VPA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR THE YEAR 2022

The AGM will take place at **7pm on Wednesday 27 April** 2022 in **The Thomas Field Hall**, Little Gaddesden Church, Church Road, HP4 1NZ. Following the required business items, we are very pleased that Amy Moffat (Head Gardener) and Julia Bolton will be making a presentation on the Horatio's Garden at Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

Wine, nibbles, teas and coffees will be available to enjoy during the evening.

In advance of the meeting would members please advise June Abraham of any nominees to join the committee to become involved in a variety of roles to secure the future of the VPA.
The Agenda is as follows:

1. Apologies for absence

2. Adoption of the minutes from 2021 (via Zoom)

3. Election of committee members and proposals from the floor:
The following committee members are willing to continue in their present roles –

- Alastair Greene - Membership Secretary
- Stuart Buchanan-Barrow – Treasurer
- Lin Underwood – Store Manager
- Janet Stinton – General Committee Member (Events)
- June Abraham – General Committee Member (Secretary, Events)

Three more members are required in order that the committee can function satisfactorily.
All current roles can be reviewed to accommodate new members.

4. Membership (£5 per annum, per household); our dream of every household being a member

5. Overview of the accounts for the year 2021

6. Garden Store: Open Sunday 10.00 to 12noon; please support by placing orders

7. Replacement of the store roof and electrical installation

8. Shows and events; further feedback?

9. Communications: Website newsletter distribution; Instagram, Facebook, non-electronic communication needs? create archiving process with the preserved records

10. AOB and close of meeting

Talk: **Horatio's Garden**

Garden Store Report 2021/2022

- Firstly, a big thank you to all our members who have supported the store throughout the last year. Our kind volunteers who have helped man the store throughout the season and Andrew Sheard who has kindly supported the store on our website keeping it current and informative.

- Business has overall been on track, however a sometimes-challenging year with supply issues on key products like multipurpose compost being erratic at the peak growing season. Along with having to operate within the latest Covid guidelines. Again, we remained open throughout the winter, importantly keeping the local bird population well fed, as well as boosting sales!

- Overall turnover is down 3.4% but note 2020/2021 was an exceptional year due to the impact of covid. Card sales are the preferred method of payment circa 70%.

- A selection of seed potatoes and a small range vegetable seed. Both of which sold reasonably well, with the seed potatoes sales driven by the VPA Great Potato Growing Competition. However, bulbs were not supplied this year, and the store only had two general enquiries.

- Store sales are strongly reliant on composts and wild bird feed. It would be great to see a wider breadth of sales coming from some of the other products on offer. There is a great range of essential garden products, at competitive prices, providing both real value and the convenience of being local. It is really a case of use it or lose it!

- We now just look forward to seeing everyone as the new season starts, to be able to socialise a little, to continue to offer advice on a variety of garden topics, to solve your garden problems and hopefully, even offer a cup of coffee or tea. To become a place for people to meet up again.

- Trialling some elements of recycling, the repurposing plastic milk bottles using them as containers for the weighed loose product e.g. Growmore, Rosefeed. This provides a convenient pick up and go pack, which is waterproof and easy to use and store.

Membership Report 2021/2022

- Many thanks for signing up to membership for 21/22
- Membership remains strong at 196 households
- The membership income of nearly £1,000 is a greater contributor to our funds
- We continue to have affiliated membership to the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) which gives us the magazine, available to borrow from the store plus reduced entry price to the gardens which we are glad that members have used this last year.
- Membership renewals start April 1st every year so please make your payment for 2022-2023 now. It is really easy for accounting/money handling if you make a single payment online, or even better if you have a standing order set up for a £5 annual payment, 75% of our members pay this way and we really appreciate it. If you can do that please do, our details are as follows:-
- Bank of Santander
  Account name Gaddesden District Village Produce
  Sort Code 09-01-51
  Account number 48549306

➢ Events Report 2021/2022

- We were able to run three great fun events last year, plus the Great Potato Competition and the VPA Committee wishes to thank you so much for your support in donating plants and prizes, volunteer support, competing and buying!

Ollie and Chloe – Children's Class Winners

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Mandy – Adult Class Winner

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- **May Plant Sale**

- **Harvest Supper and Quiz night**

- **Winter Show**

Judge Nigel and Steward Stuart

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Multi Cup winner- Sophie

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GADDESDEN DISTRICT VILAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION ACCOUNTS
1 JANUARY 2021 TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

TRADING INCOME	**£**
Store	6,688
Subscriptions	935
Harvest Supper	1,838
Potato competition	70
Plant sale	850

TOTAL TRADING INCOME	**£10,381**

TRADING EXPENDITURE	**£**
BHGS (main supplier)	5,368
British Garden Centres (seeds etc)	405
Sum Up fee (payment card)	75
The Range (sundries)	71
Gaddesden Society	116
Potato Competition prize money	25
RHS membership	55
Post office (stamps)	18
Julia's Catering (harvest supper)	1,000
Alastair Greene (drinks for harvest supper)	112
June Abraham (bread, prizes ditto)	125
Associated Garden & Produce Soc (insurance)	42
NFU Mutual (insurance)	209
WH Smith (cash book)	20
Penguin Internet (web site)	65
Argos (ink cartridge)	39
Sainsbury (electric plug adaptor, masks)	14
LG village shop (brush)	3
Herts Garden Centre(potatoes)	16
Berkhamsted Gardeners (seeds)	232
B&M Retail (bird feeder)	7
Wilko (sticks, ties)	7
Berkhamsted Imaging (photos)	6
Metalf Home Hardware (bait)	9
Hilliers Garden Centre (compost)	15
Capital Gardens (seeds)	10
Village Hall	140

TOTAL TRADING EXPENDITURE	**£8,204**

NETT TRADING PROFIT – £ 2,177 (up £6 on last year)

ASSETS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021	£
Cash in hand in till	68
Current account – provisional	7,609
Deposit account	3,454
Stock value	3,871

TOTAL ASSETS (up£1,592 on last year)	**£15,002**

NOTES

Membership - down £83
Harvest Supper - profit £461
Plant sale - profit £837
Potato competition - profit £45
Store income - down 3.64%
No donation to good causes were made this year

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

May Plant Sale is on Sunday 22nd May

The Summer Show will be on 27th August

Harvest Supper and Quiz night will be on 1st October