



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

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2019, 7.30pm  
Haddenham Parish Council Office

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**Present:** Mr Hadder, Mr Proctor and Mr Smith

**Clerk:** Ms. Gilbert

No members of the public

In the absence of Mr. Greaves the meeting was chaired by Mr. Proctor.

**CO20 11 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Dr. Benjamin.

No apologies were received from Mr Lyons or Mr Greaves.

**CO20 12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no requests to participate.

**CO20 13 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were AGREED as a true record and signed.

**CO20 14 FINANCES**

(i) The balance on the account is £1,797.71, the grant from Haddenham Beer Festival has now been paid into the account.

(ii) An email round robin will be started to discuss what additional tools will be needed and a wish list drawn up to calculated the cost. DP / ALL

**CO20 15 ORCHARD DESIGN**

Now that the shed is installed there are no current plans for additions. An additional tree or an area of wild flowers behind the bench could be considered. Research on the possibility of planting a Warden Pear tree was proposed as these have historical significance for Haddenham Feast but are now very rare. GS

**CO20 16 ORCHARD MAINTENANCE**

(i) Review of orchard inspection reports  
Some office chairs were dumped in the orchard by local youths messing around, but they have now been removed..  
A branch heavily with fruit has been supported.

(ii) Maintenance carried out by the Parish Council's contractor has been better.

(iii) Feedback from last working party.

Diccon and 4 others turned up (Beer Festival day so numbers were a bit down) and did some weeding, which the volunteers are better on top of this year.

Small path mowing has evolved and there seem to have more this year so it would be good to have a better plan for next year and to supervise the cutting to avoid extra ones being cut. A map put up in the shed would be helpful for reference. The paths reduce the wild flower areas. As the trees are getting bigger the areas cut around them will also need to be bigger. It might be better to have blocks of wild flowers. Ultimately the height and shape of each tree will need to be managed.

No mulch has gone down this year as it was last year and some trees needed watering, so it may be necessary to mulch next year

A discussion will be held in December to agree the details for next year.

ALL

(iv) Next working party.

Haymaking is scheduled for this Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August but the forecast is not looking good. DP has arranged to collect the auto scythe equipment from Cuttlebrook on Friday so it's ready to use on the Saturday. If the cuttings are too wet it's very hard work to remove but it shouldn't be left for too long. Will monitor the forecast and cancel if necessary.

Some trees will need pruning this year as some branches are growing in the wrong place, it will be important to encourage the trees to mature into a good shape. Nov-Feb will be the time to do this.

It would be good to update the spreadsheet of regular tasks.

CH

The organisation of the shed needs to be planned– fix planks of wood with hooks & brackets for the tools to be hung from and spread the load evenly across the wall.

GS

## CO20 17 EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

(i) Jazz BYO Picnic at the Orchard on 20<sup>th</sup> September as part of Haddenham Feast Festival.

About 50 events across the village are being organised. It was suggested that the orchard is involved and hosts this event to make use of the core for the purpose for which it was designed. The gazebo will need to be set up in the afternoon. AGREED

CH/DP/GS

(ii) It was AGREED to host a poetry reading workshop on 16<sup>th</sup> September afternoon and storytelling in the evening for children as part of Haddenham Feast Festival.

(iii) The date for Apple Pressing even will be Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2019

(iv) Planning for other events

The Core needs to be better used, particularly for use by the schools, so work needs to be done to encourage this.

## CO20 18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019

## CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ DRAFT \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019