*Minutes of Committee Meeting held on*

 *Monday 8th July at The Polytunnel, Rattray Community Garden*

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| ***1***  | **Those present: Bob Brawn, Cathy Doe,, Jan McHugh, Morag Reid, Jean Smith, Hazel and Bruce Robertson, William Wilson.** |  |  |  |
| ***2*** | **Apologies from**: Pat Lumsden, Cllr Caroline Shiers and Avril Wilson |  |  |  |
| ***3.***  | **Minutes of last Meeting**. Approved: Jean Smith Seconded: Hazel Robertson |  |  |  |
| *4.**5.* *6.**7.* | Matters Arising:The Mushroom Trust have granted us £2500 for The Meeting Place for garden supplies. This could possibly cover the raised beds and some replanting although there are some plants worth saving already there.Elm Drive: Now poppies have almost died down the area will be cut and strimmed in readiness for work to begin in the very near future. Tayside Contracts to be contacted with regard to materials required.Coronation Corner: Paths to be treated with vinegar based weed killer in the next week.Treasurer’s ReportWe have £9408 in the Bank. There are still 56 invoices for the hanging baskets to be paid. Sponsorship for the baskets amounted to £542.00Outgoings: £510 to DG Garden Repairs for hanging the baskets£194 to Strattons for parts for the ATV£425 for servicing and repairing ATVPlant Sale raised £535 plus another £170 was raised at the Community Garden Open Day. Some discussion took place on whether we hold the Plant Sale a little earlier in the year as people appear to want bedding plants more than anything. We could order our plants earlier and more of them if we wanted to go down this route.Small stickers to be researched in the new Blairgowrie and Rattray in Bloom logo to give to shopkeepers.Tasks and Priorities ListA new format was handed out for consideration. A shortened version with dates on allowing us to see when we last attended to a bed or area and how often . This was done after the mention of a Whats App page for the volunteers so they could say if they wanted to go out somewhere when it suited them and invite others to join them. Some discussion took place as to how this would work and it was decided to trial this and Hazel will set it up. Cathy asked that she be left off the group as is involved in a number of Whats App groups already.The new format for the Tasks and Priorities List was agreed and will be sent separately as usual.AOB:Balmoral Road Containers:Four new containers are to be purchase for Balmoral Road corner. It was suggested that we put perrenials in them rather than bedding plants as the small plants can’t be seen and the way ahead is to plant more sustainable plants around the Town. It was also suggested we decrease the amount of baskets in the future and add a couple of more containers in the Town as they make a better show . Take Mitchells Corner as an example. However, watering must be a consideration as we are struggling to water sufficiently now and this has not been a hot summer so far. Also we have invested a lot of money in the reservoir baskets which again has to be considered. It was agreed to trial this at Balmoral Road containers and revisit this proposal later in the year.Storage:The new shed is now in situ and in use. A thank you note will be send to Mick who kindly donated the shed to us.The building work is ongoing and hopefully we will have a toilet in the near future.Applications:An application has gone in to the Co-op for The Meeting Place but if successful the money will not be paid out until November 25. It would be a share of £6000.Keith Reid had kindly passed on an email about the Helping Hand Project which is run by Perth and Kinross to assist a community based project providing materials and labour free of charge for a week to refurbish or construct a community project in need of assistance. A meeting is to be held in Perth on 17th July between 3 – 4.30pm or 6.30 – 8.00pm to learn more about it. Someone form Blairgowrie and Rattray in Bloom will attend as this could solve our problems with The Meeting Place.Thanks to Keith for this information.Compost:The Tractor will be requested so that we can turn over the compost beds. Compost can then be bagged up to allow us to load up when we are weeding at a site and use the compost as mulch. All sites are badly in need of mulching . We could also get some compost from the Council if needed. There were mixed views on the quality of the Council compost but it can be considered if required.A reversing camera has been bought for the ATV and there are now two hose reels fitted.Date of Next Meeting: Monday 12th August at the Polytunnel. Rattray Community Garden. |  WWWWCDHRWWCDBRCDWWWW |  |  |