gardens were lovely and members appreciated the shorter time spent travelling. Norma also stepped in and acted as Treasurer until a replacement could be found. Judy has now taken over this role, for which we are very grateful and I will now hand over to her for the Treasurer's report."

#### 6. Treasurer's Report

"The extremely sad loss of Diana early in 2014 meant that the usual consistency was lacking over the 2014 financial year. Very many thanks are due to Norma who took over as interim Treasurer, with no official handover, until a new volunteer was found in spite of her many and varied duties connected with both the outing and the summer show. Finding myself that new volunteer was a considerable shock, not least to me, and the accounts found themselves in yet another pair of hands.

Inevitably, with so many changes, everything was far from straightforward and for those wanting an indepth explanation, the Auditor's report attached to the signed accounts will give all the details. All recommendations made in that report are already in operation for 2015. However, in spite of all the changes and with ever increasing speaker costs the Gardening Club made a profit of £341.04 in 2014. (£36.95 in 2013) The main contributions to this profit were increased donations, plant sales and the outing. Regretfully the Spring Show made a loss of roughly £50.00. This means that we end the year with a total balance of £1,948.87."

#### 7. Elections

The following officers, holders of other posts and general committee were elected unanimously:-

	<b>Proposed</b>	Seconded
Chairman – Carole Jeffes	R. Harding	J. Chandra
Vice Chairman – Norma Griffiths	C. Jeffes	G. Baker
Secretary – Mary Sealey	N. Griffiths	P. Ballard
Treasurer – Judy Chandra	N. Griffiths	J. Merrett
Show Manager – Norma Griffiths	C. Jeffes	G. Baker
Programme & Social Secretary – Ronnie Harding	P. Sealey	G. Baker
Committee Members: - Phil Sealey	C. Jeffes	G. Baker
Alison Hunt	C. Jeffes	J. Chandra
Village Hall Representative – George Baker	N. Griffiths	J. Merrett
Honorary Auditor – Linda Dibley		

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The Chairman asked any member that may be interested in taking on the role of Deputy Treasurer, as recommended in the Auditor's report, to let her know. Ronnie Harding thanked Terry and Jean for their help with the catering over the past year.

21 points

20 points

13 points

8.

Prizes were awarded to: -

 $1^{st}$ 

2<sup>nd</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup>

**Members' Pot Plant Competition** 

George Baker

Carole Jeffes

Norma Griffiths

The Chairman pointed out that in the future the competition will include produce as well as pot plants.			
9.	Any Other Business		
	There being no other business the Chairman decla	red the AGM closed at 8.00 pm.	
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Signed	d as a true record		