Ide Parish Council

Pynes Community Orchard Working Group

Minutes of a Meeting held at 6pm on 16 May 2018

 in Ide Memorial Hall

1. Present: Peter Cloke (chairman), Nick Bradley (Parish Council Chairman), Mel Liversage (Parish Clerk), Carolyn Tysoe, Julian Perrett and Trevor Gardner.

2. Apologies: Richard Sharman, Barry Hookins, Mark Thomas, Andy Bragg.

3. NB reported on a meeting held 10 May 2018 at Church House, Westminster, involving PC & NB, with Mark Herrod & Matt Naylor of the Church Commissioners. The CCs have agreed to offer Ide PC a three year option to buy the Orchard, running from 28 Sept 2018 (Michaelmas Day), to allow us reasonable time to raise the money. The option could be served at any point during the three year period if we raised the money sooner. It would also be extendable beyond the three years, if both parties were willing at that time.

4. The CCs are also prepared to offer an annual, renewable licence on the Orchard during the three year option period. The licence would not be issued to the PC, but to one (or two) Ide residents sympathetic to the Orchard project. Public access to the orchard would not be permitted while the CCs retained ownership.

Action: NB find out current rent paid for orchard.

[Info gained later: the CCs receive approx. £300 per acre per annum]

5. NB reported on the progress of Ide Neighbourhood Plan. The Independent Examiner, John Slater, made his final report to Teignbridge DC on 15 May 2018, in which he supported the whole Plan and all its 7 policies, commending it for its scope, focus and relevance.

[Info gained later: TDC has approved the NP; and the NP Referendum will be held on 26 July 2018].

6. PC presented a first draft of a Prospectus for the Orchard, intended to explain, to residents and potential donors, the background to our decision to buy it; the orchard’s history and heritage; its environmental and wildlife importance; its social, cultural and community potential; its horticultural possibilities; the financial realities; plans for fund raising; and the longer term outlook for managing it as a village resource. The document was welcomed as an excellent start. Some sections are still to be completed. PC will gather further contributions from group members, collate and put into house style.

Action : PC produce next draft of Prospectus .

 TG will write a section on “How you can help”

7. Whilst enthusiasm in the village is building, and fund raising events are already being staged, we agreed that the next step for this PCOWG is to get a signed contract for a three year option to buy. Once that is secured, we can go out with confidence to raise money.

Action: NB follow up CCs to instruct solicitors to act and draw up contract.

8. Agreed that TG will arrange to meet Dawn Chapman and Cheryl Haddy, who are the fund raisers for the Weir Meadow WG, to discuss joint approaches to fund raising.

 Action: TG meet with Dawn and Cheryl.

9. CT reported that David Bossano’s sister, Maria, has recently moved to Ide and has offered herself for fund raising. ML has Maria’s email address.

Action: PC to make initial contact with Maria

10. PC reported that a new head teacher has been appointed to Ide School, Miss Percival.

Action: PC to make contact with Miss Percival.

11. Agreed that the group will need its own treasurer in due course. Agreed that Philip Willcock would be an excellent person for this job.

Action: PC to invite Phil Willcock to become PCOWG treasurer

12. Next meeting: Wed 20 June 2018, 6pm in Memorial Hall.

END

NCAB 1 June 2018