

30 October 2017 at 7.30 pm (doors open at 7.15 pm)

**CHICHESTER ORGANIC GARDENING SOCIETY AGM
AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Adoption of minutes of last AGM
3. Matters arising
4. Adoption of Accounts
5. Election of Officers
6. Election of Committee
7. AOB

The AGM will be followed by:
The Harvest Supper

**Election of Officers
The Society has the following posts**

Position	Committee Mbr in 2016-2017	Held by in 2016 – 2017	Standing for re-election in 2017 – 2018
Chair		Vacant	
Secretary	Yes	Vacant	
Treasurer	Yes	David Scott	Yes
Membership Secretary	Yes	Stephanie Carn	Yes
Future Events		Vacancy	
Publicity	Yes	Vacancy	
Newsletter	(jointly)		
Bulk Purchase	No	Susan Maguire Pat Adams	N/A
Committee Member	Yes	Pat Alderton	Yes
Committee Member	Yes	John Bennett	No
Committee Member	Yes	Anne Bennett	Yes
Committee Members	Yes	Penelope Johnstone	Yes
	Yes	Diana Morgan	Yes

We would like more committee, and need a new Secretary; please do consider standing. There are usually three committee meetings a year.

Chichester Organic Gardening Society
Annual General Meeting 2016

Held at the Bassil Shippam Centre on Monday October 31st 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

1. Present: Committee: Pat Alderton, Stephanie Carn, Penelope Johnstone, David Scott; 21 members in all.

Apologies: Pat and Colin Evans, Anne and John Bennett, Sarah Clark, Irene Woods

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on October 26th 2016 were accepted; proposed Stephanie, seconded Terry Timblich, carried unanimously.

3. There were no matters arising.

4. Treasurer's Report: The accounts had been distributed, and David reported that this year's accounts show the positive results of the introduction of the entry charge to our meetings: door receipts come to £178. Subscriptions remain much the same, with £324 (54 memberships); this year, donations are shown separately at £183. Show sales and raffle are also up. Expenditure has remained constant, with the simpler Newsletter format meaning reduced printing costs. Infinity figures aside (they are managed separately), our balance comes to Income £835, Expenditure £699, Surplus £136; so that our funds at the end of August stood at £718. Our costs should not increase significantly in the coming year, so there is no need to increase subscriptions or meeting charges.

The accounts were accepted: proposed Gina Scott, seconded Liz Campling, passed unanimously.

5. Election of Officers: as Penelope is officially standing down, and no-one had come forward, there were two to be elected and this was done jointly: David Scott as Treasurer, Stephanie Carn as Membership Secretary. Proposed Jan Marshall, seconded Christine Timblich, and elected unanimously.

6. Election of Committee: Nina had stood down, but Diana Morgan accepted to be on the committee, which thus consisted of: Pat Alderton, Anne Bennett, John Bennett, Penelope Johnstone, Diana Morgan. Proposed Christine, seconded Gina, elected unanimously.

7. Any Other Business: Thanks were expressed to all who had helped with the stall at the Weald and Downland Countryside Show, especially Rachel and Peter.

The latest Newsletter was in September, and the next will be in April 2017. Meetings had been arranged up to May, as reported in the Newsletter, and if there is any further information to be imparted this will be by email, or posted to those members without email. Diana reported that the Facebook page is proving its worth and we have had some new people coming to meetings through this.

Terry Timblich proposed thanks to the Committee for their work, and the meeting ended at 8.0 p.m. This was followed by the Harvest Supper, with a pictorial Quiz given by Terry.

Committee's Report for 2016-2017

In **October** we started the year with the AGM, where again we heard that our finances are stable but we could do with more income, and would like more members, but do not need to increase subscriptions. The Harvest Supper, with plenty of home-made dishes, again gave us an enjoyable evening, with a pictorial quiz from Terry Timblick.

In **November** Bill Martin on "From Coal to Cucumbers" showed us archive film and gave us an insight into the pioneers who moved to Sidlesham to start market gardening. This coincided with an exhibition in the Novium about the settlements.

January 2017 was a Members' evening, with lively discussion on various topics of interest, and the comparatively small number of members attending gave everyone a chance to join in.

The **February** meeting was a hard-hitting talk from Nick Mole of Pesticides Action, on "an end to poison – why we need to rethink pesticides", and raised the subject of Pesticide-free Cities, which we hope to follow up.

March brought us Mark Wardle, the Warden of Slindon Estate, on "Slindon's Organic success" – which we explored further with a summer visit.

In **April** Julia Sander, one of our members, told us about the recent developments and plans of Grow Chichester, which includes the Bishop's Palace vegetable garden and the community Orchard.

May was the traditional Plant Swop, with a large number of interesting plants, and a good turnout of members to enjoy the Spring Fling meal, with a Quiz devised by Ben Harding.

In **September** we are starting our autumn programme, with a talk by Sarah Beard, a medical herbalist from Storrington, to introduce us to a healthy start to the season.

Visits: three this year, kindly arranged for us by Pat Alderton. On **June 12** to Cookscroft Garden in Earnley, a very impressive garden of some 5 acres created over 20 years, with a variety of styles and international plants.

On **July 3** to Slindon for a guided walk with Mark Wardle, who had described the estate and its work at a talk in March.

On **July 24** to the Barnham area to Crosslands Nursery, which specializes in Alstroemerias. Ben Cross gave us a detailed and entertaining tour of the whole enterprise, which has belonged to the family for many years and was developed from a smallholding.

In **April** we had a small stall at the Green Fair in the Assembly Rooms. A lively and interesting mix of local 'green' enterprises.

October 8-9th, Weald and Downland Autumn Countryside Fair. We took part again, and several members entered the competitions, with some success. As usual, we sold plants and produce, talked to visitors, and distributed leaflets.

We have just enough personnel to take part again **7-8th October 2017** and hope for fine weather. We are most grateful to all our helpers.

We are aware that this is our 25th year and hope that we shall see a large number of members attending the AGM and Harvest Supper at the end of October.