

## Minutes of the Management Advisory Group - Annual General Meeting held on Friday 27th October 2023.

The meeting commenced at 10am.

### PRESENT:

David Pitt, Tony Swan, Liz Gambier, Sue Smales, Irene Groom, Chris Groom, Linda Furnell, Sue Place, Susan Toms, Mike Paddy, Jane Neave, Margaret Ray, Malcolm Penny, Gerry Edwards, Philip Toms, Catherine Dann, Keith Barnard, Sue Francis, Denise Read, Jo Oliver, Janet Green, Audrey Newell, Christine Gregory, Chris Horsborough, Richard Doughty, Sue Katz, Cllr. Becky Haggard, Andy Weller, Joan Butfield.

### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllr. Nick Denys, Tony Bucksey, Rosemary Bucksey, Lesley Crowcroft, David Plummer, Hulya Ozuren, Christine Wallace, Paul Lake, Christine Lake.

### MINUTES OF 10TH NOVEMBER 2022

Unanimously agreed. Proposed - Keith Barnard, Seconded - Richard Doughty.

MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising.

### TREASURER'S REPORT - KEITH BARNARD

Copies of the Audited Financial Report for the year 2022-2023 ending 30th April 2023, prepared by Steve Dunn our Hon Auditor are available to attendees at the AGM.

During the financial year we organized two major events as well as Tree Dressing namely the Summer Picnic and Heritage Day/Classic Car Show. Unfortunately due to the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 2 the Heritage Day was cancelled.

Operating costs throughout the year average around £3500. ie purchase of plants, tools and equipment, teas coffee and biscuits etc. Plant, Book and Craft sales continue to be a good source of income, especially as a lot less effort is required to put the events on compared to the Summer Picnics and Heritage Day/Classic Car Shows.

As previously mentioned, these accounts only go up to the 30th April 2023, therefore the income and expenditure attributable to this year's Summer Picnic and Heritage Day/Classic Car Show will be shown in the 2023/24 Accounts.

However, many volunteers are interested in what is happening now so for information the Summer Picnic in June made £2,351, a breakdown has already been provided. The Heritage Day/Classic Car Show on the 10th September 2023 gave an income of £1,882-00, no monies yet received from Andrew Pearce.

A final breakdown of the Income and Expenditure for the event is now available for anyone who would like to see a copy.

Update our financial position as of the 23rd October 2023, the balances of the various elements within the main Bank Account are as follows:-

GENERAL FUND.	£7,928.
ARCHIVE/PUBLICATIONS.	£5,323.
CRAFT GROUP.	£1,520. Susan Smales holds £200
EASTCOTE CONSERVATION PANEL.	£444.
COMMUNITY SAVINGS RESERVES.	£5,070.

KB clarified the operating costs -

£698 - Eastcote Horticultural Society for bulbs and membership

£519 - Wild Orchard Trees

£228 - Gazebo and banners

£220. - Insurance £220.

£250 - Mayor's Charity

£145 - London in Bloom

MP said that he is chasing Andrew Pearce for the sponsorship monies for June and September. He spoke with Joe Prosser who promised monies totaling £350 would be in our account today.

Proposed - Audrey Newell, Seconded - Jo Oliver

#### ACTING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - CHRIS GROOM

I must start my report with a tribute to our amazing past Chairman Lesley.

Lesley was a founding member of the Friends of Eastcote House Gardens and since the beginning 15 years ago Lesley has been responsible for making us what we are today. She led by example and tirelessly promoted The Friends at every opportunity. Most of us are unaware of the vast array of things she did for us, and I am sure that in the future we will have a great challenge to live up to the standards set by Lesley. I sincerely hope that Lesley will be able to join us occasionally in the gardens as soon as possible. Lesley led many of our great successes over the years and only stood down, this year, due to ill health, after doing all the planning for this year's Summer Picnic, but sadly she was unable to attend due to her ill health.

Lesley's influence abounds in everything, and I even used her last year's report in composing this report.

