

MAISEMORE GARDENS LIMITED

Registered in England, No.714547

Dear members

The night of May 10th brought a stunning natural spectacle to the skies above Maisemore Gardens – here is a snapshot of the display. Keep an eye out for a possible return in early June.



AGM Update

We had 31 properties represented at the AGM, an encouraging level of support. The meeting endorsed the accounts and the various reports prepared by committee members, after discussion and clarification in some cases.

Lester Korzilius retired from the COM due to pressure of work and was thanked by the Chair for his year on the committee. Judith Morgan was elected to become a director and Martin Gebbett was re-elected. Lisa McGarry was confirmed as Independent Examiner of Accounts.

There were no resolutions submitted. Other business discussed included signage at the entrance to the estate and on the green. The former is now ready and we are considering whether any additional privacy notices would add anything. Sally Outram gave a valuable update on the discussions to date on the Coast Path being built by Natural England. Essentially, the current position is that the Planning Inspector came last June in response to the Outrams' objections and a final decision is awaited.

Remember that, if you could not attend or wish to remind yourself of what happened, the draft minutes of the AGM are available in the members' section of our website.

MGL Committee of Management Directors 2024

**Christine Richardson, Martin Gebbett, Suzy Daniels, Sarah Harrington, John Watt, Martin Price, Judith Morgan
Co-opted; Andy Maxted, Mike Austen**

Registered Office: Station House, North Street, Havant, Hampshire, PO9 1QU

New Secretary

A few members of the Council of Management met Rachel Roberts and, following discussions and exchanges of information, it was agreed that she will take the role of Secretary for a three-month trial period with monthly reporting.

It was agreed that as Rachel is not a resident of Maisemore Gardens she should be paid for her work, so she will record hours and times/dates worked. Once the trial period has concluded we will finalise the method of invoicing and payment.

I asked Rachel to introduce herself and this is what she told me:



My education was interrupted as I moved out of London aged 15 from a grammar school to a local comprehensive as my parents purchased a nursing home. Unfortunately, the end result of this was that I ended up as a single parent, divorced from my son's father by the age of 21. I then made a decision to move to Chichester when my son was 5 and I was 25, where I re-entered education and embarked on an English Degree. Following this I decided to try and pursue the career I had longed to do as a child, namely a lawyer. I worked for a couple of years as a paralegal before I managed to secure a scholarship to complete my Legal Practice Course at Sussex University. I was taken on by the same firm where I had been a Paralegal and qualified into Criminal Law in 2009. I ended up working for that firm for 11 years in total before moving. I continue to practice Criminal Law in Sussex and Hampshire.

In my down time I like reading, the arts (especially Shakespeare), walking (particularly when I have my little dog) I row and attend the gym, mostly for yoga and Pilates but I do enjoy all types of training at the gym.

Rachel will be an excellent addition to our committee, and as previously advised, will be undertaking the following tasks:

1. Coordination of Council meetings, including production of agendas and compilation of reports.
2. Responding to emails, forward to relevant personnel. Sharing information with the Directors.
3. Maintaining secure cloud-based company archives including reports, minutes and correspondence.
4. Liaising with our Solicitors with regard to sales and lettings and obtaining legal advice when required.
5. Coordinate responses to requests for alterations and building works, and communicating Planning Group responses to residents.
6. Issuing Membership Certificates to new owners. (These are signed by two directors)
7. Arranging the AGM in conjunction with the other members of Council of Management.
8. Keep the list of members and contact details up to date.

You can contact her at Rachel Roberts secretarymg1123@gmail.com. We will update the links from the website so that applications from residents and other correspondence goes to the correct place.

Once gain many thanks to Lester – and good luck with all your new ventures.

Seawall

Works on the repair to the spalled section of the seawall at the ramp to the footway are now complete.

