**Ide Parish Council**

**Weir Meadow Working Group**

Minutes from meeting held on Thursday 11 July 2019 at 7pm

at the Cricket Pavilion

1. Present: Rich Cloke, Nick Bradley, Phil Willcock, Jess Paine and Richard Cottle.

2. Apologies from: Stuart Brooking, Trevor Gardner, Barry Hookins, Mark Thomas, Cheryl Haddy, Tony Stearman, Pete Skinner.

3. Rich chaired the meeting in Stuart’s absence; and welcomed Jess and Richard as new members. Jess has recently become a parish councillor. Richard lives at Plane Trees and has worked as an environmental ecologist for the past 5 years.

Action: Stuart add them both to circulation list.

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4. Minutes of the meeting held 9 April 2019 were approved and will be published on the website. Action : Nick

5. Nick updated members on the current status of the application for planning permission. TDC had formally written with pre-planning advice and decisions about what formal assessments we will need. These are currently being done – the wildlife and arboreal assessments by Julian Perrett and Stuart Brooking respectively - pro bono.

Aim is to lodge the application in October 2019.

6. Buying the Northern Fields has been supported as the best option to solve the access issue by the Parish Council. NB reported on the steps needed in liaison with DALC to make an application to the Sec of State for permission to take a loan from the Public Works Loan Board. We discussed how we might use the fields in a way that was climate friendly; and that allowed public access to some areas – especially important if we are to take the route of looking for a rise in the Precept to fund future borrowing.

Possibilities for Stewardship and Basic Payments Scheme; and for woodland planting and solar panels were discussed. Rental from sports teams and tenants were discussed.

7. The N Fields will be valued formally on 15 July by Rendells. After that NB will open negotiations with the CCs on a price. Once we have agreed a price, we will put on a public meeting for village residents to hear the proposals for the Meadow and N Fields; and the funding plans. RC made the point that we will soon need further funds to allow these initial stages to progress. Securing the N Fields will now have to precede or coincide with purchase of Weir Meadow if we are to avoid retained access over the Meadow to the N Fields, and drop the proposal to build a track and bridge over the Brook.

Action 1: Nick liaise w CCs

Action 2: Group organise public meeting

8. Next meeting on Thursday 19 September 2019 at 7pm, The Hub, Ide Congregational Church.

NCAB 16 July 2019

(approved 19 Sep 2019)