

Bandstand Beds Association Annual General Meeting Tuesday 20 February 2018 – 6.30 Bread & Roses

Present: David Dandridge, Diana Linskey, Nigel Haselden, Liz David, Marion Vray, Sarah Yandell, Dr Iain Boulton (Lambeth officer), Eileen Hogan, Ged Ooloff, Teresa Isreal.

Item 1 – Welcome, Introduction and Apologies

Apologies: Fionnuala Barrett, Jo Yeomans, Jeff Clark, Rosa O’Sullivan, Kevin Crook (LBL lead officer for Clapham Common), Olivia Brajterman, John Cross, Anne-Marie Logan, Doug Barber Joanna Reynolds and Linda Bray.

Item 2 – Minutes 2017 AGM

Agreed

Item 3 – Chair’s Report

The Chair’s report was tabled, and David talked through it. Items covered...

- Bandstand Beds Association (BBA) is an expanding organisation
- Membership has increased since last year as has our engagement with the local community
- BBA serves to bring people together as a successful community group should, with a focus on diversity, inclusivity and social cohesion
- BBA will be running gardening workshops once a month until October
- The Spinney Beds opposite the children’s playground will now be called the Fruit Beds to avoid confusion with The Spinney nursery’s garden, also on the Common
- There was some discussion of BBA’s presence throughout the common and Iain suggested that a proper digital map of the Common be done to show where are growing sites are. Agreed.

Thanks were given to David for an excellent Chair’s report.

Item 4 – Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurer’s report was tabled, and Diana presented it. Items of note...

- Membership had increased greatly, donations totalled £2,900 (one anonymous donor gave a generous £500)
- Substantial grant income. And money in form for winning the Capital Growth’s Urban Harvest photo competition, plus a winner in LBL Blooming Lambeth competition
- £3,400 receipts came in from sales of our produce and chutneys, preserves etc
- The new paths were a £5,000 project (£1,000 from Lambeth)
- Income increased because of the numbers attending events.

Thanks were given to Diana for an excellent report.

Item 5 – Election of Officers and Committee

The Chair, David, was re-elected. The Treasurer, Diana, was re-elected. Nominations for Secretary: Marion was proposed and elected (post not to include social media). John has offered to continue as Membership Secretary, agreed. Other Committee members elected: Iain (will support and advise any

new committee members), Nigel, Eileen, Liz (lead on Older People's Monday Gardening), Fionnuala (BBA community representative for CCMAC – job-shared with Marion), Sarah. David proposed that Jo and Geoff should also be on the committee if they are prepared to do it. Agreed.

Item 6 – New Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) Constitution

David introduced. The draft constitution was agreed, with some changes...

Section: 3 Objects

- Change (2) to read: 'network with other food projects and initiatives to build food resilience
- Change (3) to read: 'promote the benefits of growing crops in order to further the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of local residents'

Changes agreed.

Item 7 – Future Programme

- a) Workshops – the two big new beds purchased with Tesco Bags of Help funding will be used by the workshop facilitator to demonstrate gardening skills through the growing season.
- b) Older people's session will start when the weather is warmer – towards the end of April or May. Liz, Eileen and David will coordinate the sessions which may incorporate lunch on some occasions. Iain mentioned that funding streams may be available through LBL as this fits in with the council's wellbeing priorities.
Action point: Iain will investigate.
- c) Groundwork *Small Change Big Difference* – four workshops dealing with food waste and sustainability are planned. The first of these is on 21 April which is also Capital Growth Big Dig
- d) A BBA WhatsApp group has now been set up
- e) There's now a WhatsApp group. 21 April is also the Big Dig.
- f) Common People event – now 9 June. Excellent opportunity to raise our profile and funds by sale of produce etc. We will be programming the performers for the Bandstand – diversity is key. Marion offered help – other volunteers needed.
- g) We will take part in the This is Clapham's annual fete in the Old Town on Saturday 1 September. Nigel noted work on the site of the demolished toilet block should have been completed by then. This event is on the same day as Lambeth's History Fair being held at Omnibus. Iain offered to conduct a walk around the sites of the WW2 allotments. Agreed.
- h) Autumn Feast will be on 22 September to tie in with Capital Growth's Urban Harvest.
- i) BBA is one of the partners working on CCMAC's Colour Your Common wildflower meadow. The launch event will be held in our community garden on Saturday 3 March. In the following weeks there will be lots of prep work taking place on the site of the meadow. Lots of volunteers will be needed.

Item 8 – AOB

- Diana asked if there were any other suggestions for the year's programme, eg last summer Will & Conor ran a Supper Club.
- Ideas – stag beetle and bee workshop Iain will run. Iain also offered to run bat walk, and it was suggested that this could take place one evening after a picnic in the garden.
- David raised fundraising, ie for a path in the polytunnel and to help with the drainage in the area outside. We have had a quote for just over £5,000 for hoggins by the company that did the other pathways. It was suggested that slabs might be cheaper – something to be investigated.
- Nigel suggested a Project Bank for the use of funds raised, at present this would include.
 - Paths
 - Additional kitchen fittings & equipment
 - Workshops
 - Composting toilet
- On fundraising, help is still needed with the applications/form filling. Any offers?
- 1. Green Waste Site (GWS)– the original plan for the rest of this area to be upgraded as a properly functioning composting site seem to have been put on hold. This led to discussion as to whether BBA might have more involvement in the future plans for the running of the GWS. It was agreed that a meeting with Kevin Crook, Nigel (LBL Neighbourhood Lead Councillor), Iain, David should be set up to discuss options moving forward.

Action point: Nigel, Iain and David to set up a meeting date asap.
- Ian suggested BB should enter for the Green Flag Award in 2019.
- It was proposed that one of our beds at the Bandstand should be turned into a sensory herb bed, with an invitation for one of our members to design and lead on this.