

Ide Parish Council

Weir Meadow & Northern Fields with Pynes Orchard Joint Projects Fundraising Group

Minutes of meeting on Zoom, Monday 24 May 2021 at 7.30pm

1. Welcome and introductions.

In attendance:

1. Nick Bradley (NB) - chair
2. Imelda Liversage (IL)
3. Charlotte McGregor (CLM) - secretary
4. David Howe (DH)
5. Maresa Bossano (MB)
6. Richard Reardon (RR)
7. Cheryl Haddy (CH)

2. Apologies

Apologies received from:

1. Jessica Paine (JP)
2. Doug Bell (DB)
3. Philip Willcock (PW)
4. Trevor Gardner (TG)

3. Draft minutes of last meeting on 26 April 2021 for approval (previously circulated) - Approved as drawn

4. Chair's update:

4.1 Option Agreement for Pynes Orchard – had hoped it would be signed by now. NB has signed but the CC have not yet signed it because (although pipes and meter installed and trough moved) SWW still have not connected them up. Strutt & Parker have been putting pressure on SWW. As soon as it is connected, CC will sign.

ACTION – NB contact Commissioners

4.2 Quotes for groundworks on Weir Meadow – First two contractors have asked for a formal Bill of Quantities (BoQ). DB is in touch with a Quantity Surveyor to get the BoQ together.

ACTION – DB & NB instruct a QS

4.3 TDC response to Water Drainage Management Plan, Weir Meadow –

Permission for Change of Use (CoU) has been taken by the planners' expert adviser as though it included the items in the planning application for car parking, groundworks and re-siting of pavilion. We provided a simple water drainage

management plan just for the CoU. We have corrected them and said that we just want to clear our conditions on the CoU at this stage. Once we have acquired the land, we will revert with the full documentation.

DH clarifies that the purpose of doing all this now is to keep the planning applications alive so that they don't become time expired.

NB – it could be that certain funders request to see all planning details etc and so again it is important to have the planning aspects sorted now before we start to fundraise.

ACTION: NB contact TDC Planners again

5. Strategy sub-group report from 5 May (notes previously circulated) TG, DH, NB:

- 5.1 Main points made in reported notes

NB - Fundraising in all forms previously discussed are allowed and encouraged in the Localism Act and current policies from Local Authorities.

DH – this is a case of the Council having the power to do X but not the requirement to do it and so fundraising is allowed, whereas if it was a statutory obligation to do X, we would not be allowed to fundraise for them.

IL – will be required to go on a course if we wanted to comply with the General Power of Competence (which we don't actually have to comply with to do what we want to do). IL will look into it and book the appropriate course if deemed necessary.

- 5.2 Comments from group members and discussion – None raised.

- 5.3 Actions contained in report - NB

- Orchard prospectus
- Meadow prospectus
- Strategy document - Strategy document has been updated again by NB. It has been shortened and the tone has been altered so as to make the case for us being a village boxed in by roads, commercial farming activity and no access to Green Space.

Also considered the structure going forwards. The current thought is that the Orchard fits becoming a Charity in its own right, whereas Weir Meadow and Northern Fields fits better with a situation where the working group takes on the running of it on behalf of the Parish Council, without forming a charity.

We also want to reassure the village and funders that the PC's intention is to retain these sites in perpetuity as public access open green spaces.

- Approaching high worth individuals – Strategy discussed. Wait for option agreement to be formalised first. Different messages to different audiences.

Routes to access those people who may be able to support with significant donations have been discussed with appropriate people in the village. No approaches to be made until both Option Agreements are signed by both parties and exchanged.

CLM querying whether we could approach the local Estate owners for support through access to their Estate managers? NB will discuss as appropriate when approaches are made.

