

Ide Parish Council

Weir Meadow Working Group and Ide Joint Projects Fund Raising Group

Minutes of a combined meeting of the two Working Groups held remotely on Zoom on Monday 13 February 2023 at 7:30pm.

- 1 **Present:** Richard Cottle (Chair) (RC), Richard Cloke (RXC), Rachel Herbert, Mel Liversage, Nick Bradley, Phil Willcock, Cheryl Haddy and Andrew Ash.
- 2 **Apologies:** Charlotte McGregor, Mark Thomas, Stuart Brooking, Peter Skinner and David Howe.
- 3 **Draft Minutes** of combined WMWG and JPFRG Meeting held on 12 December 2022 were approved, noting the correct date of the meeting.

Action: ML to post on website.

4 **Completed action points from last meeting:**

- 4.1 Oak Bank flailing and sapling taping done – with thanks to Peter Skinner.
- 4.2 Stile and kissing gate have been installed on N Field East
- 4.3 Directional signs all now installed
- 4.4 Two dog waste bins now installed and being emptied under contract by TDC
- 4.5 Explanatory piece about WM & NF now posted on website
- 4.6 New entrance gap to N Field West now cut through.
- 4.7 National Lottery Grant awarded, thanks to DH and RC

5. **Uncompleted points for action:**

- 5.1 Draft constitution for football club – SB, DH
- 5.2 Trimming hedge between Station Road and Triangular Field – SB; RC to email
- 5.3 Management plan to draw together the diverse tasks, with associated timings and funding sources – RC (see item 8)

6. **National Lottery Award and Woodland Trust**

6.1 RC reported that we have been awarded £9825 for 500 trees and labour to plant them; fencing next to the brook, and to demarcate pitches from play area and car park; bird boxes; two benches on Oak Bank. We have until 14 January 2024 to spend it.

6.2 We have also been promised 500 trees and guards from the Woodland Trust, by the end of March 2023.

6.3 Agreed:

- to use NL trees for hedging and other specific uses, waiting till November 2023, because we can choose what trees we want. Do fencing in the winter too.
- Use Woodland Trust trees along the stream bank and on Oak Bank.
- Hold a bank clearing day at lunchtime on 25 Feb, with volunteers bringing hand tools only.

6.3.1 Action: RC to draw up NL grant spending and planting scheme for now, and for November.

6.3.2 Action: RH organise volunteer planting week-end March 25/26, liaising with SB, for planting Woodland Trust trees to RC's scheme. RH to arrange publicity.

6.3.3 Action: RC assemble subgroup via email to plan the hedging and fencing

6.3.4 Action: Bank clearing day 25 Feb with volunteers - RH and RC

7. Cricket and Football pitch preparations

7.1 SB circulated on 13 Feb letter from Nicholas Garlick of Devon FA, that the Football Foundation are offering grants up to £25,000 towards new grass pitches from "farmers' fields". We fit the bill well, but would need to spend IRO £5,000 on specialist reports to fulfil the conditions of an application.

Action: SB to contact the Devon FF rep to discuss feasibility.

7.2 Sport England are also offering grants up to £15,000 for creating pitches. We need first to make some test holes. RC wishes to get the playing areas levelled and seeded this summer.

Action: RC and AA to seek quotes for digger hire and test hole drilling

7.3 Asda Spaces and Places grants for up to £25,000. We qualify and could readily fulfil the conditions. Need to contact local Asda champion; and closing date is 19 March.

Action: RC to pursue this with a view to applying ASAP, as closing date just 6 days after next meeting.

8. Management Plan

Agreed - highlighted by complexity of the discussion in section 7 above - that we urgently need the overarching management plan that has been envisaged for some time. The various tasks and grant funds need meshing together and co-ordinating, with target dates. Time is catching up with us.

Action: RC to draft Management Plan within the next 2 weeks, by 27 Feb; circulate it for comments in time for a second draft to be circulated for consideration at the next meeting on 13 March.

9. Fund Raising

9.1 CH reported on the progress of plans for the Police Dog Hogan concert on 8 July. Ide PC has supported the plan, and will allow its bank account to be used and so enable us to reclaim VAT. Capacity is only 270, not 500. Dave and Laura Farrow are helping pro bono with the booking, ticketing and practical and legal arrangements for the gig. There is a site meeting next week. Tickets will cost £25. Ticket sales will go to the orchard fund; bar, food and raffle towards WM. Group thanked CH warmly. Action: press on with these plans please.

9.2 Possible Fashion Show on May 11, with Nikki Rice and Janet Williams. RH and CH doing tickets and refreshments. Action: press on with this plan

10. Volunteering

Current tasks include :

Oak Bank steps

Clearing day 25 Feb

Bird boxes – autumn

Tree planting 25 March

RH was thanked warmly for setting up the group.

Action: RH will put a volunteering plan together.

11. We thanked James Romain for clearing up the waste tipped at the entrance to WM

Action – NB to email James to thank him

12. RXC reported that the Cricket Club had donated £250 to WM fund from the Boxing Day duck race. RC thanked the club warmly.

13. Next meeting of the WMWG and JPFRG will be Monday 13 March 2023 at 7:30pm in person at RC's house, Plane Trees, Station Road, Ide.

Approved 13 March 2023