We do have a large number of speakers to get through this morning so I will keep my report short, but I must thank the Committee and other members of FEHG who have worked so hard throughout the year to make FEHG such a resounding success. Some of you will not realise how much work goes on behind the scenes to keep Eastcote House Gardens at such a high standard.

To all your excellent Committee and other leaders, we cannot thank you enough for the exceptional work you have carried out during the last year.

We must not forget that throughout the year we have also received full support from our local Councilors Becky Haggart and Nick Denys

Now for some general matters:-

Our 2024 calendar has been a sellout success, thanks to Paul Lake for his organisation and to FEHG members who submitted some excellent photos. Don't forget we now need photos for the 2025 edition which will soon be on the drawing board. Please be out and about the gardens with your cameras.

We held our Volunteer Lunch in the stables in September and my thanks go to Sue Place and her team for their excellent organisation. It was particularly special as we were able to report our great success at the London in Bloom awards ceremony held on the previous day. We entered a total of 6 classes, our 4 normal entries plus 2 new classes and of course we achieved the highest possible grade in all 6 classes. A huge congratulations to you all.

I know this will be mentioned in other reports, but the massive amount of work carried out by contractors, to the walls of the walled garden, during the winter period caused major disruption and I am pleased to say that the hard work by the volunteers rescued the gardens from a potential disaster and it was highly complimented on by the judge of London in Bloom.

Perhaps one of the most important tasks is serving treats at break times and these are much appreciated by us all, a good cuppa, biscuits and a gossip are enjoyed by everybody. ~To our "tea ladies" Margaret and Audrey we greatly appreciate you both.

Not all things are going to plan, we still have a number of outstanding repairs, some outstanding for a long time. These include:-

- Repair work to the garden walls, close to the compound entrance, where serious cracking has reoccurred.
- Dovecote - replacement of the ugly concrete floor and repairs to the woodwork.
- Dealing with damp in the stable's walls.
- Repairs to pathways.

But you can be sure that we will continue to chase them all.

I will now finish with a plea. Have patience, we will not do everything right, but if we all work together, we will keep our wonderful gardens at a standard of which we will all be proud.

#### PRESENTATION - CATHERINE DANN

Chris Groom asked Catherine Dann to make a presentation to Jane Naeve to thank her for her tireless work, under very difficult circumstances initially, in providing excellent tea and cakes at all events over many years.

Catherine Dann presented Jane Naeve with a bunch of flowers and a voucher and thanked her for her enormous contribution to FEHG.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT - CATHERINE DANN

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to say a few words.

For some people an AGM can be of little interest to them plus if they attend 'you might be given a job'.

I find an AGM an interesting meeting as you are looking back over the past year as well as looking forward to the following year.

Eastcote House Gardens has an excellent reputation for somewhere to visit where the standards of the garden are very good. It is also a peaceful area.

It is due to all of you as volunteer gardeners for your commitment to come along regularly to do the gardening.

Over recent years you have organised so many other events at the site.

There are also many other activities taking place that many of you take part in.

The agenda for today's AGM provides us with so many reports of these activities. You are a team who work well and achieve excellent results.

I and so many other people appreciate your commitment.

#### SUMMER PICNIC AND FETE - CHRIS GROOM FOR LESLEY CROWCROFT

The Summer Picnic and Fete was held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and was a great success thanks to Lesley's detailed planning, although, as I have already mentioned, Lesley was not able to attend. High numbers attended and total profit was, I think, a record for this summer event. Many visitors' stalls reported excellent turnover and after the event many compliments were received from stall holders and the public.

It was a very hot day which did affect some stalls and due to the heat, the dog show numbers were down, but we still had plenty of waggy tails. Ferrett Racing was also affected by the heat – some would not run. Mind you the heat did not affect the hordes of children from scaling the climbing wall provided by the scouts.

Jane's wonderful tea and cakes stall was a huge success and even with its mountain of cakes her great workers managed to sell out by the end of the day. The cakes were great – yum yum.

