Ide Parish Council

Pynes Community Orchard Working Group

Minutes of a Meeting held at 6pm on 20 June 2018

 in The Hub, Congregational Church, Ide

1. Present: Peter Cloke (chairman), Nick Bradley (Parish Council Chairman), Mel Liversage (Parish Clerk), Richard Sharman, Trevor Gardner, Andrew Bragg and Mark Thomas.

2. Apologies received from: Barry Hookins, Carolyn Tysoe and Julian Perrett.

**Reports on actions not on this agenda, from minutes of meeting held 16 May 2018:**

3. The CCs indicate that they receive approx. £300 per acre per annum for the Orchard in rent.

4. TG has met with Dawn Chapman and Cheryl Haddy, fund raisers on the Weir Meadow Group, to share ideas, plans and ensure a collaborative approach. Agreed to send them a copy of the Orchard Prospectus: done.

5. PC has made contact with Marissa Bossano with a view to her coming on board at a future date.

6. PC has met with Miss Percival, new school head, and made positive contact.

7. Phil Willcock has gladly agreed to serve as the PCOWG treasurer and will be included from now on as a member of the group.

**Items:**

8. NB reported on progress with the CCs.

Mark Herrod had not yet responded about instructing solicitors to proceed with drawing up a contract.

NB has asked for clarification of the status of the strip of land between The Holt and St Ida’s Close. It would provide safe additional pedestrian access to the Orchard; but includes a railway arch which might create financial, safety and public liability insurance complications.

Action: PC will approach Colin and Dawn Chapman to seek clarification about their tenancy of, or involvement with, the strip.

Action: NB to raise this question too with Victoria Jarrad of Strutt & Parker when he meets with her on 21 June.

Action: NB press on with requesting the CCs instruct solicitors.

9. Prospectus document. PC presented the latest version of The Prospectus, with photographs by MT. Agreed nearly there, with some polishing.

Agreed take to professional printers for fair version.

Agreed will also need a short one side of A4 leaflet version for general circulation.

Action: Peter Cloke to draft one side A4 version for next PCOWG meeting.

Action: NB to circulate this version to Parish and District Councillors for comments in next 10 days; then Peter Cloke to produce final version to NB by 11 July latest to give time for ML and NB to get it out in the papers for the Parish Council meeting of 25 July.

10. Licence for the Orchard during three year option period.

a) Post meeting report: NB met Victoria Jarrad on 21 June, who confirmed that the current tenant knows that he will not be offered a renewal option on The Orchard after 28 Sept 2018.

b) Post meeting report: NB met Peter Skinner on 21 June, whose opinion was that the offer of a renewable annual licence for three years was favourable; that he felt the constraint on us not to treat the orchard as a public space until we owned it was reasonable and fair; and that there would be no difficulties for the licensee in authorising anyone they felt appropriate to access the land, given proper public liability insurance cover.

c) Andrew Bragg agreed that he would be prepared, if asked to by the Working Group and The Parish Council, to take on the licence, given financial support.

11. Agreed the PCOWG will mount a display or presence at Ide Village Show on 16 Sept at the School. Details to be discussed.

12. Next meeting: Wed 1 August 6pm at The Hub – **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE.**

ML will book venue.

END.

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