



Extraordinary General Meeting | 04 February 2012 Minutes

Present

Erwan Guillo Lohan (Chair)
Tim French (Vice-Chair)
Ashley McCormick (Treasurer)
Alison Gibson
Ollie Redfern
Kevin Ward
Nina Pope
Tim Olden
Jen Currier

Lydia Thornley
Hamish Liddle
Louis French
Charlie Seber
Andreas Lang
Emma
Billy
Fiona Bloom (Secretary)

Topics

*Voting in new secretary, registration form, update on fundraising, equipment, Charlie's greenhouse.
All other topics fall into Any Other Business.*

Renewal of key positions

- Secretary: Erwan introduced Fiona Bloom, who had contacted FOAG via Somewhere project. Nominated by Lydia; seconded by Jen; voted in. Lydia to 'buddy' over the first few months as Fiona is new to the project.

Royal Horticultural Society

- Alison brought along our official *It's Your Neighbourhood* certificate awarding us 'thriving' status.

Charity Registration

- Documents to be submitted by 13 February 2012. Feedback with amendments to be made should be received within 14 days. Andreas and Nina will be registered as trustees later as founding members of the garden.

FOAG Registration Forms

- All volunteers will need to complete a FOAG registration form if they have not already done so. The new forms will not overwrite the old so if previously completed there will be no need to complete a new form. Everyone will need to complete a registration form so that FOAG have contact details (for events) and details of next of kin in case of emergency.

Fundraising and Finance

- The new application to the Tudor Trust has been submitted. The first stage is for the application to go to the committee on 29 February. Following approval by the committee the budget will be submitted by Ashley. FOAG is only eligible for a grant from the Tudor Trust for one more year.
- FOAG is eligible for funding from Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Alison is working on a draft application. The foundation usually provides funding for at least two years and has a quick decision of around 2 months. As the foundation is more food focused Nina proposed a 'lunch club' during gardening sessions where local chefs would be invited to demonstrate cooking with the produce from the garden. In order for a 'lunch club' to be feasible the sink and cooking area would need to be permanent. Health and safety pending and council decision on gas canisters being on site permanently it was unanimous that the 'lunch club' should go ahead. Rough numbers to be sent to Ashley for cost of fixing sink and cooking area to be included in the Budget.
- Alison is to investigate local grants from Newham Council for one off events. A verbal agreement has been given by the council for events at the gardens.
- Marketing budget to be sent to Ashley by 10 February.

Events

- Fiona P proposed event for opening ceremony of the Olympics. Possible barbeque at the gardens for FOAG members to watch the opening night fireworks. 8 members will definitely be available, 7 maybes and 1 definite no. Providing that enough members are available and that the council agrees this should go ahead.
- A visit has been organised for 25 April for FOAG members to visit West Ham Park Nursery. FOAG will cover 50% of the costs (up to £50).
- Spring event will be 14 April to coincide with National Gardening Week. Option of 'Seedy Sunday' to give away old seeds to local community members.
- Summer Fair will be 9 June with Open Garden Squares Weekend 9 and 10 June. This also coincides with the Chelsea Fringe.
- The NGS opening will be 8 September with the Harvest Festival moved to 22 September.
- Date of Winter event to be confirmed.
- There will be 4 main events again this year but plans will be made for more low key events - ideas for this will be welcomed at further meetings.
- FOAG would like to take part in the Big Jubilee Lunch on 03 June for the Queen's Jubilee and invite all members but not advertise generally.
- An events calendar will be prepared and circulated.
- If you have any ideas for events you should contact Jen.

Charlie's Greenhouse

- Hamish and Charlie to collect materials by beginning of March to begin construction.
- Costs expected to be in the region of £250.

Any Other Business

- Membership to Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens has been confirmed.
- Lisa Ann Down from Community Links would like to arrange a visit.
- A community arts project has contacted Erwan regarding 'It's a Newham Thing', a project speaking to local community regarding favourite places in Newham. Charlie has agreed to do this.
- New seeds received at February meeting from Chiltern Seeds.
- Billy from London Hackspace offered a small forge from London Hackspace for the gardens. It was agreed that he would email a full description to Erwan and it would be discussed further at the next meeting. All members were invited to visit London Hackspace.

Next meeting 03 March 2012 at 2pm. Gardening sessions start the same day.