Large numbers of volunteers helped on the day with lots of volunteers before the event assisting with preparation and on the Friday helping with the setting up. Amongst the volunteers there were some real stars who we should probably be naming but to save them the embarrassment, on behalf of Lesley's committee we would just like to give a huge thankyou to all the volunteers who helped, before and on the day, for all their hard work.

THANKS

#### HERITAGE DAY - SUSAN TOMS

The day was a great success when many visitors took advantage of the good weather to view the 70 plus immaculate classic cars on show.

They also visited the historic Grade 2 listed dovecote which was open throughout the day. There was a steady stream of people who appreciated the knowledge of the volunteer stewards especially when demonstrating the revolving post (potence) and ladder used to collect the young birds.

The 17th century grade 2 listed stables were also open for visitors to admire some of the original timber work. Inside there was a wide range of local history publications available for sale from the Friends of Eastcote House Gardens and the Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society. Hillingdon Borough Museum Service also provided a display of archaeological finds from excavations previously carried out at Eastcote House Gardens. Halfway through the day there was the presentation of the Community Shield by Catherine Dann, our President, to this year's worthy winners, the Gardeners' Group at St.Thomas More Church.

The many visitors enjoyed the two sessions of live music from "Simply Grey" as well as the other Friends' stalls. which included the tea tent, the raffle, crafts, plants and second-hand books. The event could not have succeeded without all the hard work and commitment of the volunteers.

#### CLASSIC CAR SHOW - KEITH BARNARD

A total of 75 cars - Classic cars of a diverse range of makes and models were on show in the Gardens the largest turnout to date. A £5.00 per car entry was charged but not collected from every car as a few entrants said that they only had Bank cards with them despite the

event being advertised as cash only. It may now be the time to look at taking payments using a card reader at our future events.

Stewards from Uxbridge, Watford and Jaguar clubs acted as Marshals for the event. As well as Classic vehicles modern super cars of special interest such as F-Type Jaguars and TVR's were on show as many younger visitors are interested in these cars.

Due to the cars arriving early in vast numbers I did not have the walkie talkie portable radios issued to the marshals which in my opinion slowed down the entry onto the site.

However, the feedback that I have had is that it was the best show at EHG, one of the best throughout the summer with great music, atmosphere and a glad selection of vehicles.

Chris Groom said that the possibility of using a card machine would be discussed at the committee meeting.

#### TREE-DRESSING - PAUL LAKE

We were blessed with good weather for our annual tree-dressing, which this year was our biggest event ever: over 100 children from 5 schools – Warrender Primary, Coteford Infants, Field End Infants, Lady Bankes Primary and Grangewood School – took part.

The Worshipful Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr. Becky Haggard led the dressing of the tree. The huge number of children and families in attendance made sure this was a very special community event. Crafts and refreshments were for sale in the Stables, and the raffle and Teddy Bear Hunt made sure there was plenty to do.

We owe an enormous thank you to everyone who helped before, during and after the event: our tea stall helpers, our talented craft team, raffle sellers, Teddy Hunt organisers, outdoor stewards and Audrey on the baubles and table decorations!

Two very special awards were made at the event: the Hinman Shield) – for young people's involvement in community work – went to the 4<sup>th</sup> Eastcote Scouting Group; and the Community Shield was presented to Richard Dalling.

Our historic yew tree was adorned with hundreds of Christmas decorations, which were subsequently added to by visitors to the park.

#### GARDENING - JO OLIVER

To begin this garden summary of 2023, we would like to thank all the volunteers, those who garden and those who work behind the 'scenes'. Without their help we would not be able to maintain the gardens to such a high standard.

2023 has brought like any year its gardening rewards but also some challenges. The walls of the garden were repaired at the end of 2022, to enable this to happen a number of plants and climbers had to be cut down, most of them are successfully regrowing. The year started with a very cold snap which led to loss of a number of tender plants in the walled garden, i.e. penstemon and salvia. Spring was late to bloom but as every year we had a delightful display of spring bulbs which brought colour to the cold days of January and February.

The summer brought its challenges with a few weeks of very hot weather, the walled garden and the old orchard were watered regularly and happily all plants survived. The wildflower meadow re-flowered this summer but lacked the vibrancy of the 1st year.

