

## Rusland Valley Horticultural Society

### Minutes of Meeting held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at 8:15pm

24 Members were in attendance. 14 Members sent apologies.

The Chairman, Mr John Watson, welcomed everyone present to the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting 16<sup>th</sup> September 2011 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### Matters arising

##### 1. Showfield Update–

GWS has not been able to approve any of the minutes that have been provided by Natural England (NE) after the public meeting. GWS stated that this was disappointing. A consultation group had been set up at the public meeting to represent the local community and John Redgate from NE had asked GWS if a meeting could be set up between NE and the group to discuss next actions in Dec 2011 however GWS confirmed that this was unlikely to take place until Jan 12. (MA)

##### 2. Stan Brownlee Memorial Fund application –

Caroline Peet confirmed that an amount of £200 had been agreed for Hannah Ireland from the Stan Brownlee Memorial Fund

##### 3. Use of the Marquee on the weekend of 27<sup>th</sup> July 2012

The big marquee will be up in the show field and free on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> / Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July. Tom Watson (TW) asked the committee to think about any fund raising ideas that could make use of the marquee whilst it is up and not in use. TW confirmed that this was now in hand

##### 4. Lost Property – Metal Jug

Maureen Boyren confirmed that an owner has now been found

#### Correspondence

No correspondence had been received

#### Feedback on the 2011 Show

1. **Class 161** - Susan King asked if we could separate class 161 and have one class for handwriting and another for the content. **It was agreed that we should stick with the class as it is and use the sub committee meeting to agree if a new class should be added.**

2. **Wrestling** - Dave Higgs had commented that the wrestling wasn't clear for people to see. GWS suggested that we could move the position but would they still be keen on coming if we did that. **It was agreed that we need to be more careful on how we organise the ring**

3. **Sunflower Competition** - GW suggested that in relation to the sunflower competition perhaps this should be changed so it is vase of sunflowers. There was only one entry this year and this might be away of increasing numbers. **It**

was agreed that we should give it a try and it should be moved from the Garden Competition and it would become class 104.

**4. Section 14 – Sticks** - GW asked if the committee would reconsider giving rosettes instead of prize money for Section 14 - Sticks as its difficult attaching prize cards. It was agreed that the secretary should price up some smaller rosette and present back to the committee so that a decision could be made. The secretary confirmed that we can get smaller rosettes and that they will cost 70p each – circa £15 for the whole section. It was agreed that we should go with this option. The secretary to bring along to the next meeting an example of the rosette (MA)

**5. Under 12 years** – Margaret Dryden asked if an Animal Made from Fruit & Veg could be added to this section. It was agreed that we should do this.

**6. Sponsorship of different classes** – GW asked if we should consider looking at companies that might sponsor a class to help reduce costs. It was agreed that this was a good idea but would need to have everything agreed and ready by March ready for Schedule printing. It was agreed that we could start with the sports classes and see if we can find any companies interested (MA)

**Under 8 years** – MB suggested an under 8 years cookery class as it is difficult for youngsters to compete with under 16. It was agreed that we should do this

**Squares** – MB commented that the square competition is not making sufficient money for the quality of the prizes that are donated and that we need to think about how we sell more. GWS suggested that we put it on a barrow that can be pushed about the showfield and give it a bit more razzmatazz. It was agreed that we should consider this as an option. It was agreed that we should make it mobile, better display the prizes and promote it more over the tannoy

TW asked if we should do something special in 2012 as it was Olympic year to help promote the show and help get extra people to attend the show. It was agreed that we should discuss at the sports committee meeting

#### **AOB**

Maureen Boyren has been approached by Lowick Show to hire the vases. It was agreed this was ok and to ask for £10 donation.

Amy Hool suggested that we approach Daniel Hire Solutions for toilets. The secretary agreed that he would approach him for a price and also check out the quality of hit toilets (MA).

It was agreed that the meeting dates for the coming year would be

10<sup>th</sup> Feb,

1<sup>st</sup> Jun,

27<sup>th</sup> July,

14<sup>th</sup> Sep,

23<sup>rd</sup> Nov Committee meeting and AGM

Next Meeting to be held at 7.30pm Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012 in Rusland Reading Rooms.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9:05pm

Signed ..... Mr J. Watson, Chairman    Date .....