

**MINUTES**  
**COMMUNITY ORCHARD COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2015, 7.30pm  
 Haddenham Parish Council Office

**Present:** Cllr Mr Lyons  
 Co-opted members Dr. Benjamin, Mr. Proctor, Ms. Rowbotham and Mr. Smith.  
 Clerk Mrs Sue Gilbert

It was PROPOSED and AGREED that Mr Proctor would Chair the meeting.

<b>CO17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE</b> Mr Greaves was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED.	
<b>CO17</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE</b> Mr. Proctor was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED.	
<b>CO17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE</b> Dr. Benjamin, Mr Proctor, Ms Rowbotham and Mr Smith confirmed they wished to remain on the committee. Mr Greaves had confirmed prior to the meeting that he wished to remain and would be willing to continue as Chairman of the Committee. Mr. Peach had resigned from the Committee but wished to continue to be involved as a volunteer. Mr. Chowns had not confirmed he wished to remain on the Committee and had not attended meetings so it was agreed he would no longer be a member.	
<b>CO17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b> Apologies were received and accepted from Mr. Greaves.	
<b>CO17</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> Dr. Benjamin and Ms. Rowbotham both own properties that border the orchard site.	
<b>CO17</b>		<b>MINUTES</b> The minutes of the meeting held on 26 <sup>th</sup> April 2016 were AGREED as a true record and signed.	
<b>CO17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>FINANCES</b> Mr. Smith had been reimbursed for some expenses since that last meeting. The balance on the account was noted as £1,932.27 plus an additional £750 available from Haddenham Beer Festival.	
<b>CO17</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>ORCHARD DESIGN</b> (i) Activity area It was PROPOSED and AGREED that the seating would be made from prepared logs 4x4m logs and 2x2m logs with a seat height of around 40cm, the top and bottom should be skimmed but the logs should stay round rather than be cut in half.	

		<p>The layout proposed on a draft prepared by Mr Smith was AGREED.</p> <p>It may be difficult to get like for like quotes as the design is bespoke and each contractor will have a different approach. Several contractors have already been approached and made suggestions. The logs could be fastened to the ground by drilling a hole through the middle and inserting a stake or could sit in a recess to avoid rolling. The type of wood used will determine the life, Elm was considered to be best but is hard to get hold, oaks should last 15-20 years, soft wood less time. All will rot eventually but design features such as 'feet' could slow the process.</p> <p>Graham Taylor who is a tree surgeon and has already helped out a lot at the orchard could provide a quote. Mr Smith and Mr. Proctor have identified and had some initial conversations with several companies. It was AGREED they would draw up a design for circulation to the rest of the committee for feedback and then get quotes for the agreed design.</p> <p>(ii) Noticeboard and tree plaques</p> <p>They can be installed by the contractor who does the seating area or the noticeboard company.</p> <p>It was AGREED that the main information board will be A1 size.</p> <p>There will be the cost of designing and drawing the map as well as the noticeboard itself.</p> <p>Mr. Smith had prepared a draft design that was reviewed and it was AGREED that it should include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- map of the site (commission a design artist, Penny Heydon or Cosine are possibilities)</li> <li>- blooming &amp; fruiting time for each tree,</li> <li>- history of the orchard ( mention that fruit is free for everyone)</li> <li>- HPC, AVDC, website / Facebook</li> </ul> <p>A sign at Mallards Croft end – 'Welcome to Townsend Community Orchard'</p> <p>A sign of rules</p> <p>Tree plaques – AGREED 17x8cm from Jolly Big for £140</p> <p>(iii) The fruit bushes and wild flowers have been overgrown by the grass, although many wild flowers have grown through naturally in the grass so have been left. Mr Lyons has cleared some grass from the fruit bushes but this needs to be finished off.</p>	<p>GS DP</p> <p>ER</p> <p>DL GS</p> <p>DG</p>
CO17	8	<p><b>ORCHARD MAINTENANCE</b></p> <p>(i) The orchard inspection reports have been received. Quotes have been asked for to repair the wychert wall at the entrance.</p> <p>(ii) The village handyman had been cutting a path around the site regularly which all were happy with. Mr Lyons and Mr. Proctor had cleared an area around each tree and Mr Lyons has started to clear an area where the seating area will be in preparation for the picnic. This area will need to be cut regularly but it was not thought there will be enough turning space for the handyman to do this with the tractor. It will need to be done with a hand mower or strimmed, at a site visit this will be agreed.</p> <p>An area for composting grass cuttings will be needed – to agree where.</p> <p>The wild flower areas will need to be cut – to agree how this will be done.</p>	<p>DL DP GS</p>
CO17	9	<p><b>EVENTS</b></p> <p>BYO Picnic on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Notify contacts – Elaine has the list</li> <li>- Advertise on Facebook – ask Elaine to do</li> <li>- Prepare a poster</li> </ul>	<p>DP DP ER</p>

		Apple pressing close to National Apple Day on 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	<b>ALL</b>
<b>CO17</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>DATES OF NEXT MEETING</b> The date of the next meeting to be confirmed.	<b>SG</b>

**CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> August 2016