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MINUTES

COMMUNITY ORCHARD COMMITTEE

Thursday 5th August 2021, 7.30pm

The meeting was held remotely via Zoom

Present: Cllr Mr. Smith
Co-opted members: Dr. Benjamin, Mr Hadder, Mr Proctor.
Clerk: Ms Allman
No members of the public joined the meeting.

CO22 11 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Mr. Hoare.

CO22 12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

CO22 13 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2021 were AGREED as a true record and signed.

CO22 14 FINANCES

- (i) The balance on the account of £1,836 was noted.
- (ii) The budget for future expenditure was reviewed and the following were discussed:
It was proposed and AGREED to set a yearly maintenance budget for the Orchard Mower and have M Stevens do repairs. Post meeting note: The cost of servicing and maintenance of the Orchard equipment was confirmed by the Clerk to be financed by the Parish Council and not come out of Orchard donations.
D.P will research new pruning tools for approval at the next Committee meeting.
The committee discussed the provision of new plaques for the noticeboards, **D.P** will contact Shelley Design to find pricing and then propose approval of purchase at the next Committee meeting.
Committee approved the purchase of the 3m by 3m Gazebo, **C.H** will forward purchase details to the clerk.

CO22 15 ORCHARD DESIGN

- (i) The purchase of the two new trees, after discussion, was deferred to the next meeting after further search into possible varieties. (Aylesbury Damson, Elizabethan Pear, Mulberry).
G.S will research planting a Royal Jubilee (Treebilee) tree to commemorate the upcoming Royal Jubilee.

- (ii) Committee discussion continued on improved accessibility for Wheelchairs and disabled users on the Orchard footpath, with proposing to contact the Community Board to discuss possible funding for a disability access consultant a Feasibility study and possible funding to carry out any recommended improvements **G.S.**
- (iii) The provision of raised beds for Abbeyfield resident's discussion was deferred to the next Agenda as this will be an Autumn/Winter project. **D.P** will contact Mr. G Taylor for advice.

CO22 16 ORCHARD MAINTENANCE

- (i) The committee expressed concern at the frequency of the path maintenance carried out by the Parish Council's contractor. The Clerk will speak to the contractor and confirm that the bi-weekly inspection and maintenance is done.
- (ii) Future working parties:
The clerk has ordered some discrete dismount bike signs for both entrances to the Orchard, once in place the Parish website and Facebook will note this.
The next work parties taking lockdown regulations into account are scheduled for the 7th August and then on the 4th September for the Hay Cut.
Dr. S Benjamin proposed applying for the Woodland Trust free tree packs, this was agreed.
The application close date is 25th August. The clerk will obtain the necessary permission paperwork (as HPC is the Landlord) and also the Grid references required and forward to **S.B** for submission.
The decision on the removal and replacement of the fruit trellis has been deferred until the next meeting. A committee site meeting will be arranged for early Autumn to inspect The Orchard and decide on further actions.
The Mallard Croft entry sign will be drafted by **D.P** for consideration at the next meeting.

CO22 17 EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- (i) Organizing the series of talks for the residents at Abbeyfields about the running of the Orchard was deferred until the next meeting.
- (ii) The Handlebards performance has been postponed until next year as no further slots are available.
- (iii) The Scarecrow Festival proved to be a success with local families and groups submitting scarecrows into the Orchard, photos are available to view on Haddenham.net.
- (iv) Proposals for new events were discussed:
An Orchard Jazz picnic was proposed; a date will be confirmed in September.
Feast Fest, **G.S** to take responsibility for scheduling and organizing the Storytelling event.
During Big Green Week (18th-26th September) it was proposed that the Apple Press Event should be scheduled. **D.P** will confirm the date at the next meeting.

CO22 18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The agreed date for the next meeting: 9th September at 7pm.

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed: _____

Chair

Date: 9th September 2021