

Chignals & Mashbury Community Jubilee Orchard
Minutes of the Chignal Parish Council
Orchard Sub-Committee Meeting
27th April 2022, in the Gazebo

Present: Parish Cllrs: Lynn Ballard (Committee Chairman and Secretary); Jon Lewis

Co-opted members: Maggie Mills

Apologies: Moira Tarrant; Steve Middleditch; Sarah Scott

The following matters and actions were discussed and agreed.

Agenda items	Action points	Responsible
1.Outstanding actions from 2nd March 2022	<p>Orchard information panel: add the new trees to the orchard plan and update on installation for next meeting.</p> <p>Other outstanding items were picked up on the agenda.</p>	SM
2.Orchard events, activities and marketing	<p>National “Orchard Blossom Day” on 29th April. Encourage Orchard Friends to the orchard to see the trees in blossom.</p> <p>Queen’s Platinum Jubilee: attend the next Community Group (CG) meeting on 16 May to finalise arrangements for the Community Picnic in the orchard on 5th June, starting at 12.30pm. Gazebo to be erected near gate at 2pm on 4th June. Village hall tables brought across that afternoon and set out on Sunday morning in the mown area between the shed and air monitoring station. CG supplying tablecloths, bunting etc and organising orchard Treasure Hunt, Jubilee Hat competition and Jubilee Cake. Revd. Diane Garfield, (St Nicholas Church) invited to dedicate new “Queen” apple tree (72): to be confirmed. Gazebo, tables etc to be dismantled immediately after the event finishes.</p> <p>Chignal News: check deadline for mid- May edition. Article on tree sponsorship and Queen’s Jubilee celebrations.</p> <p>Orchard Friends communications: Unsponsored trees to be offered to those on the waiting list, then to those on the parish email list.</p>	<p>LB</p> <p>LB</p> <p>All</p> <p>LB</p> <p>LB/SS</p> <p>SS/LB</p>
3.Orchard maintenance	<p>Tree planting: Treegators installed on Queen (72) and Twining’s Pippin (73) apple trees. Each delivers 60lts water over 10 hours. Filled by watering can from shed water butts approx. 2 weekly intervals. If no rain forecast to replenish the butts, need to bring water in containers or ask a neighbour for a hosepipe. JL has 25ltr water containers. Install Queen’s Green Canopy steel plaque before 5th June and post photo on the webmap.</p> <p>Tree sponsor plaques: MM offered to liaise with SS to remove sponsor plaques which have not been renewed this year, (place in shed) and to clean dirt and algae from remaining plaques. JL offered to help SM with engraving newly sponsored plaques.</p> <p>Bird scarers: MT has installed the bird of prey kite and other scarers made by volunteers. MM made a bird of prey from a milk bottle, (hung on Mulberry tree) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hb7f4Ea8s3I</p> <p>Grass management: grass paths and entrance cut on 27 April and before Jubilee event. LB to liaise with Parish clerk about ordering the power scythe.</p>	<p>LB</p> <p>JL</p> <p>LB</p> <p>MM/SS</p> <p>JL/SM</p> <p>MT</p> <p>MM</p> <p>AS</p> <p>LB/Clerk</p>

	<p>Water Butts: JL has purchased fittings to connect MT's water butt that was moved to the shed: £9.90. Needs a slab as a base: JL to ask village hall committee.</p> <p>Orchard Information Panel: ideally to be installed before the Jubilee event on 5th June. Final artwork to be signed off by orchard sub-committee. Add new Chignal PC website address: www.chignalparish.org.uk</p>	JL SM
4 .Review of the Orchard Committee Budget	<p><u>Balance (at end April 2022):</u> to be updated when tree sponsorship payments completed</p> <p><u>Approved new expenditure:</u> £3,500 approved by Parish Council meeting on 14th March to purchase a robust power scythe, such as: BCS 615 Crusader 1115cm cutter 4.1kW engine £3,466 incl. VAT , free delivery https://ukmowersdirect.co.uk/scythe-mowers/133-bcs-615-gp-gx-powersafe%C2%AE-crusader-power-scythe.html#/1-select_engine-honda_gx200_petrol_5_5hp/72-select_laser_scythe_cutter_bar_transmission-115cm_45_short_oil_bath</p> <p>Identify local providers to service the power scythe, such as Grasshopper or Len's Mowers. Ground anchor required.</p> <p><u>Income:</u> need an update on tree sponsorship renewals and take-up by those on the waiting list. Remaining trees to be offered through parish email list. Agreed charge for new 3 year sponsors should be £35 (£30 plus £5 for engraved plaque and certificate). Letter to be drafted and emailed to those on the parish list asap to ensure new plaques in place by 5th June.</p>	Parish Clerk SS LB/Clerk JL SS LB/SS
5. ESORG	Attend Essex orchard visits in the summer as appropriate.	LB
6. Date of next meeting	Wednesday 6th July 2022 at 2pm in the Gazebo	LB