Hillingdon Council have cleared and re-seeded so we are expecting a beautiful display next year.

In July we had the judging of London in Bloom and we were very pleased with our results. We had a tree dedication of 6 trees planted near the St. Lawrence Drive entrance in the wild orchard. The 6 flowering varieties were cherries, pears and greengage. 3 were donated by well-wishers; Liz Gambier's family to celebrate her 80th birthday, Jenny Gurdon in her memory, and Churches Together. 3 of the trees were given by Hillingdon Council. We also planted a copper beech to celebrate the coronation of King Charles 111. A new bench was donated by a well-wisher. We have placed it at the top of the hill near Pamela Gardens.

Overall, we have had a successful gardening year which brought pleasure to all visitors. The gardening year is drawing to a close and it is time to put the garden to bed for the winter months. We will be busy with dividing perennials and potting up for next year's plant sales. Let's hope 2024 brings us happy gardening and we can repeat the success of 2023.

#### WEBSITE - PAUL LAKE

As far as I am aware (i.e., judging by the absence of complaints!), the website is functioning well. I endeavour to keep the content up to date, and Dave Kidner (gxcomputers.co.uk) continues to offer prompt support in removing obsolete messages and uploading new content.

As you are all aware, Dave offers his services at no cost: our annual expenses on the site this year consisted of £27.00 to renew our domain name and £40.00 towards Dave's annual hosting fees. I regularly assure Dave of the Committee's gratitude, and I have spent £20.00 on a gift of two bottles of wine as a thank you from us all.

#### Monthly numbers

Web traffic is healthy, but naturally fluctuates throughout the year:

- 3 months recorded over 1000 clicks – May (1.04K), September (1.07K) and June (1.17K)
- December recorded the fewest clicks – 263
- Other months fall in the 400-700 range

Pages:

- About 80% of clicks are for the *Homepage*
- The *Diary Dates* tab generally scores second highest – anything between just 6 clicks in December and 244 in June
- Next comes the *Contacting Us* tab in the *Information* section, which registers between 10 and 40 clicks a month

We have reworded the *Contacting Us* page, making it clear that any booking requests should go straight to Hillingdon Council – this has significantly reduced (though not completely expunged!) the number of requests to hire the Stables.

- These 3 pages score the highest totals every month – this means that none of the other content on the site achieves more than the occasional click

Countries:

- Over the year, we have had interest from the USA, Canada, Australia, France, Spain, Germany, Belgium, Hong Kong, Thailand, the Philippines and the Maldives!

#### PUBLICATIONS - ANDY WELLER

Steady as she goes regarding sales since the last AGM. The first Community Archive publication, Eastcote House and Gardens the People and the Place was issued in 2012. This has been updated and reprinted. An Eastcote WW11 Commentary has also been reprinted. Across the piece, the seven publications have now sold over 1,500 copies with Secret Eastcote in its third print run proving the best seller.

#### CRAFT GROUP - SUE SMALES

This year, for the first time, the Friends decided to open the Dovecote and to hold a craft sale on the same days as the book sales i.e once a month April to October.

In previous years we had done well with sales at the picnic and on Heritage day however, through donations we had accumulated an excess of material and haberdashery items. Also, several people had said that they wouldn't buy our crafted items because they made their own so we decided to see if we could supply what they wanted.

The monthly sales have been surprisingly successful, with repeat customers and we have managed to sell some of the more expensive Designer's Guild material on-line which has added to our profits and is ongoing.

We also provided an outlet for Philip Toms to sell his cards depicting beautiful and cleverly photographed flowers and butterflies.

We created a banner to mark the Coronation of King Charles 3rd.

Our members agreed to forgo our last session in September to allow crafter Mandie Redding to fundraise for the Macmillan cancer charity. 30 people attended, mainly our wonderful gardeners, and their generosity raised £199 on the day.

More recently, Liz Hardman has arranged for the FEHG logo to be digitalised and sewn onto bags in four different colours to be sold at £5 each to raise further funds.

