

Sustainable Bishopston  
Annual General Meeting  
held on 14.1.2015  
in the new Golden Hill Straw Bale House

Minutes

Attendees:

Rupert Higgins - Chair  
Steve Onyett - Secretary  
Sarah Thomson - Treasurer  
Martin Fodor  
Gavin Spittlehouse  
Ian Baker  
Deborah Evans  
Jonathan Jenkins  
Jamie Carstairs  
Shannon Smith (from Horfield Community Orchard)

Apologies:

Alison Murphy

The Chair, Rupert Higgins, welcomed the attendees and noted that this is the first meeting in the Golden Hill Community garden's new straw bale building. It is also the first time our hot drinks have been heated by solar power. The room is extremely cosy, even on a cold and wet January evening.

1. The minutes from the AGM held on 7.10.2013 were approved.
2. Secretary's report (attached) - presented by Steve Onyett.
3. Treasurer's report (attached) - presented by Sarah Thomson
4. Election of officers:

Chair - Rupert Higgins, proposed Steve Onyett, seconded Gavin Spittlehouse  
Hon Treasurer - Sarah Thomson - proposed Rupert Higgins, seconded Gavin Spittlehouse  
Hon Secretary - Steve is a very busy man and is stepping down from his role as Secretary. He was thanked for his work during the year. Unfortunately, no-one else stepped up to take on this role so Steve agreed to carry on until a successor is found. He has ideas for a replacement.

The election of officers was unopposed.

5. Any Other Business

- a) Noticeboards - Sarah and Gavin have keys to both of the noticeboards on the Gloucester Road and notices are changed regularly and when required. Mandy Leivers at Bristol Zoo supplies the bulk of the events notices and local choirs and fitness groups advertise

Sarah reported that when the board by Tesco was broken (perspex caved inwards), two kind lads from a signage company spent 10 minutes fixing it, free of charge. The other noticeboard (outside the Salvation Army charity shop) has stickers on it which are hard to remove. Someone suggested lighter fuel is a good way of removing the glue.

- b) Martin Fodor reported on his “homes fit for the future” trail project around Bishopston. Martin has found someone to help him move it on as he is now a busy Green Party Councillor. The project still needs design and mapping work. He could pay a small amount for this out of the grant received (grant is £500). He asked Sarah Thomson to chase Andrew McGrath for the extra £100 which had been agreed.
- c) Possible future events - There was discussion about linking in with another event, during European Green Capital year, such as the Redland May Fair (which is part of the “Our Neighbourhood festival”), the Golden Hill Spring gathering or a HOCO event. Rupert said he might be able to do a guided walk about moths.
- d) The Bristol Energy Network was discussed. We could join this at no cost to us and take turns to attend meetings and events.