

Edgworth & District Horticultural Society

AGM MINUTES

48th Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, 17th November, 2021

	<p>62 members attended this Annual General Meeting The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the various papers set out on the tables including one asking for volunteers to serve teas at monthly meetings. Due to Covid restrictions there will be no rota for volunteer cake providers for the time being as we will be serving pre-wrapped cakes.</p>
1.	<p>Apologies: Sue Wilson, Pat James, Kath Ashworth, Anne Wilkinson, Celia Walters and Carole Dickinson</p>
2.	<p>Minutes of AGM held 20th November, 2019: In view of Covid Restrictions banning the meeting of groups the normal AGM could not be held in 2020. 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. Members were asked to read the minutes and comment on any inaccuracies. No response was received so the minutes have been ratified at this meeting as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Keith Shatwell Seconded by Alison Hoyle</p>
i	<p>Matters Arising: None</p>
3.	<p>Minutes of AGM held 18th November, 2020 via Zoom: These minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Alison Hoyle Seconded by Keith Shatwell</p>
i	<p>Matters Arising: None</p>
4.	<p>Chairperson's Report summary of Nov. 2019-2020: Jean Turner (chair) reported briefly on 2019 when she first became chairperson in November. Keith Shatwell had just finished his 3 years as chairman and it had been a busy year. The planters in Edgworth had been put in place, plans for renovation of the Chapelton Rest Garden had begun, the 4 day holiday was a success, as was the show in 2019.</p> <p>Chairperson's Report summary of Nov. 2020-2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2020 saw lockdown after only 2 meetings of the Society so subscriptions and the programme were rolled over to 2021. ➤ Group meetings were banned from March 2020 until September 2021. Committee meetings continued using Zoom which was a new experience for us. ➤ In January 2021 Phil Broughton set up monthly meetings by Zoom with willing speakers who had been booked previously. Phil spent a lot of time training members on how to use Zoom and also training the speakers as this was a new experience for them too. It enabled us to keep to the planned programme. ➤ She thanked various members for their contribution to the smooth running of the society. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The advertisers in the schedule whose payments cover the cost of printing the schedule. ○ Phil Broughton for helping everyone with Zoom and his work as treasurer. ○ Irene Spencer for providing the Newsletter during lockdown ○ Phil Broughton and Heather Dowle and volunteers for the work done with the planters in Edgworth & Chapelton. ○ As the number of planters increases, more volunteers are required to keep them watered & deadheaded.

- Plant growers, Arthur Lane Nursery, all volunteers and those who lent exhibits for the display at the plant stall event.
- Thanks to the committee, Tony Murphy, Lesley King (financial reviewer), and Martin Cox who left the committee recently after many years service and Marie Boulton and Jo Southam who left the committee in 2020.
- North Turton Parish Council, particularly Glenys Syddall and NTPC) for match funding 'Flowers in Edgworth'.
- The Spring visit was cancelled but the 4 day holiday to Scotland went ahead as lockdown had ended just days earlier. This was followed by a very pleasant evening in June when we visited Maureen Sawyer's lovely garden in Stretford.
- In September members made their own way to the new RHS Bridgewater gardens in Worsley. Our affiliation to RHS allowed free entry for 55 members.
- Because of the uncertainty regarding covid restrictions we were unable to plan for the show this year so it was cancelled. However as restrictions had eased by August we held a Plant Stall Event on what would have been Show Day. There was a display of items representing the many different classes of the Show organised and arranged by Angela Swallow, plant stall, bulb stall, herbs sold on a sale or return basis from Arthur Lane Nursery and a tombola stall.
- The committee thanked Jean for her excellent power point presentation report

5. Treasurer's Report on 2021:

The Treasurer produced a Summary Report to 30th September, 2021

Closing Balance shows:-

Cash	£	173.22
Nat.West current account	£	<u>1,711.73</u>
Total cash & Bank	£	1,884.95
Invested funds	£	50,712.35
Provisions c/f (net)		<u>-£972.50</u>
	£	51,624.80
Annual Change	£	543.28

Donations to Charity (included in figures above)

