

ORLETON AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

There were 25 members present at the meeting

- 1. Apologies:** Verna Jones, Kate and Simon Snape, Cath Stevenson, Margaret and John Lyon, Ann and John Wright, Jean and Paul Smith, John and Jill Alderman

2. Minutes of the 2012 AGM:

Approved proposed Lyn Jones
seconded Trisha Clanzy-Hodge
carried unanimously.

- 3. Matters arising:** none

- 4. Chairman's report:** copy attached

- 5. Treasurers report:** copy attached

- 6. Programme Secretary's report:** The programme for the 2014 was presented

- 7. Adoption of reports:** proposed Sheila Hough
seconded Jane Lacey
carried unanimously

8. **Correspondence:** none

9. General:

August Show: Lyn Jones, as Chairman of the Show committee thanked Eddie for all his work preparing the results of the Show, and also everyone else involved in organising.

We are a Gardening Club and the Show is the biggest event we put on. If every member entered at least one thing that would increase the entries enormously.

Amendments to the rules: Proposed amendments to the rules have been displayed for the last two months. Vote on adoption:

Proposed	Jane Lacey
Seconded	Cathy Fewlass
Carried unanimously	

10. Election of Officers:

- | | | | |
|----|---------------|--------------------|--|
| a) | Chairman | Shelley Choat | Proposed – Hilary Hawkins
Seconded – Trisha Clanzy-Hodge
Carried unanimously |
| b) | Vice Chairman | Nick Russell | Proposed – Shelley Choat
Seconded – Diane Russell
Carried unanimously |
| c) | Secretary | Monica Todd | Proposed – Eddie Clanzy-Hodge
Seconded – Trisha Clanzy-Hodge
Carried unanimously |
| d) | Treasurer | Eddie Clanzy-Hodge | Proposed – Margaret Davies
Seconded – Jennifer Kelley
Carried unanimously |

10. Election of Committee Members:

The remaining Committee members, who had not been elected as Officers were prepared to stay on the Committee.

Remaining Committee members - Trisha Clanzy-Hodge, David Davies, Peter Furneaux, Jennifer Kelley, Pauline Wareham

Proposed – Monica Todd Seconded – Eddie Clanzy-Hodge Carried – unanimously

11. Appointment of Auditor:

Helen Webb has agreed to audit the account again next year.

12. Any other business: None

Treasurers Report 2013

Current Position.

The accounts show that we have £1,816.55p held in bank accounts.

We also have items in stock for resale valued at £420.

Total assets of the club are therefore £2,236.55.

Commentary

We have only had 100 members this year and this had meant a reduction in subscriptions of about £160.

Net income from the raffle is down by £160. This is due to having less members and missing one raffle mid-year.

Income from sales of goods has increased this year. However, we are showing that sales income is almost the same as the costs of the goods. We do have about £250 worth of stock for sale. We will benefit from this in next year's accounts.

We have £120 worth of stock of notelet cards so we will also benefit from these sales in next year's accounts.

Next Year

Village hall rent has been increased from £30 per evening to £35. This had no affect this year since we did not use the hall for 2 meetings. There will be an increased cost next year for hiring the Village Hall.

Speaker costs continue to increase, mainly due to the high cost of travelling. In order to get the best speakers we need to be prepared to pay more for them.

In view of the above points the committee has decided that we need to increase membership subscriptions to £10 per annum from the beginning of January.

Chairman's Report

I don't know about everyone else but my description of this year is very much a Curate's Egg especially regarding gardening and the Gardening Club.

We had some excellent – and amusing – speakers, starting off with Marion Stainton in January talking about the Garden in Winter, then followed by Will Scott on Tool Sharpening for the Terrified – very well attended and most informative in February. In March, Nick Dunn from Matthew's Trees spoke on Small Ornamental Trees. Duncan Coombs gave us a highly detailed talk in April on Hidcote Manor Gardens which whetted our appetites for our trip there and to Kiftsgate Court in June. Mark Zenick told us about his passion for Day Lilies which ensured a good turnout for our afternoon outing to Long Mynd Day Lily Nurseries later in July.

In June we visited four gardens in Eye and had a club picnic in Sue Evan's delightful garden afterwards. We are very grateful for Sue and Guy, Ros Bateman, Julie Kent and Caroline Probert for opening their gardens to us.

Unfortunately, our speaker Phil Sharples was unable to talk to us about the easy way to a perfect lawn (bad part of the curate's egg) but the good part was Paul Hands stepping into the breach and giving us a talk on apples. October saw Roger Umpelby giving us nightmares with his slides of Pests and Diseases of Fruit and then our last speaker, Frank Hardy talked about Creating a Chelsea Garden.

The bad parts of the egg were cancelling our trip to Hanbury Hall in April because the strange weather meant that there were no spring flowers to see. Also, the lateness of the season resulted in hardly any roses in bloom at Kiftsgate or Hidcote in June. Despite that disappointment, the whole day was very enjoyable. I think the Committee have decided that it is too hit and miss to organise a Spring Outing by coach as this is now the second year in succession we have had to cancel.

My thanks to Jennifer Kelley for organising the Club Dinner at the Riverside in March and also the Titley Lunch in November. Both events were very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all. As always, Jennifer had arranged them impeccably. Thank you, Jennifer.

My thanks also to the entire Committee for their help and support over the last year – especially when it seemed my Curate's egg contained more bad than good. Heartfelt thanks to you all.

Sadly, due to family matters, our Vice Chairman, Ann Turtle has felt it necessary to resign from the Committee. I would like to record my thanks for all her help over the last two years and also for arranging the programme.

Also, we say goodbye to Sheila Hough from the Committee (I think Sheila would certainly say her egg was BAD this year) However, Sheila will still be very much part of the Club and has offered her services in several ways so she is only moving sideways. Thank you, Sheila, for your years on the Committee and also on the sub committee for the August show.

Thanks to David Davies (and Margaret) and Verna and Rose for manning the raffle each month. It all helps to pay for speakers and they do an excellent job.

Huge thanks must go to Monica Todd for not only being the most efficient Club secretary I have ever come across but also for handling the seed orders, getting us huge discounts, and doing a roaring trade in gloves and root trainers. -again at excellent prices.

Thanks must also be given to Jeremy Howell-Thomas for setting up the sound system for the meetings and ensuring the speakers and I can be heard! Also all who help set out the chairs, put them away and tidy the hall and our band of refreshment makers. As from January, we are serving refreshments at the START of the evening – from 7.30 until 8 pm. I am grateful to Cathy Fewlass and Jane Lacey for suggesting this and offering to prepare the refreshments for the three-month trial period. (and Linda Caldicott?) Another person who deserves a mention is Hilary Hawkins for her amazing generosity in providing our plant stalls with so many fantastic plants. Keep them coming, Hilary! If I have left anyone out, please forgive me – thick cold making me more muddled headed than usual.

Please remember it is YOUR club. We want you to be happy so if you have any suggestions for speakers/outings/or just generally how to improve things, please feel free to speak to any committee member.

All that remains is for me to say my thanks to all our members and to wish you all a happy and prosperous 2014 and good gardening! Or should I say “Keep gardening!!!!”