

Ide Parish Council

Ide Community Orchard Management Group

Minutes of a meeting held on Zoom at 8pm on Monday 18 July 2022

1. Present: Peter Cloke (PC, chair), Mel Liversage (ML, Parish Clerk), Richard Cottle (RC), Jess Paine (JeP), Richard Sharman (RS), Julian Perrett (JuP), Phil Willcock (PW) and Nick Bradley (NB).

2. Apologies received from David Howe, Andy Bragg, Alice Purcell, Mark Thomas and Anne Boyce.

3. The chair of the group and all the members paid special thanks to Trevor Gardner, who has now stepped down from the group, for his enormous and infectious enthusiasm. He joined the group at its inception, and has contributed significantly to the success of the project.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2022 were approved.

Action: Mel will post on website

5. Mapping mature trees

Nick and Julian have walked the orchard together and identified each mature tree, and allocated each a letter.

Action: Julian to send details on map aerial photo to NB

6. Mapping and labelling new trees

Julian and Nick have also checked the positions of all new trees – two extra have been identified that had not been mapped; and accounted for three recent losses. All new trees now have a metal hanging Hardy label displaying their type, variety, orchard number and, where relevant, name of sponsor and dedication.

7. Gates (Viridor and RHS grants)

Gates have been paid for and the funds reclaimed from Viridor and RHS.

8. Dog waste bin (RHS grant)

Bin is now being emptied successfully every other Thursday.

9. Grass.

Julian advises an August cut. And will source a minibaler.

Action: Julian – hay and minibaler

10. Hedge trimming

Stuart Brooking quotes £300 per cut for hedge trimming, two cuts per year.

Action: PC ask SB to do a September cut of the face as is, and then review.

11. Fund raising gig for Orchard running costs

RS reported that the date for the Police Dog Hogan gig is now **7 or 8 July 2023** (not June). At £25 per head with 250 people, after expenses and venue hire, RS expects to clear £6,000 profit for the Orchard. PW suggested we might use this money towards repay the full £16,500 to the WM fund.

Actions:

- RS to contact Westown Farm to make provisional booking for a concert on July 7 or 8, 2023.
- RS to liaise with James Studholme on setting up the event
- RS to report on progress at next meeting.

12. Shed (RHS grant)

With fabulous assistance from Kevin Taborn and Chris Bishop, they and NB have erected the shed along the top southern boundary wall. Only doors and roof felt left to fit.

Action: NB continue work w KT

13. Terms of Reference of this Management Group

Revised ToRs were approved by the Parish Council in May and are now on the website.

14. New bench. The group was absolutely delighted with the beautiful, sturdy bench now positioned on paving slabs at the top of the orchard in the western half, donated by Rose Saunders in memory of her late husband, Alan.

15. Friends of the Orchard. Members warmly welcomed and supported Rose Saunders' proposal to set up a Friends of the Orchard organisation to raise funds to support the ongoing maintenance costs. JP felt that it would be preferable to delay the launch perhaps until the spring, given that we had recently asked residents to give money. RC said we should emphasise that it was for maintenance and would be for a small amount (Rose has suggested £30 a year).

Action: for discussion at Ide Parish Council on 20 July.

Action: PC to liaise with Rose

16. Date of next meeting: Monday 3 October, 2022, 8pm by Zoom.

END - NCAB 21 7 22

Amended and approved 3 Oct 2022