And whilst the craft group ladies have made poppies, three in particular – Mandie Redding, Liz Hardman and especially Christine Lake – have been responsible for the splendid Remembrance displays in the Old Orchard.

We welcomed 4 new members this year taking our membership to 17.

We have, so far this year, donated £800 towards the upkeep of the Gardens.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped – those who have donated materials for us to use, and those who bought those materials or items crafted from them; craft members who have crocheted, knitted or sewn so many toys, baby clothes, lavender bags and many other objects of desire; and those who have helped with putting up, taking down and running the stalls on sales days – we couldn't have done it without you.

#### BOOK SALES - SUE SMALES

The year started badly with a flood in the book cabin which further damaged an already rotten floor and ruined many books.

The work to replace the floor was scheduled to take 7 days beginning on 14th August so volunteers were busy the week before removing and storing all the contents of the cabin which of course included hundreds of books. Luckily, we were able to store these on site in the Council's Office. A dozen volunteers came in specially to help move the bulk of the books on 12th August and we were finished in an hour. The work was finally signed off on

5th September. All the books were brought back over the next two days, sorted, and shelved in time for Heritage Day on the 9th. At the same time, I had collected and was storing dozens of newly donated books and these were substituted for older books that we had had for some time.

Our highest ever figure was raised on Heritage Day when we raised £200. £90 of which came from the sale of transport books - mainly car books but also trains, boats and planes - from a gazebo deliberately placed next to the Classic Cars; an outstanding success.

Our book sales start in April and are held monthly until October.

We have been lucky to have received several donations of more recently published books in excellent condition. This has enabled us to refresh and update our stock and we have received several compliments on the range of subjects offered. We have many repeat customers; those who have only just discovered us have promised to return next year. This year we have raised over £600. (might be closer to £800 Keith should be able to confirm).

My thanks to everyone who supports us by donation or buying books, to Margaret Ray and Dave Plummer who are there for every sale, to Malcolm Penny and Tony Swan for the heavy lifting and to Sue Francis who has been so helpful with sorting the hundreds of books we have received this year.

#### PLANT SALES: JO OLIVER

The spring and Heritage Day sales were good as the weather was with us.

Autumn sales were a little lower. We believe the weather wasn't brilliant and the date of the last sale was a little late. Hopefully we can bring it forward next year.

We may reintroduce plant sales at the picnic but this is to be discussed at the next committee meeting.

We are learning that some plants are very popular, i.e. verbena, and we should have plenty of these to sell. We also need to keep introducing different varieties to sell as we get many regulars.

We would like to thank all the volunteers who donated plants and the outside societies, e.g. Northwood Lions.

#### REAL ALE GROUP - ANTHONY BUCKSEY

Please accept my apologies for not attending the AGM due to another engagement but I am pleased to present this report on our activities over the last year.

The FEHG Real Ale Club (RAC) meet at a pre-agreed local venue on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month and continues to meet its primary objective of providing the Eastcote House Gardens Volunteers, their partners and other supporters the opportunity to socialize outside of the gardening sessions and the running of the fund-raising events.

On 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023, we celebrated our 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the Hop and Vine, Ruislip High Street, which was our first venue. Throughout the last year the RAC has continued to blossom and attract volunteer gardeners, their partners and friends for a pleasant evening of conversation and discussion whilst enjoying some liquid refreshment.

The evenings are very informal and relaxing with no pressure or commitment for attendees to come to every meeting, stay all evening, buy large rounds or contribute to 'whips'. Whilst we endeavour to meet at a local venue that serves Real Ale, there is no



requirement to drink Real Ale and several members regularly partake of their own favourite tippie.

I am confident the RAC will continue to flourish and will hopefully continue to attract and welcome new members.

Our next meeting after the AGM is planned for 3<sup>rd</sup> November, although at the time of preparing this report the venue is not known.

If any volunteers or supporters of Eastcote House Gardens and their partners would like to join us then please get in touch and ask to be included in the email distribution list.

