Greening Wingrove Board Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday 2nd July 7 – 8.30pm**

**Quorate decisions are highlighted**

1. **Attendance and apologies**

In attendance: Katy Sillem, Don Morrison, Michael Page, Ben Page, Rachel Richman, Jo Ellis (notes)

Apologies from: Ali Ford, Natalie Rotterova, Stuart Muir

Meeting quorate

Prior to the formal business of the meeting MP spoke briefly. He mentioned his aspirations for GW to engage more with projects outside the Bike Garden, including projects to do with climate change and sustainable transport, and engagement with the former General Hospital site redevelopment. He expressed concerns over control over the BG, given some conflicts that had arisen there lately, and requested the support of the Board.

KS reported that Mark Copsey had resigned from the Board but was willing to offer his support with regard to finance in the immediate future. The Board expressed their gratitude to him.

KS suggested that an advert for a Treasurer should go out in Connected Voice and other networks – this was agreed.

Action: JE/ KS to arrange for an advert to go out.

1. Minutes of last meeting were accepted as a true record
2. Matters arising
	1. David Rochester has been unwell and is therefore unable to engage with the Pocket Park. Margaret Maddison still could but doesn’t want to work with GW. MP suggested that she should be put in contact with the Pocket Park directly.
	2. AF will update on the Turbocharging the Bike Garden project at the next meeting.
	3. JE and KS have met up with Carrie Rosenthal from the Health Innovation Neighbourhood (at the former General Hospital site); they are putting in a bid for funding to support sustainable transport.
	4. KS noted that Connected Voice are putting in a bid for a climate resilience project.
	5. KS asked Directors for their opinion on whether non-residents can be Directors; she thought it could. The Constitution states that Directors must be drawn from the membership list, and ordinary Members must be residents, but the Constitution allows for up to two co-opted Directors who do not have to be members (and also allows for Supporter Members who are not residents)
	6. Working groups: the following working group membership was suggested:
		1. Bike Garden: BP, MP, KS, RR, NR.
		2. Finance and governance: KS, JE
		3. Communications: JE, perhaps Phil Rigby. MP also suggested that a friend of his named Maria might be able to help with this.
		4. “Terraces” and outside the BG: DM, AF.

It was suggested that the Friends of the Park, and the group working in the orchard, function as working groups in themselves.

Action: all groups to meet up before the next meeting and discuss their roles and responsibilities.

1. Treasurer’s Report: could not take place in the absence of a Treasurer.
2. Bike Garden

There had been issues over people refusing to leave the BG when asked. These were people who knew the key code and who had started to visit the garden outside NS’s opening hours. When MP had asked them to leave they had refused.

MP expressed his distress over the situation. He suggested that no alcohol should be allowed in the BG during NS’s normal opening hours (10-3) although it was manageable on Friday night when more NS staff were on duty.

It was noted that, prior to NS’s tenure in the BG, it was accessible only when there was a booking.

There was a discussion about how best to mediate access to the space. Questions to be answered included: whether members should be able to book the space for free; who should have keys and access codes; whether people who had caused problems should be barred.

Directors resolved:

1. Alcohol should not be consumed in the BG in between 10 and 3.
2. People wishing to use the BG outside NS’s operating hours should book it.
3. Some Directors should engage the people who had been involved in the confrontation and encourage them to stick to these rules. It was suggested that AF should be asked to do this.
4. KS and RR are to have a discussion with MP outside the meeting.
5. Finance and business matters: JE argued that the current bookings system lacked transparency. She proposed that the Wordpress plugin Booking Calendar should be used to manage bookings. However, MP argued that the current system (working via a Google calendar and the gw.bikegarden@gmail.com email address) was more or less functional. He thought that transparency could be achieved by sharing access to the email address and calendar. Board members were comfortable with this.

Action: JE, MP and BP to meet to discuss how this would work.

1. Communications: KS had circulated two versions of a membership form: the short version used by GW in the past, and a lengthier version with more questions about skills, willingness to volunteer, etc.

It was thought that while the questions were pertinent, a long form might put people off. BP suggested that a simple membership form could be followed by a longer questionnaire.

Action: KS to draft this.

1. Date and time of next meeting.

At some point in the future there will be a community consultation event to discuss the plan for the BG. It was suggested that this should take place in the autumn; Directors agreed to this.

A date was set for the next General Meeting, to be open to all members: 7th September, 11-1, at the Bike Garden.

The next Board meeting would normally take place on 6th August; Members agreed to skip this and meet in September (but it was subsequently suggested that this was unwise and the August meeting should go ahead)