

DRAFT MINUTES
COMMUNITY ORCHARD COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday 22nd August 2018, 7.30pm
Haddenham Parish Council Office

Present: Cllr Mr Lyons (DL)
Co-opted members: Dr. Benjamin (SB), Mr Greaves (DG) (Chair), Mr Hadder (CH), and Mr Proctor (DP).
Clerk: Ms. Gilbert (SG)
No members of the public

CO19 11 ELECTION OF A CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE

Mr. Greaves was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED.

CO19 12 ELECTION OF A VICE-CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE

Mr. Proctor was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED.

CO19 13 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mr Smith (GS) (personal).

CO19 14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

CO19 15 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd May 2018 were AGREED as a true record and signed.

CO19 16 FINANCES

- (i) The balance on the account was noted £1,812.70.
- (ii) The budget for future expenditure had been drafted by Mr. Proctor. The items included were agreed. This will evolve over time as regular expenditure becomes clear. An estimate of around £1,000 was considered a sensible reserve. An allowance for replacement of tools / servicing will be included. Graham Taylor has previously provided mulch for free, but as he will be moving away a cost has been included to purchase this in future. Thanks to Graham for his all his help. Funds are sufficient for this year and some for next, but fundraising will need to start again next year. A tool inventory will be needed. A gazebo would be useful as rely on borrowing them at the moment. The shed and some tools will be good things to apply to the Beer Festival for a grant. An application will need to be completed soon so the shed can be installed (DG).

CO19 17 ORCHARD DESIGN

- (i) Options for a shed and its funding. A 6x4 shed has been agreed by email outside the meeting. In total the shopping list is for a shed with fixings, racking, padlock, tools, water butts and guttering. This will require an application for a Beer Festival Grant of £1,000.

Graham Taylor will lay the base for free which is much appreciated.

- (ii) The style and funding options for traditional benches in the orchard was discussed. The less standard styles are more expensive. It was AGREED to get in touch with the person who asked for a memorial bench to find out if they are still interested (SG).

CO19 18 ORCHARD MAINTENANCE

- (i) Review of the draft orchard management plan – GS not present therefore this item was DEFERRED.
- (ii) Review of orchard inspection reports and issues arising.
Thanks to Diana for continuing to carry out the inspections. There haven't been any further noisy users reported. There is an issue with dog poo but it is thought the main offenders are moving away soon.
GS will need to contact Bernwood to arrange a replacement for the dead tree (D5)
- (iii) Feedback from the last working parties.
There have been 3 working parties since the last meeting.
June one was run by CH – it was very successful more got done than they thought they would as the dry weather made weed pulling easier.
July one was run by DL and included light pruning to summer fruit.
August haymaking work party could have done with more rakers but borrowed auto scythe from Cuttlebrook which was a great help. Thanks to the Cuttlebrook for loaning the equipment.
Next year it could be borrowed a day before to get ahead on the main day.
Need a source of bark from deciduous trees – SG will ask Complete Trees when they carry out work for HPC.
- (iv) Plan for next working party.
7th October potential date - need to confirm with Graham Taylor.
More mowing could be done but this is already mostly complete.
Could put bark down on the path before it gets wet at Mallards Croft End.
The main task will be to start preparations for the base of the shed so date will depend on Graham's availability to help.
Next year need to get ahead with path cutting in May and June every week by getting Aspire to do it (SG)
The owners of 3-4 Mallards Croft have asked for the trees to be pruned behind their properties. SG is arranging this.
- (v) Suggestions for improvements
It was agreed to draft a standard response to be sent to all correspondents prior to discussion at the next committee meeting.
Responses to recent suggestions:
Compost bins – already been discussed and are being planned.
All weather path – it is maintained as green space with flexibility on where the paths go.
Flower beds – are totally impractical and not in keeping.
Grass areas are a wild flower meadow to encourage native species and are managed as such not designed to be a park.
The litter bin and dog bin are well used where they are.

CO19 19 EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- (i) The policy on events on the orchard in the orchard was discussed and it was agreed that there should be some guidelines for use of the space when the committee is approached e.g. the recent request to hold a pet service.

(ii) Schedule and preparation for the next events.

Community Fair 22/09/18 – need to get list of potential volunteers. Can take the spare noticeboard. GS and DL will be there.

Apple Pressing Day Sunday 21st October 11am-2pm – need to find where the apple press is being stored. Will need an informal meeting ahead of time to make detailed arrangements.

People will need to bring containers for the juice this time.

Wassail will be 5th January 2019.

Advertising leaflets to go on the next agenda.

CO19 20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

17th October 2018

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed: _____ DRAFT _____
Chair

Date: 17th October 2018

DRAFT