#### BOOK READING GROUP - ANTHONY BUCKSEY

Please accept our apologies for not being able to attend the AGM however, we trust this written report will suffice.

We are pleased to report that the 8 members of the FEHG Book Group are continuing to meet on the 1st Tuesday of every month to enjoy debating their opinions of the last months read.

Whilst there is very occasionally a shared consensus on the quality of the writing style, believability of the plot and characters etc, opinions usually vary, but that's the interesting part – listening to someone else's interpretation. Also, of course, we put the world to rights, share opinions on our TV and film viewings as well as enjoy the excellent refreshments provided by each member at their respective home.

We continue to utilise the excellent service provided by the staff at Eastcote Library, who supply our reading material, and whilst we may have to wait for any particularly popular title we have always had a new book for each month.

#### HINMAN SHIELD - PAUL LAKE

Arrangements for this year's event are in hand: we have 4 schools taking part – Warrender Primary, Coteford Infants, Lady Bankes Primary and Field End Infants. Grangewood School will not be able to take part – they are currently on another site in Hayes while their school is completely rebuilt. Newnham Infants expressed an interest in joining us this year, but they are unable to do so as the teacher in charge of the choir will be recovering from surgery.

This year, we are asking each school choir to sing just one Christmas song (traditional or modern); then we will ask all the schools to return to centre stage to lead our community singing – *Away In A Manger*, *Jingle Bells* and *We Wish You A Merry Christmas*.

At Lesley's request, I have invited the schools taking part to submit a bid for the Hinman Shield by listing the charitable and/or community work they have done over the past year. I currently have one submission, though a second school has said it will be sending a bid.

N.B.: Jane Neave is on board to organise cakes and refreshments – this will be her last event for the Gardens, so we will need to make new arrangements in future.

#### COMMUNITY SHIELD - JOAN BUTFIELD

The winner of this year's Community Award was presented to the gardeners and sponsors of St. Thomas More Church by our President, Catherine Dann

In the autumn of 2019 the leader of the team of the St. Thomas More Church flower arrangers and a group of volunteers undertook the task of making the unkempt Church grounds a resource to provide greenery and foliage for the Church flowers. Generous

funding from the parishioners enabled the team to buy shrubs augmented by a selection of home propagated plants which were planted in Spring 2021.

The transformation of the unkempt grounds can be seen from the road and the team have adventurous plans for the remainder of the grounds in the future.

Please let Joan know of anyone who you think would be a worthy recipient of the trophy for 2024.

#### DOVECOTE OPENING - SUSAN TOMS

As well as opening for the Summer Picnic and the Heritage Day the dovecote used to open once a month on Tuesday afternoon during the summer months. After the end of the lockdown restrictions it was decided to change the opening day to coincide with the second hand book sales/craft event and occasional plant sales on Saturday mornings from 10am-1pm during April to October. It was hoped that the more that was happening on site the more visitors we would attract.

Unfortunately, I do not have any figures for the number of visitors when the dovecote opened on Tuesday, but we have attracted reasonable numbers on Saturday mornings ranging from 37 in August which was a wet day to 52 in July. Although not huge I think that the numbers and the interest expressed by visitors justify continuing with the Saturday opening.

I would like to thank the small but dedicated band of volunteers who give up their time to steward in the dovecote. We need to recruit more people to spread the load more evenly and to replace those who are not getting any younger. Each slot of one hour is allocated two volunteers so ideally, we need six people to cover the opening time of three hours. But some months we were rather thin on the ground and volunteers have had to cover longer periods. We have one definite new volunteer, but we do need more.

#### LONG MEADOW INSECT/BUTTERFLY REPORT - PHILIP TOMS

This year's survey was undertaken on a weekly basis from the beginning of May to the end of September. Only one week was missed and this was because of constant rain on the designated day. April would normally be included but this year the weather was unfavourable for recording purposes.

We recorded 891 butterflies – 41 in May, 240 in June, 432 in July, 160 in August, and 18 in September. The same butterfly could have been recorded on consecutive weeks, so these are not necessarily 891 different individuals.