Plant/Show Event Tombola, paid to Charity £473.00

Total Membership up to 2021 AGM amounts to 218

- The Treasurer talked through his power point presentation which included bar charts showing how the investments have performed from 1st Oct. 2020-30th Sept.2021. Some charts include 2019 to highlight the impact of the abnormalities of the last 2 years on the Society.
- He began with thanks to Katie Hopkins who reviewed the accounts in 2020 and also Lesley King who reviewed the accounts in 2021. Lesley has agreed to do this again in 2022
- Expenditure continued during 2021 despite no meetings and only fees from 13 new members. A Zoom licence, speakers' fees for zoom meetings, RHS Insurance, small loss on cancelled outings, donation to St. Anne's Flower Festival, bulbs for the garden beds and the purchase of pre-wrapped cakes for meetings. All resulting in a loss of £800 over the last 2 years. We keep a healthy reserve so this is not a problem.
- As from January, 2022 entry to meetings will rise to £2.00 for members and £3.00 for non-members. Annual subscription remains the same at £3.00.
- The show in 2020 was cancelled but some costs arose from schedule preparation
- The show event in 2021 was excellent and well attended. The surplus compared well to most shows.
- The Legacy Fund originated with the Geoffrey Nuttall Bequest of £46,136 and we aim to spend it to benefit local horticulture.
 - From 2019 the planters in Edgworth have been planted seasonally by Phil Broughton, Heather Dowle, Glenys Syddall (NTPC) then maintained by volunteers. The costs were shared equally between EDHS and NTPC.
 - In 2021 we and NTPC organised planters in Chapeltown which were planted up by Myerscough College and paid for by a donor.
 - Award - Advertised in Here for You in 2020, (4 applicants)
 - Turton Tower Kitchen Garden - 2020 A rose arch and roses: 2021 replanting of large bed. Work completed and paid for most of the work.
 - St. Anne's Churchyard volunteers - Renewal of Memorial Garden, a large project, offered contribution of £250 to be paid on completion in 2022.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edgworth Guides: Small bid for bulbs for Barlow woodland and for Christmas pots for elderly. Awarded £150. • Barlow Woodland Volunteers - 85m hedgerow saplings. Awarded £673.65 for payment in 2022. <p>➤ Since 2018, £6,792. has been paid out of the Legacy fund.</p> <p>➤ Despite this it is still £420 more than the original bequest because gains (or losses) by the investment are credited to the Legacy Fund</p> <p>➤ The investment has done well despite Covid and Brexit uncertainties. This has gained £7,212 since the original investment of £46,000 in 2018 and now stands at £50,712 after having withdrawn £2500 to top up the bank account.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Financial Report will be posted on website
	Phil Broughton was thanked for the work he has done during the year.
6.	<p>Election of Officers:</p> <p>The 3 officers were all re-elected for 2022,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Chairperson - Jean Turner</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Treasurer - Phil Broughton</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Secretary - Irene Spencer</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">Proposed by - Anna Harvey</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">Seconded by - Barbara Kenny</p>
7.	<p>Election of Committee Members:</p> <p>There have been 3 resignations from the committee and the rest have all been re-elected, they are listed below.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Angela Swallow (Membership Secretary),</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Pat Whalley (Events Secretary),</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">David Spencer,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Keith Shatwell,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Sue Brohi,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Heather Dowle</p> <p>There are 3 vacancies but any new committee member will be co-opted onto the committee until they can be officially elected.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Proposed by Barbara Kenny</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Seconded by Ian Harvey</p>
8.	<p>Appointment of Reviewer for 2021 Accounts:</p> <p>The end of year accounts were reviewed by Lesley King and the Treasurer thanked her for taking on the job this year.</p> <p>She has been re-elected to review the accounts in October, 2022</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Proposed by Penney Clissold</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Seconded by Heather Dowle</p>
9.	<p>Events Secretary's Report</p> <p>Programme for 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ January 19th - History of RHS Garden Bridgewater ○ February 16th - Landscape conservation at Smithills Estate ○ March 16th - A Pruning Surgery ○ April 2nd - Visit to Harlow Carr, cyclamen show ○ April 20th - A rainbow of dahlias ○ May 7th - Spring visit to Erdigg House & Chirk Castle ○ May 18th - Evening visit to 'Old Vicarage', Astley ○ June 15th - Ponds & water gardens ○ June 26-29th - 'Gardens of Lincolnshire'

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ July 20th - CELEBRITY SPEAKER, BUNNY GUINNESS, 'From Highgrove to Mygrove' ○ August 20th - Annual Show ○ September 10th - Visit to Harewood House & Dove Cottage Garden ○ September 21st - Happy, Healthy Houseplants ○ October 19th - 10 new must-have plants ○ November 16th - AGM <p>Pat Whalley has again produced an interesting and varied programme for 2022. She was thanked for her efforts by the chairperson The full programme will be put on the website.</p>
	<p>Using the Bequest:</p> <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 persons or groups in the permitted area of the old Turton Borough Council 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 ➤ Chapelton Rest Garden will progress after the delay due to Covid restrictions.
10.	<p>Open Forum: No issues were raised</p>
11.	<p>End of Meeting: The meeting closed at 8.40pm</p>

Signed

Dated