

GCRA committee meeting

16th October 2023

In attendance:

Carol Fraser, Rachel Hinds, Patrick Honeybone, Anne McCarthy

Apologies:

Michelle O'Toole, Mor Kandlik Eltanani

Items of business

1. AGM

- All agreed to aim for the week of 20th November for the AGM.
- All also agreed to include a question in an imminent consultation asking whether members want to run the AGM on Zoom or in-person.
- If we run the AGM in person, all preferred Stockbridge church hall as a venue (as was the case for the last few in-person AGMs). Anne and Carol will investigate booking it, in case we need it.

2. Accounts

- Anne and Benham have been conferring with Michael (as the independent examiner) to get the accounts checked ready for the AGM.

3. Gardening

- The proposal for the gardening consultation (to be ready with answers from members for the AGM) that was prepared by Patrick (incorporating questions from Carol) was discussed, slightly amended, and agreed.
- The committee will send this out ASAP.
- All agreed that, if the membership decides at the AGM that it wants to investigate changing gardeners, that a working group should be convened (made up of volunteers), to consider what to do.

4. Committee members

- As well as Michelle standing down as chair at the AGM (as already announced), Patrick will need to stand down from the shared secretary role (due to illness).
- New volunteers to stand as committee members will be requested along with the AGM information (to be sent out to members).
- All present felt that it would be best for the chair/secretary/treasurer roles to be taken by people who are currently committee members (as has been the case previously) and a discussion was held about who on the current committee might be willing to take on such roles.

5. Zoom licence

- This was discussed and it was agreed that we should continue to pay for this for another year because it allows committee members to meet easily (even when they are away from the estate). During the coming year, committee members will investigate whether a free alternative would work.