

RHS Committee Meeting Agenda

Date/Time: Tuesday, 6 January 2026, 8:00 PM

Location: Julia's house

Attendees: Julia Valentine, Dominic Furlong, Gary Jenkins, Emmanuel Valentine, Robyn Summers-Emler

Apologies: Chris Paul, Stefania Rosso

Notes

- Approval of AGM Minutes: Check on the minutes from the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
 - Stefania will provide for next time.
- Upcoming in June Round Hill Open Gardens, South and South East in Bloom, Brighton & Hove Community Garden Network Open Days & Trail.
 - Proposal submitted and received 4th highest positive comments out of ~900 submissions
 - Focused on nature improvement corridor from Sylvan Hall along Richmond Road and parallel to the historic laundry drying gardens
 - Incorporated trees, birds, and pollinators based on stakeholder input
 - GDPR concerns raised about public visibility of commenter names on council website
 - Complained to council about councillors submitting their own proposals while judging others
 - Next phase: Council evaluation for feasibility (1 month), then public voting from 9 February
 - Positive feedback from CPRE Sussex and tree officer Jen Eneke
 - Two groups approached about pocket parks: Helen (Ladysmith Road) and Veryan (Kemptown planters)
 - Across June: Community garden network trail – funding application for trail map submitted to B&H Buses
 - Trying to get all the garden events to coincide so that the RH is framed in the best light for the S&SE In Bloom competition
- Planning application request that has come through from Richmond Road.
 - Richmond Road planning application requires review by 21st January deadline
 - Minor front modifications: PVC heritage-style windows, loft windows
 - Rear dormer addition raises potential conservation area concerns
 - Need Michael's guidance on society's position
- Update on Veolia at Hollingdean.
 - Waiting for Cllr Tim Rowkins to come back with more info
 - Local democracy reporter, Sarah Booker-Lewis, writing an article.
- Upcoming events.
 - June 2025 coordination planned:
 - Round Hill open gardens
 - Brighton Hove Community Garden Network trail
 - South & Southeast in Bloom competition
 - Street play scheduled for May 2025

- Plant sale component to fund community planters
 - Need handover meeting with Laura Kate
- Food waste bins rollout by March 2025 (statutory deadline)
- Reporter.
 - Promote street play in May, Gardens in June
 - Write an article about recycling remind people of what they can and can't recycle, along with food waste bin update
- Any Other Business (AOB).
 - Request from Upper Lewes Road to discuss road safety - how to respond
 - Council prioritises traffic flow over safety measures
 - Assessment system requires accidents/deaths for priority ranking
 - Previous Round Hill assessments ranked 39-40 out of 100, so low-priority relative to other spots in the city
 - Air quality issues: Brighton among UK's most polluted cities (January 2024)
 - Round Hill on edge of "red zone" for nitrous oxide levels
 - Andrea's gardening tools now in the tool shed behind the CGL building; his plants collected for putting in community planters in spring.
 - Italian gardener Andrea donated £200+ worth of tools and plants before returning to Italy
 - Equipment stored in CDL community shed
 - Additional plants available at his allotment until 10th January
 - Proposed and agreed £100 payment to Andrea's GoFundMe for donated materials (taken from greening budget)
 - Carol singing money raised - Dominic following up with Rachel

Actions:

- Julia to ask Michael about planning application for Richmond Road
- Chris to submit a safety assessment request for Upper Lewes Road re: road safety
- Dominic to give Gary Andrea's bank details
- Emmanuel to get the Reporter started
- Stefania to send round minutes of AGM
- Robyn to set up time with Laura-Kate to discuss May Street Play and confirm date for next meeting

Next meeting:

3rd February, 8pm
Julia's House