Website

I hope you have all had a chance to look at the webcam, now streaming live pictures from the front of the estate. Hopefully those less able to get out, especially in bad weather, or those that have moved away, will still be able to enjoy our fine harbour view. On 7th June, James Leeming (63) sets off on a huge cycling adventure and we will put a link to a live tracker on the website so that people can follow his progress. Hopefully we will also get some pictures along the way. This is what he is doing:

I will be cycling the Great Divide Mountain Bike Route (GDMBR), which is 2700 miles running from the Mexican border to Banff in Canada. I anticipate that it will take me approximately 2 months in June and July cycling approx. 65 miles per day with temperatures varying between 0 and 40°. It's an off-road route with climbing of over 7000m (the equivalent of seven times Mount Everest). I will be cycling solo but anticipate meeting people on route. I am self-supported so I will have my tent and cooker with me and anything else that I might need. Fingers crossed!

Gardens

You will all have seen Andy working away and many of you will know how friendly and helpful he is – so I thought it would be good to get his take on the work he does. Here is what he had to say:

When I arrived for work on a beautiful still spring morning at the gardens last week I was struck by the large volume of bird song in the air. Unfortunately, I had to ruin this by employing the lawn maintenance machinery. I would like to apologise to the birds and residents alike for this disturbance. One day, all garden machinery will be electric and quiet.

The recent persistent wet weather has made it difficult to maintain the green areas especially the main green which retains a lot of moisture. I would like to ask residents to avoid using this area when the ground is sodden. As it further compounds the problem and makes the surface uneven and less pleasurable to use during the drier periods.

The beds look a little untidy at present as the spring flowering bulbs return to the soil; however, there are signs of strong growth coming through which will further show themselves in the weeks and months to come.



I am hoping that our summer this year is a more favourable one for the gardener than the last.

The gardens are still rather wet, though beginning to respond to the sunshine. After Andy complained about the damage done by footballers David Linington put round an email drawing attention to it, since when it has stopped. There were some complaints at the AGM about dogs on the lawn, but Andy says it has not been a problem, though the lawn alongside no. 46 and various lawns near the foreshore are still being fouled. We have replaced the ceanothus on the main lawn which had reached the end of its life. Andy will be getting on with planting, now the weather has improved. Everything should be looking good for the Big Lunch!

Lots of people's own gardens are also emerging well from the wet winter and starting to look great. There has been an evolution away from the original estate vision (from the architects) of essentially just having lawns and there are some lovely, and imaginative gardens.

The lease still says

'The Lessee will maintain the front garden of his premises properly cultivated and planted and free from weeds and generally in accordance with the requirements of MAISEMORE GARDENS LIMITED. The front gardens shall be maintained and planted as one garden'

We both acknowledge that the 'his' seems a little out of date and perhaps so does the 'free from weeds' for those of us keen on providing for biodiversity and wildlife, especially perhaps in 'No Mow May'. The MGL requirements can really be summed up as concentrating on the part about being planted and maintained as one garden. There's a big difference between a neglected plot and a planned wildlife garden – and we look to do this communally too as this picture shows.



Friends of Maisemore Gardens

This year's Friends of Maisemore Garden's Easter Egg hunt was not blessed with very good weather, Nonetheless, there were enough hardy souls who came out to participate that we raised more than £70 for our own lunch on the green.



Here are some happy hunters!

Brian Dennis (59) won the cake in the raffle and tells me that he, and his family, really loved it.





We also had successful plant exchange on the green on Saturday May 25th. Hopefully this will become a regular Spring fixture and grow in scale and popularity.

Here is a reminder of the details of the MG Summer lunch this Sunday – do come along and enjoy it.

If you still need a ticket, there are just a few still available from Helen Pettit (37). The organisers will be setting up the gazebos and tables and putting up the bunting on Saturday from about 5pm. If anybody would like to help, that would be greatly appreciated.

Friends of Maisemore Gardens

****Sunday 2nd June****



CHILD
(Under 12)
£3

FOOD & Summer Cocktail (1pp)
*
Raffle



BIG

SUMMER LUNCH on
the Green



ADULT
£10

MUSIC
by
MARTIN
on
SAX

Tickets on sale from 11th May