Minutes of meeting of the Board of Greening Wingrove

Held 7pm, Tuesday 5th March 2024

Present: Graham Wyckes, Mark Copsey, Natalie Rotterova, Stuart Muir, Jo Ellis, Katy Sillem, Don Morrison, Ben Page.

Apologies from Ruth Hayward, Michael Page and Simran Chopra.

Minutes of last meeting: agreed.

Prior to the next agenda item GW announced his resignation from the Board. Members thanked him for the work done so far.

Matters arising:

Board membership: JE to email BP to obtain details to give to Companies House.

Mailing list: JE and KS to discuss this.

Veg beds: KS has discussed this with Chris O’Connor.

Accounts: MC will contact the accountant to prepare final accounts.

GW processes: the relevant documents are in Dropbox but not everyone can see them. This to be added to the next meeting’s agenda. MC to revise the documents and to investigate problems with Dropbox.

Calendar of events: JE to work with David Rochester (and with KS) to develop a calendar of events for the year, giving indicative costs. More volunteers are needed; DM suggested event volunteers should be given vouchers for food. NR can help with leaflet design. CO has emailed MC with a number of points about management of the Bike Garden, including keeping the side gate open, repairs to the building and a calendar of events.

The website needs some work on it – a volunteer is needed.

Programme of work

1. Street sweeper. MC has looked into this. Could be really useful, but needs a plan to set out where it’d be kept, how it’d be used, what to do with the rubbish, etc. MC to write a proposal on this.
2. Bikes for Health: Alistair Ford has been working with an organisation who can run bike rides from the Bike Garden. JE to check what the latest is on this.
3. Compost machine: KS has looked into the possibility of getting one of these but now proposes setting up a communal wormery. These have been used successfully by other community groups. Mark Ridsdill-Smith might be interested in helping set this up. KS to work on this.

Training proposal

Cllr Joyce McCarthy has proposed a training session for the Board, to be run by Connected Voice. Members wanted to know more about this – format, aims, duration, cost and so on. DM is at an event soon where Joyce will be present and will discuss it with her then.

Management of Bike Garden

MC has met Sally Vleugels from Urban Green who is keen to set up a new contract. This would mean GW paying rent and picking up the cost of the electricity. MC suggests we should pursue the idea of community asset transfer instead. KS, MC and JE to work together on this, with MP and CO if they would like. This might also include the Sensory Garden, which is being mothballed by UG.

AGM

The AGM will take place at 12.30 on Saturday 20th April. There will be a speaker – tbc. AF to be asked if he can approach Mike Greatbatch to talk about the history of the area. There will also be the opportunity for NR and others to perform music.

Food and marquees need to be discussed with MP; some of GW’s marquees were damaged in a storm and may need to be replaced; MP may be able to provide catering for the AGM.

JE to check Companies House to see which Board members should be up for re-election (i.e. which of them were last elected onto the Board three years or more ago). These members (probably AF and MP) will need to express an interest in staying on.

JE to write out to the mailing list inviting anyone to come to the AGM and also inviting people to become involved in GW, either as volunteers or as Board members. NR to be asked to make some posters for this.

Bike Garden management

Deferred to the next meeting. Members thought it would be a good idea to discuss topics such as: what is the BG used for; who manages and has access to the bookings calendar; who has access to keys? Formal protocols are needed for dealing with volunteers and for organising events.

Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 4th April, 7pm, at the Bike Garden and online.