

Edgworth & District Horticultural Society

AGM MINUTES

Committee met by Zoom Video Link - 18th November, 2020

Replacing 47th AGM Open Meeting

	Members Present: Jean Turner (chair), Phil Broughton (treasurer), Irene Spencer (secretary), Angela Swallow, Pat Whalley, David Spencer, Keith Shatwell, Sue Brohi and guest, Enid Ashton
1.	Apologies: Martin Cox, Heather Dowle
2.	Minutes of AGM held 20th November, 2019 In view of Covid Restrictions banning the meeting of groups the normal AGM could not be held this year. Instead a committee meeting was held via Zoom. 2019 AGM minutes, along with the Chairman's Report and the Treasurer's Financial Reports for 2020 were made available to members on the website. All members had been notified of this a month ahead of the date and were invited to pass on any comments. No comments were received so the committee concluded that the minutes were a true record though this will need to be ratified at the next AGM.
3.	Chairperson's Report on 2020 - Summary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lockdown began after only 2 meetings of the Society so subscriptions for 2020 will be rolled over to 2021. Membership once again entitles members to a 10% discount at Arthur Lane Nurseries and at Maher's shop in Bolton on production of a valid EHS membership card. ➤ Suttons Seeds also offer a generous discount on seeds and plants etc. from their catalogue. Just enter our unique code. ➤ The chair (Jean Turner) thanked all members who had helped her through this first year with particular thanks to Phil for his help with technology and letter writing and to Katie Hopkins who has reviewed the accounts. ➤ Jean explained that the day to day running of the Society had continued during the year despite Covid19 restrictions. ➤ Virtual committee meetings had been held regularly. ➤ A monthly newsletter has been sent to members during Lockdown with relevant snippets of interest in the hope of keeping members' involved. Irene Spencer and all who have contributed articles were thanked for making this happen. ➤ The Tebay and Barlow Beds have been regularly maintained. ➤ The planters were replenished in Edgworth by Arthur Lane Nurseries jointly funded by the EDHS and North Turton Parish Council ➤ Hanging baskets have been added to The Barlow building, funded by the Society. ➤ The liquidamber tree planted by Roy Lancaster has also been revitalised. ➤ Future project of restoring the Chapeltown Rest Garden has been on hold due to the restrictions but plans have been drawn up in readiness for when restrictions are lifted. ➤ Thanks to Phil Broughton, Heather Dowle, Glenys Syddall (NTPC), Pat Whalley and David Spencer for their work on these projects. ➤ Applications were invited for an award to fund 2 local horticultural projects up to a value of £500 each to be funded from the Legacy. ➤ The programme of meetings for 2020 is rolled over to 2021 where possible. We are investigating the possibility of holding virtual meetings from January if our speakers would be willing to do this. ➤ Pat Whalley was thanked for again organising our programme. ➤ Thank you to Angela Swallow who took over as Membership Secretary in this difficult year. ➤ Day trips, holiday and the Show were all cancelled but Jean thanked the committee members who had done the groundwork in arranging these events which will be carried forward to 2021. <p>The committee thanked Jean for her report for her contribution to the Society in this difficult year.</p>

4.	<p>Treasurer's Report on 2020:</p>														
	<p>The Treasurer produced a Summary Report to 30th September, 2020 Closing Balance shows:-</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Cash</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 79.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Nat.West current account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 1,385.71</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">Total cash & Bank</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 1,465.68</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Invested funds</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 49,422.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Provisions c/f (net)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 193.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">£ 51,081.52</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">Annual Change</td> <td style="text-align: right; color: red;">£ -1,154.78</td> </tr> </table> <p>Donations to Charity (included in figures above) Hanging Baskets for The Barlow (Charity) £60.00</p> <p>In his report he explains the expenses incurred during this strange year. The Legacy did reduce in value between January and April then made large gains by July. It is now £3,421 higher than the initial investment 2½years ago. However, £1,678 has been spent on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 'Flowers in Edgworth' planters ○ The maintenance of Tebay and The Barlow garden beds, ○ Initial preparatory work on Chapeltown Rest Garden which has been stalled due to Covid restrictions but hopefully the project will progress further next year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Show was cancelled too of course, but all the preparation done for this year will be rolled forward to 2021. The schedule was put on the website and will be used next year. ➤ In addition the Treasurer has prepared a forecast for finances for 2021 which will be added to the website shortly. ➤ There are currently 215 members of the society including Life Members.. ➤ Full Financial Report was posted on website in October for members to access and is also attached to these minutes. 	Cash	£ 79.97	Nat.West current account	£ 1,385.71	Total cash & Bank	£ 1,465.68	Invested funds	£ 49,422.42	Provisions c/f (net)	£ 193.42		£ 51,081.52	Annual Change	£ -1,154.78
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	<p>Phil Broughton was thanked for the work he has done during the year and his clear and easily readable format of his Report.</p>														
5a.	<p>Election of Officers: The 3 officers elected at the 2019 AGM have all agreed to remain in post.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Chairperson - Jean Turner Treasurer - Phil Broughton Secretary - Irene Spencer</p>														
5b.	<p>Election of Committee Members:</p> <p>There have been 2 resignations from the committee but the rest have all agreed to carry on this year, they are listed below.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Angela Swallow (Membership Secretary), Pat Whalley (Events Secretary), David Spencer, Keith Shatwell, Martin Cox, Sue Brohi, Heather Dowle</p> <p>There are 2 vacancies but any new committee member will be co-opted onto the committee until they can be officially elected.</p>														
6.	<p>Appointment of Reviewer for 2021 Accounts: The end of year accounts were reviewed by Katie Hopkins and the Treasurer thanked her for taking on the job this year. Lesley King has volunteered to review the accounts in October, 2021</p>														

7.	Legacy:
	Grant – With only 1 application this year the Turton Tower Kitchen Garden was awarded £470.90 for a planned rose arch with roses. It is proposed that applications will be invited again next year.
8.	2021 Planner:
	Subscriptions paid for 2020 will be rolled forward to 2021 as it was only possible to hold 2 meetings in January and February, 2020
	Programme: Also rolled forward remaining largely the same as 2020 but it is hoped that until we can meet normally in the Barlow, meetings will be by Zoom beginning with the January meeting. A trial run will be necessary. The following enquiries to be made. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The speakers will be asked if they are willing to do this. ➤ The possibility was suggested of having the speaker in The Barlow with some members present (complying with the Covid rules at the time) whilst others view on Zoom. ➤ Day Trips: These will be re-booked for the same weekends (if possible) ➤ Holiday: ‘Gardens of the Scottish Borders’ - this has been rolled forward to 3rd-6th June 2021. Most people have agreed to move their booking forward to this new date. ➤ The full programme will be put on the website.
	Using the Bequest: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The gardeners will continue to maintain the Tebay and The Barlow garden beds ➤ A grant award will be offered again but without giving a financial limit. Applications to be invited from person or group in the permitted area wishing to implement a horticultural project which will benefit the community. Details to be discussed by the awards sub-group ➤ Edgworth in Bloom will continue with seasonal planting of the tubs ➤ Chapeltown Rest Garden will progress after the delay due to Covid restrictions.
11.	Open Forum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Members’ views were asked for via e-mail and the website but none were received. ➤ As Affiliated Members of RHS we are entitled to discounts on RHS Shows. It may be possible to have a reduced price or even free visit to RHS Bridgewater Gardens later in the year, maybe October. This will be checked out.
	End of Meeting: The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed

Dated