HARTEST & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on November 1st 2021 at 7.35 pm in the Institute Hall, Hartest.

The Chair, Roger Quince, welcomed all those present and thanked them for attending.

(21 members were recorded as present and there were 8 apologies.)

**Minutes**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting for November 4th 2019 were agreed as a true record.

**Matters Arising**

None.

**Treasurers Report**

We are currently without a Treasurer, but the Secretary has been doing the Accounts, copies of the end of year are attached and are available online. The current holding is £266.50 in the bank, and £309.76 cash, totalling £576.26. We would like this to be about £1000, to give a buffer in case of a poor Plant Sale. The Sale this year was the best ever, with an income of £586.40, but the Show had cost a net £231.53. This is due to engraving the trophies, hire of the hall and the judges lunch. Meetings generally pay for themselves, with the raffle.

**Report on Speakers**

The Programme for 2022 had been circulated. Some of the speakers that had been due to visit us in 2020 and early 2021 have been rebooked for next year, but some were no longer available. The 2022 programme has a good mix of general talks and some on specific plants. Two interesting visits have been arranged for June and July. Jill Armstrong told the meeting that now that the Institute has Broadband, it has opened up the possibility of booking speakers from further away to give Zoom talks.

**Report from the Chair**

The Chairman said it had been an odd year, the highlight being the Plant Sale, which was run on the Green, and in conjuction with the Church, who did the refreshments. It was a success both financially, and because more people came, and stayed. It couldn’t have happened without the loan of the marquee from Ralph Carpenter. It is hoped to repeat it in 2022, but the Institute has also been booked as a back up. We will try to co-ordinate the plants, so there are more of the vegetables we were short of this year.

The only negative had been the low turnout for meetings since August, despite some excellent speakers. He had been speaking to the Chair of Cavendish club, who are getting 35 members out of 45 attending, ours has been about 20 out of 50.

The Chairman thanked all his colleagues on the Committee for their hard work.

**Committee Appointments**

The current committee were happy to continue for another year, there were no objections to them being re-elected. A new Treasurer is needed, and the Chairman said that any other members are welcome to join.

**Any Other Business**

There will be no December meeting this year.

It was decided to print programmes to circulate to subscribers of Contact in Hartest, Boxted, Somerton and Stanstead again, to hopefully find some new members.

Meeting closed at 7.55pm and was followed by a talk from Simon De Laat on the East Anglian Air Ambulance. The proceeds of the raffle were donated to the service.