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MINUTES

COMMUNITY ORCHARD COMMITTEE

Thursday 9th September 2021, 7.00pm
The meeting was held remotely via Zoom

Present: Cllrs Mr Hoare (DH) and Mr. Smith (GS)
Co-opted members: Dr. Benjamin (SB), Mr Hadder (CH), Mr Proctor (DP).
Clerk: Ms Allman (JA)

No members of the public joined the meeting.

CO22 19 APOLOGIES

No apologies were received for absence, Mr. Proctor joined the meeting late.

CO22 20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

CO22 21 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th August 2021 were AGREED, with one minor change by Mr. Proctor, as a true record and signed.

CO22 22 FINANCES

- (i) The balance on the account £1656.72 was noted.
- (ii) The purchase of the gazebo was confirmed awaiting a delivery date.
The proposed purchase of new pruning tools will be deferred until the next meeting.

CO22 23 ORCHARD DESIGN

- (i) The proposal for planting new trees has been deferred until the next meeting. The donation of a Mulberry Tree by Mr. B Piers will be discussed.
- (ii) Cllr. Smith had to leave the meeting but it was agreed by the committee that they would await the accessibility report to be carried out by Cllr Garrett on the Orchard circular path and the proposed raised beds before progressing with plans for the new path.
- (iii) Following a discussion with Elaine Hassel the Community Board Officer, Cllr Smith recommended to the committee to combine the raised beds and the accessible footpath into one project. **D.H** and **D.P** are to arrange a site visit to decide on the preferred location of the raised beds and possible location of a donated Bug Hotel.
- (iv) The Jubilee tree in the orchard to mark the Queens 70th jubilee will be discussed at the next meeting with research carried out by **G.S**

CO22 24 ORCHARD MAINTENANCE

- (i) **D.P** will draft a sign for the Mallard Croft entrance for consideration at the next meeting.
- (ii) The maintenance carried out by the Parish Council's contractor continues to be carried out satisfactorily.
- (iii) Two work parties will be scheduled by **D.P** in October and November to tidy, prune, re-stake and also to treat the wooden posts. The dates will be confirmed by **D.P**
- (iv) The committee discussed the possible replacement of the fruit trellis and will consider replacing with espalier growing frames after research, this is to be discussed at the next meeting.
- (v) **S.B** was commended on the success of the application to the Woodland Trust for tree packs as this has resulted in the expected delivery of approximately 130 whips. **S.B** will arrange to have these delivered to the Parish Council offices and then organise storage. Hedge Planting will be scheduled on the bank behind the Townsend wall, behind the J. Piers bench and in front of the Laurels at No5, with the permission of the neighbour, **D.P** will contact.

CO22 25 EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- (i) The hay cutting event was reported as a success due to the hard work of all the volunteers and the kindness of the Cuttlebrook nature reserve volunteers who loaned the cutting equipment.
- (ii) The Orchard Jazz Picnic is on the 17th September. The neighbors will be notified by **S.B** and **D.P** that the event will begin at 5.30pm and finish by 7.30pm. **S.B** requested that the marquee be up by 3.30pm for band sound checks etc. **G.S** did not think this was possible.
- (iii) The apple press event that normally occurs during Green Week could possibly go ahead if organised with Zero Carbon Haddenham. Possibly on the 25th to the 26th September.
- (iv) **D.P.** will organise an event for the volunteers to show the committee's appreciation of all their work over the year, a date will be scheduled. **D.P** will schedule an informal committee meeting in January 2022 to plan future year's activities and works.

CO22 26 CORRESPONDENCE AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Correspondence was received from the New Horizons nursery with a planned donation of a Bug Hotel for a suitable location. The committee had considered by email and decided to accept the donation depending on finding a suitable location and double checking the dimensions. A date will then need to be scheduled for installation and PR.

CO22 27 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The agreed date for the next meeting: 7.00pm on the 4th November 2021.
Post meeting the next meeting was rescheduled for the 18th November 2021

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed _____
Chair

Date: 18th November 2021