

## COCA Core January 11<sup>th</sup> 2016

present: Stuart, Anthony, Dave T, Rosie Alderwick, Gill, Caz  
apologies : Gerald, Nathan, Gabrielle

**Business:** Rosie Alderwick was co-opted onto the Core Committee until the next AGM

**Minutes of last meeting :** were accepted.

### **Finance:**

- No 1 account still stands over £5K and No 2 account at £240. Income in December still exceeded outgoings by about £250, despite buying in veg every week.
- We are still getting a monthly grant of £100 from Vegware, for which we are very grateful. But it should probably have stopped in October. Dave T had emailed them about it, but no response.
- Utility (water, gas and electric) payments to Caerhys : we were paying a nominal £50 per month, but meter readings indicate the true sum is nearer £25 per month. Payments for diesel not conclusive. AB to mail Gerald to ask for clarification of costs. Meanwhile pay £25 per month towards diesel costs. ACTION AB and GM

### **Cartref COCA :**

- extra lime coat was put on before Xmas so it is weatherproof for now. Needs 2 more outer coats lime and another coat inside. Did not employ outside contractors after all, but volunteers from membership saved us £800. Funding still very tight for finishing it off. Estimate £1000 for electrics plus timber for doors and internal fittings. No action this month.

### **Growers report :**

- continuing wet wet weather through Xmas and January means our own potatoes are still in the ground. Leeks are starting to look sick too. Crops in polytunnels growing slowly due to low light levels and short days. Almost no cabbages left in field, and even the brussel sprouts and kale have been a dead loss this year. Very sorry.
- Have decided to grow for 75 members this season.
- seeds have been ordered and first sowings for 2016 already made in propagation area.
- would like permission to buy more soil warming cables to double propagation bench.. AGREED
- Propose that lime is applied to field after a soil test ACTION CM to ask GM
- The soil micro-nutrients tests and information from last year should be investigated again ACTION GL
- other extra expenses requested : to buy more rolls black plastic and about 50 more plug trays. ACTION CM and GL to cost items.

### **Membership :**

- Nathan is taking on the role whilst Dave Livingstion is away to end February. Still need to find someone to take over the role permanently.

### **EVS volunteers :**

- the Erasmus funding has finally come through so we will be getting the two from February for 10 months. Hugo and Agnes will arrive Feb 6<sup>th</sup>. Dave T is prime contact.
- training programme has been proposed (GL)
- lower caravan is to be their permanent home ... not to be shared with other vols. Its condition will be checked and improved ACTION GL, DT,

### **Harvest and Distribution :**

- no report

### **Publicity and recruitment :**

- photo competition : a few entries which will be uploaded to website for selection
- brochure : Dave T has found the existing brochure file and has the software to update it, to include the hubs and prices including delivery to hubs. ACTION DT

### **Core Group :**

- the mailing list needs to be updated

ACTION SJ

**Events :**

- pre-Xmas lunch in early December had about 24 people at The court House. It covered its costs, and was a success.
- Burns ight Supper is planned for January 30<sup>th</sup> at Llanrhian to hopefully raise money for Cartref
- other events in a planned calendar should be linked to the seasons.
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ACTION : GL and RA

**AOB :** GM and DT went to Oxford Real Farming Conference. Over 600 people attending, and the CSA movement is growing fast. DT gave a talk and video on the Cartref project ... well received He could give the talk to places round the area here? To promote COCA?

ACTION? DT

**NEXT MEETING THURSDAY FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup> AT CAERHYS 7PM FOR 7.15 START.**