ACTION: DH, TG, P Cloke and NB begin approaches when Options signed and exchanged, and when final prospectuses and leaflet available

6. Publicity: Facebook, drone video (Simon Rice) , wildlife photographs (Claire Wills) - RR, CH, MB

RR - Facebook page set up. Ben has been consulted re the Website. We need content. Will be used to notify of fundraising events. Display a noticeboard of functions. Pictures to show how we have got on with previous events and progress on fundraising against target.

CH – drone footage has now been obtained. CH will upload to Google Drive.

ACTION: CH

Mark Thomas happy to edit footage and has also offered to provide cameraman to provide good quality footage (£100). Ideally on WM on a good day.

ACTION: MT

RR will set up Instagram account when we have images.

ACTION: RR

Claire Wills – is willing to assist with photos and is also going to liaise about access to the Orchard.

MB suggesting that the FB content could be snippets from the report with relevant photos.

CH suggesting a prominent DONATE button!

Website can have all the details of the documents etc. Facebook more about the social side of things.

MB – FB draws the traffic to the website. FB needs to be active and refreshed regularly.

CH will organise people doing interviews with various people in the local community. Will book the cameraman and send the message to get as many people on the WM as possible for a group photo.

ACTION: CH

MB and RR will work together to keep FB account up to date and active and exciting!

7. Our own documents: Google Drive (GD) - all.

RR will upload docs until all members are up and running with GD!

ACTION: RR

8. Fund raising ideas for summer - RR

CH and RR have put together some ideas for fundraising events:

- June – Cycle ride at the Huntsman 19th June 180 miles on an exercise bike. Ide football to partake. 180 miles from Ide to Wembley.
- July – Film night on the Green. 10th July is the date of the Church fete and so would ideally follow on from that. May be a conflict with another villager proposing the same fundraising idea so will check
- September – pancake breakfast. MB proposing a re-run and expansion on her apple themed events which ran last year and was very successful.
- October – Oktoberfest!
- November – Village Calendar akin to The Calendar Girls!!
Twinning Association has historically arranged the fireworks at The Poachers. CDH and DH will liaise with the Poachers to see if we can take over the fireworks.
- January – Murder Mystery night. CDH will liaise with someone who organises these.

9. What we need in place to start approaching individuals and launch the appeal.

- i. CC signatures!
- ii. High Net Worth individual conversations need to take place. **NB, TG, DH, PC**
- iii. Final draft of prospectuses need to be prepared and approved. **NB**
- iv. Leaflets for distribution around the village. **NB**
- v. Separate prospectuses to go to the Funders and large donors.
- vi. Official launch – will probably take the form of leaflet drop, website and Facebook page going live. We can't commit to an in person launch with COVID still of concern.

10. Applications to Lottery Heritage Fund and BIFFA and Viridor – DH & MB

DH does not think any of the list of funders would be appropriate for WM.

Lottery Heritage Fund, BIFFA and Viridor are more likely to fund the Orchard but we still have to establish whether they will advance money for the acquisition of land. In order to make that enquiry, the group needs to become registered with the organisations for the purpose of applying for the grants.

MB – has contacted Organic Arts about being a potential partner in a Heritage Lottery Fund bid. The HLF will fund land costs but it has to be with a view to partnership projects with ongoing intentions.

MB suggesting an Ide Parish Council email address should be used rather than a personal account.

Hopefully Sports England funds will become available again.

MB and DH will work together to put together the application and NB and IL will make the formal application.

MB suggesting that her own fundraising efforts via Love Food are treated as a partner for the Orchard project– juicing, wassailing etc.

MB – if Organic Arts won't join in, the other potential partners are West Town Farm, or Ide School. 2 year plan for partnership.

NB to provide DH and MB with the Community Orchard Handbook.

CLM suggesting we approach **The Exeter Foundation** for a grant – MB will check whether they will fund a Parish Council as they may not.

ACTION: DH & MB

- 11. AOB: RR** – suggesting that we play the promotional film at the beginning of the Film night. **ACTION: RR**

- 12. Date of next meeting:** 21st June 2021 at NB's house if COVID restrictions have been lifted as expected.

Approved 21 June 2021