**General meeting May 15th 2017**

Present Paul, Mick, Howarth, Rachel, Kathleen and Tommy

Apols Garry

Howarth chairing

**Water**

IBC’s have been delivered to Alistair. The trailer has a puncture so he can’t take to field. If not there by next Monday Mick and grower will go to Alistair’s to see if can do something to action this.

**Finance**

No financial update as Garry not here.

**Growers group** – we have appointed 2 growers as contractors, funded by Bright Ideas, and they started today. So growers group agreed to plough extra land on the field, which has been done. Also agreed to get a contractor to flail the field. This has also been done.

The plan to extend the growing is to plant 75kg of sarpo miro potatoes to fill the spaces in plot 4 and polytunnel area. This will be done on Monday 22nd May. Winter squashes will be planted in most of the new land, over black plastic. They are saleable and store well, however we will need to find somewhere to store them. The rest of the space will be planted with bulb fennel, red cabbage, sprouts and psb. Mick will ask Star to grow the modules for all. Agreed to grow more leeks to infill on the leek and onion bed. (R and H to do modules). Maybe we should have a pumpkin day to harvest? But they won’t be lantern pumpkins.

Ian will drive our tractor to get the potato planter on Wednesday. Ian will bring link box to go tractor to take the manure from the stables.

Can mick ask Ian if he has a machine to dig over the plots before planting?

**Building**

Howarth has got another quote for cladding, includes insulation roof and around container - £15,000 plus vat. Which is a lot more than the previous quote. To avoid condensation we do need good insulation on the container.(fibreglass truck bodies, this is not so important, but they have other issues. We do have some insulation from the builders, best to have insulation on the roof at least.

For planning permission – need to complete form and a drawing – Howarth has completed a section of planning permission form related to building. Howarth to send Paul a drawing. Ask for a different quote for only hard core under the container, the track and gate. We will need 3 quotes, Howarth to go back to people who have quoted so far. Paul has to have the planning permission (permitted use) before he can apply to Awards for All. So it could be 30 days for planning permission and 10 weeks for Awards for All decision and 4 months before get the money. So if apply for planning permission by 1st June might have decision from Awards from all by 18th September. Mick to get 3 quotes for the container.

Greggs environment fund for composting toilet. They were positive when Paul met them at funding conference. Paul will go ahead and apply.

Ideas for the use of the soil dug out for the hard core are to put a ramp up to the composting toilet instead of steps and to build a circle to enclose a pond or to build a shelter belt or to put it on the track.

**NT meeting about the garden** – Rachel fed back. NT are taking the repair of the hall out of the project. They are pressing ahead with the new design and the café and are taking their options to regional and national NT committees for the money and approval. Still working on Spring 19 as the start of build in garden, but they might have to do some things in autumn 18 that might affect us. This was not very clear in the meeting. NT will organise some sessions for members to view the planting plans of the new design.

**Marketing and consultation**

Rachel and Paul feedback from meeting with Michelle and Lyn. Ed from NT are happy for us to have a sandwich board and a semi-permanent board attached to the outlets in market square. He will need to see the design beforehand. Mick to talk to bakers to ask if they can look after our shelves / money. Ed happy for us and Alistair to take over Janet’s space but he won’t give it to us rent free. Claire would like to take the unit over for the kitchen.

Leaflet – if technically correct then meeting agree the leaflet Lyn had prepared could go ahead. Rachel will give Lyn her feedback. Mick is applying for £300 for a leaflet from the council. He has asked Steve Pardew, a graphic designer to give us a quote for design and printing. Agreed prize draw idea for 4 months running. Agreed design for jute bags will be simple logo plus website Facebook and email.

Membership work, the Bright Ideas bid included a workshop with members about being a community business. We will aim for Sept/Oct for this, Debbie from locality will run the session. Half page ads in local directories – Michelle and Lyn will organise this.

Kathleen suggested using the Halloween event as a major marketing push as it was very busy last year.

**Contract** – Rachel prepared the contract and sent round but needs feedback. Mick to have a look at it and confirm if happy and give it to them on Monday.

**Next meeting**

General meeting 29 june 7.30 at pack horse – Rachel to invite Julie from NT.

Social on 30th June from 5pm in walled garden.