

IDE PARISH COUNCIL

Approved minutes of a meeting of Weir Meadow and Joint Fund Raising Group
Monday 11 March 2024, 7.30pm, The Hub, Ide High Street

1. Present: Peter Skinner (chair), Mel Liversage, Nick Bradley, Richard Cottle, Rich Cloke, David Howe, Andrew Ash.

2. Apologies from Rachel Herbert, Harry Studholme and Stuart Brooking.

3. Minutes of the last meeting on 15 January 2024 were approved.

4. Draft lease for part of Weir Meadow to Ide Cricket Club.

- DH who had produced a comprehensive pack of documents as an "Interim Report" for us and the Parish Council summarised the main elements of the lease.

- AA presented a comparison of the two tenders received for the artificial wicket construction.

- Noted - the building contract will be with IPC who will own the wicket once it is built.

- Agreed aim for end of April to locate new wicket on square and surrounding hedges.

- Rate limiting step (reflected in lease) is acquisition of large enough mower to cut whole field.

- Initial lease will run for one year to allow fine tuning based on experience of first year

- Fee to be £500 pa

- Lease to cover the cricket pitch only

-CC will mow the entire field including the football pitch subject to IPC providing a suitable mower.

- Football Club will not have a lease as a tenant, but will have an agreement w IPC to play football there. Therefore this lease holds no relevance for football club.

- Big, warm vote of thanks to DH for very significant amount of work in producing legal documents pro bono with support of Michelmores.

AGREED NB will contact SB to advise him before he speaks to Devon FA on 13 March

ACTION NB

- FA grant funding for mower may not be achievable before autumn or winter, so...

- **AGREED to pursue Sports England Small Grant Scheme for mower funding now.**

ACTION R Cloke and DH go ahead now and apply to any grants that might apply - first priority on funds

- **AGREED need to purchase a lockable storage container for mower at same time, either from grant funds or our own funds in hand.**

ACTION R Cloke

-**AGREED to adopt current draft text of proposed lease and agreement for lease, and associated documents. They will be presented to IPC on 20 March 2024 for approval.**

ACTION NB

5. Woodland Creation Design Scheme on Northern Fields

5.1 Two tenders received, from Julia Matthews and Jim White and circulated to group (attached to agenda). For reasons of cost, experience, qualifications (qualified landscape architect and MIC Foresters) and proposed time requirements, the group decided unanimously to appoint Julia Matthews.

ACTION: NB to contact both designers and to confirm Julia's appointment.

5.2 We have been successful in our application for the FC Woodland Creation Planning Grant of £1500, claimable once we have submitted our design with Julia Matthews.

6. Fund Raising

6.1 Rik McCollum and Dale Stringer are doing 103K ultramarathon in Tuscany this year in aid of sports pitches / Weir Meadow.

ACTION: R Cloke to check precise destination of funds.

6.2 RH and Cheryl have done a successful pancake breakfast fund raiser.

6.3 **AGREED** We will do a Grand Opening Day with various sports on WM in September 2024.

ACTION: PS will ask RH and Cheryl to form a subcommittee to pick a date, plan and organise it.

6.4 Nigel Gooding has offered to donate a batting cage on wheels, for use on the artificial wicket.

7. National Lottery Grant

7.1 Benches and tables

AGREED RH's proposal to buy 10x A frame picnic heavy duty picnic tables and 2 x benches at £2213 total.

Agreed they can be delivered to Doug and Laura Bell's house Earles Court.

ACTION: ML liaise w RH and place order using proforma invoice , w Earles Court as deliver address.

7.2 Fencing along eastern boundary WM; and gate into Triangular Field.

3 quotes circulated by AA.

AGREED appoint APR on grounds of cost and level of communication.

Will be underspent by £700. Could add an extra 60m of fencing if needed.

ACTION: AA inform the 3 tenderers.

ACTION: AA meet w Ashley of APR on site

In event PS and NB met Ashley on site on 14 March to measure out and locate line of fencing; and measure the Tr F gate. We do not need fencing along south boundary. APR will include two pedestrian gates in the fencing to access the stream.

7.3 Using £1850 grant on trees.

AGREED: plant 10-15 specimen trees in SW area of WM, not 500 whips - see illustrations from R Cottle w agenda.

Preferred supplier is **Chew Valley - AGREED.** They will look after them for 6 weeks after ordering in bio-secure conditions.

AGREED to ask Julia Matthews for advice on which to choose and where best to plant - then order.

ACTION: Richard Cottle

7.4 Bird boxes have arrived. **AGREED put them up on 24 March using NB's ladder.**

ACTION: R Cottle ask Julian B_P to come to help

ACTION: ML send R Cottle a claim form

8 - Updates

8.1 Japanese knotweed - OK as we go. Ongoing battle.

ACTION PS and R Cloke keep attacking w chemicals and fire.

8.2 FA grants - AGREED we really need to know what criteria the FA need to see fulfilled by us, so that we can attempt to meet them. Pitch Power inspection several steps away - late summer at earliest.

ACTION: NB liaise w SB before SB meets FA on 13 March.

8.3 Triangular Field - Must now wait till September to flail due to wet and birds' nests.

ACTION: SB liaise w PS

8.4 Signage and interpretation board. Signage amended to suit current situation (NB). DH and NB have interpretation board in hand for when the meadow opens.

8.5 Strimming of margins between whips - done and paid for. Thanks to SB for organising..

9. Car Park

This is second priority - after mower and its shed. PS presented GridForce spec and price, papers w agenda. Plastic paver, easily laid and removed. Non slip option. Price £6,912.00 for 480 sq metres. Affordable and appropriate to our level of use, and no special planning permission needed.

AGREED to use this product , non slip version. Will buy it as soon as we've bought a mower.

ACTION : PS keep on his back burner

10. Main barrier gate

It does not open in ideal way - would be better if could go another 90 degrees west flush w hedge, or other way across the stream. PS suggest simple way of repositioning the key cover box. Not urgent but to be done when other tasks above complete.

ACTION: To be decided - carry fwd next meeting

11. **New committee member AGREED PS will approach Holly Phythian (?spelling) who runs boot camp on The Green to join the group. ACTION: PS**

12. **Mowing schedule** PS confirmed arrangements for Sam Burdick to cut and collect for £390 a session (two cuts in April) , then £140 a session weekly through summer.

ACTION : PS manage

13. Dog walking rules

AGREED to :

No dogs in Triangular Field for benefit of wild life

Dogs on a lead in WM all areas other than Cricket ground

No dogs on cricket ground

Dogs run free in NFs

Install wooden board walk across the swale - **ACTION ? when ?who to manage**

14. Next meeting Monday 29 April 2024, 7.30 The Hub.

END NCAB 15 March 2024

Approved 29 4 24