Long Meadow continues to host a good variety of species: Small and Essex Skippers, Brimstone, Large, Small and Green-veined whites, Orange Tip, Small Copper, Brown Argus, Common and Holly Blue, Red Admiral, Peacock, Comma, Speckled Wood, Marbled White, Gatekeeper, Meadow Brown, and Ringlet.

Speckled Woods, Meadow Browns, Gatekeepers and Ringlets had the highest populations. We think that, next year, we could liaise with a local school to see if they might be interested in a butterfly walk as part of their educational activities.

Thanks to Lorraine Carne and Christine Wallace for participating in the survey.

## EASTCOTE HORTICULTURAL FLOWER SHOWS - SUE PLACE

What a contrast in weather this year. For the spring show in March the team were picking wearing thermals, and for the summer show in June and autumn show in September we were in shorts and t-shirts. The Spring show was attended by the Mayor of Hillingdon Cllr Becky Haggar-Kaititis who took a great interest in all the exhibits.

The Friends team entered 42 exhibits and were awarded the following along with a haul of silverware.



8 x First

10 x Second

7 x Third

The JS Ranger cup for the highest points in daffodil classes

The Bertram Park rose bowl for rose classes for 2022

The T G Cross memorial cup for the highest points in horticultural classes for 2022

The summer show was held in June and was a great success despite unusually hot weather in the run up to the show. FEHG submitted 32 exhibits and were awarded the following:

4 x First

9 x Second

7 x Third

The Autumn show was well attended with many exhibits. For the FEHG team it was another great success with 27 exhibits entered and we were awarded the following:

9 x First

9 x Second

6 x Third

1 x Commended

We were also awarded a Gold Medal diploma for the "Highest points in Other Flowers", these include ferns, grasses, fuchsias, roses, flowering shrub etc.

A big thank you to my loyal team Jane Neave, Linda Wells and Janet Green who picked the flowers on Fridays and staged them on Saturday mornings and returned for the prize giving and to help clear up at the end and who without their help we would not have achieved the results on behalf of FEHG.

Sue Place was again asked to help with stewarding during the judging at the three shows and this has given her insight into the judging process.

Catherine Dann expressed her appreciation to the team for their excellent work. She presents the prizes and knows the people and the team which goes up there to exhibit. They justly deserve their awards.

Gerry Edwards, as Chairman of EHS agreed with Catherine Dann's remarks. Without the FEHG the show would not be the same.

## CONSTITUTION

Amendment to the Constitution to include a Vice Chairman as an Officer.

Item 4.2 of our Constitution will now read:-

4.2 Officers [President, Vice President, Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary & Treasurer] and members of the MAG committee will be submitted to the AGM by the MAG committee for ratification.

Proposer - Tony Swan. Seconder-Audrey Newell

Unanimously approved

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

### OFFICERS

President	Catherine Dann
Vice President	Lesley Crowcroft
Chairman	Chris Groom
Deputy Chairman	Malcolm Penny
Treasurer	Keith Barnard
Secretary	Joan Butfield

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Malcolm Penny

Jo Oliver

Sue Place

Tony Swan

Sue Smales

Paul Lake

Christine Lake

Susan Toms

Denise Read

### OTHER ROLES

Hon Auditor Steve Dunn

Advisor Gerry Edwards

Council Liaison Officers Joshua Wallington, Green Spaces  
Fiona Sweet, Museums and Historic Buildings

### BY INVITATION

Cllr. Nick Denys

Cllr Becky Haggar

Unanimously approved

### AOB

Susan Smales thanked Catherine Dann for all her encouragement which is much appreciated.

Keith Barnard said that the donation from box in the cafe was £50.

The meeting closed at 11.20am.

After the meeting closed Margaret Ray suggested that Eastcote Station flower beds are tended beautifully by two sisters and she thinks they deserve considering for the Community Shield Award.

A member of the public, who left the meeting early telephoned Joan Butfield to offer her thanks and appreciation for all the dedication of the FEHG gardeners.

DRAFT