

BRIMPSFIELD & MID-COTSWOLD GARDEN SOCIETY

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held on 2nd December 2025 at Mayhem, Brimpsfield; rescheduled from 25th November

Present: Judith Cheyney, Frances Ellery, Roger Lock, Martin Phillips

1. Apologies

Catherine Morris, who was unwell.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the previous (23rd September) meeting were approved; matters arising would be discussed under the agenda headings. Roger Lock suggested that the minutes be posted on the village website, and this was agreed.

3. Treasurer's Report

Martin Phillips reported that the Society had £2,925 in the deposit account and £2,150 in the current account. About £170 (the proceeds of the charity auction at the Show) would be sent to the Brockworth Hedgehog Rescue soon. Some additional invoices relating to the Show had come in since the last meeting, so the Show had in fact made a loss (which was to be expected), not a profit as reported at the last meeting.

The state of the Society's finances meant that the summer event (see item 6 below) would not need to make a profit.

4. Coffee Morning 6th December

The speaker for the next meeting had cancelled at short notice for family reasons. Catherine Morris had suggested that we show a YouTube video and Frances Ellery offered to produce a seasonal quiz, inviting members to bring a flower from their garden for others to identify. Martin Phillips would work out the technology for the videos. Judith Cheyney would make presentations to the cake-makers as previously agreed.

5. Future Talks

Roger Umpelby had been booked to speak on 'Pests and Diseases of Fruit' for the March meeting. Judith had booked the following for 2026-27:

October 2026: Kevin Alviti on Unusual Fruit and Vegetables

November 2026: David Cropp on New Plants for Old (rebooked from March 2025)

December 2026: Dr M Jones on Mistletoe: Fact, Myth and Legend

February 2027: Will Scott on Tool Sharpening for the Terrified (rebooked from Dec 2025)

March 2027: still to be arranged.

6. Summer Event

It had been agreed that we should pause the Open Gardens event and replace it with a version of the Garden Party. In the past, the Garden Party was used to raise funds for the Society, but now that membership subscriptions were so much higher, that would no longer be necessary. It needed to be a summer afternoon or evening event with the Village Hall as (at least) a wet/cold weather

alternative or base. Judith Cheyney suggested an afternoon tea (by some other name!) in the hall, on the lines of the Open Gardens refreshments, perhaps with some form of side entertainment / stalls etc, and perhaps involving a member's garden as well. It was agreed to brainstorm ideas in the next few months.

ACTION: ALL

7. Promoting the Society

Roger Lock suggested ways in which we might promote the Society more widely, including holding one of our coffee mornings in another of our 'Mid-Cotswold' villages (it was agreed to start with Birdlip). We should watch out for fetes or similar events in other villages where we might look to take a stall. Frances Ellery would forward numbers of members in the various areas.

ACTION: Frances Ellery

It was noted that we should decide on a new charity to support; Judith would ask members for suggestions.

8. AOB

None.

9. Date of next meeting: The next meeting would be on Tuesday 13th January 2026 at Mayhem.