



**Churchill Gardens Community Association  
General Meeting | Tuesday 5th September 2023 | 6-7:30pm  
Churchill Gardens Hub**

**1. Apologies.**

**Present:** Kelly Longrigg (Chair), Jack Maguire (Vice Chair), Adam Playfair (Treasurer), Nick Coram (Committee Member), Katerina Svetlikova (Committee Member), Ralph Grundy (Committee Member)

**Apologies:** Zoe Keeping (Secretary), Sophie Pope (Committee Member), Sammy Davies (Committee Member)

**2. Treasurer's Report.**

No report as such – same balance as previous meeting. However, Adam raised the fact the Zoe has been funding the website and hosting from her own money for the last year to the amount of approximately £264. Adam suggested that we should reimburse Zoe for this, and this was supported by all.

**3. Updates from BCP Council**

Kelly received an email from Cllr Patrick Canavan, with updates from Martin Whitchurch at BCP Council on the key issues that we have raised as CGCA. BCP Council are keen to ensure that the work of the Aspire Project is not lost, now that the project has come to an end. They are keen to support on-going activities and the structure of the park as much as possible – however they are not clear on what exactly this means, or how this will happen.

- **Café**

There is a current licence in place for Coastline Vineyard Church to manage the café. This is extended until such a time as a new lease is confirmed. Procurement at BCP Council are currently still working on the final version of the tender document and this will be shared with stakeholders when complete. BCP Council state that the tender will be based upon a quality offering to support the park, its users and the community as a whole. The Council have said that they seek best value through a tenant who can maintain the building and deliver on community benefits. BCP Council

have met with Coastline Vineyard Church and explained the new proposed lease with them, and they expect them to tender. BCP Council have also stated that they will refresh conversations with CGCA once the final tender document is ready.

- **Grow zone**

Volunteers have access to keys for the storage and the arrangement with Grounded Community has now expired. BCP Council will be discussing this with volunteers, whilst looking to a way to ensure the space is still managed. BCP Council representatives believe that the growing currently looks good, and see it as a positive feature of the park. They have stated that they will be making some amendments to the fencing to either remove some sections, or increase robustness of others.

- **Former café/old play hut.**

The old building is to be demolished in October. BCP Council state that this is in line with the Planning Condition that stated the old building should be removed within 3 months of the new building opening. This deadline was not met; however Planning Services do require this condition to be fulfilled and it accords with the masterplan vision for the whole site. There is no current EPC certificate for the building meaning it cannot be let or used. BCP Council have stated that they will communicate details of the demolition with stakeholders and park users near to the time, once a specific date is set and confirmed. BCP Council state that it has taken 6 months this year to bring SSE to discussions to disconnect the electrical supply and they are still waiting for the actual works to take place, despite an order being in place for 2 months.

#### **4. Concerns regarding fencing in Grow Zone**

Concerns raised by many members of the committee regarding the ongoing danger posed to park users by the damaged fence around the grow zone. Nick and Ralph pointed out that the fence had been 'fixed' several times, but had been broken and damaged again within hours. This was mainly due to the fact that the fence is of poor quality, simply being wire that is stapled to wooden posts. Kelly reported the fence to BCP Council on their website/portal, and also contacted Wilbert, Jack and Chris at BCP Council with photos of the dangerous sections and a request for it to either be upgraded or removed, and has of yet received no reply, either from the report on the website, or from BCP Council staff.

#### **5. Sharing the Load**

Kelly requested that committee members take on a responsibility that they will report back on in each meeting. Members agreed to the following:

Kelly – Fundraising and funding applications.

Ralph and Jack – Fly tipping/bins.

Ralph – Will keep tabs on the Grow Zone upkeep etc.

Jack and Katerina - Street Art and arts funding for projects within the park..

Adam – Safety/security and storage of documents and online sharing of documents.

## **6. AOB**

Discussion on member activities that could bring the community together. Suggestions included leaf sweeping, a litter pick etc. These can be discussed at the next members meeting in order to gain volunteers and encourage members to join and get involved.

## **7. Next member meeting:**

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September.