

Chignals & Mashbury Community Jubilee Orchard
Minutes of the Chignal Parish Council
Orchard Sub-Committee Meeting
7th September 2022, Committee Room, Village Hall

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

Co-opted members: Maggie Mills, Moira Tarrant; Sarah Scott

Apologies: Jon Lewis; Steve Middleditch

The following matters and actions were discussed and agreed.

Agenda items	Action points	Responsible
1.Outstanding actions from 6th July 2022	<p>Orchard information panel: agree revisions required.</p> <p>Other outstanding items were picked up on the agenda.</p>	LB/SM
2.Orchard events, activities and marketing	<p>Autumn Fruit Celebration: Harvest Festival at St Nicholas on Sunday 16th October at 11.00. Fruit Celebration event to follow at 12.00 in the orchard. Village hall to be booked from 10.00 – 14.00 in case of wet weather. Tables put out and fruit displayed from 11.00.</p> <p>Playing field car park to be opened at 10.30. Visitors will be encouraged to bring surplus fruit and other produce to share.</p> <p>Apple juice and apple cake to be offered to visitors.</p> <p>Young people to be canvassed for ideas for activities in the orchard to add interest to the event.</p> <p>Tree sponsorship: one remaining tree left – needs to be checked against sponsor payments. SS to liaise with Parish Clerk.</p> <p>Certificates to be printed and sponsors invited to collect them from the orchard at the Fruit Celebration on 16 Oct.</p> <p>Marketing: to generate more active interest in the orchard, investigate suggestion to promote the orchard to local gardening/allotment groups, e.g., Broomfield Cottage Gardening Society and Chelmsford Allotments, offering a package of talks and tours at spring blossom time and to see summer wildflowers.</p> <p>Promote the Fruit Celebration at the Chignal Community Meeting on 8th October. Poster to be investigated.</p> <p>Chignal News: article on the orchard year for final bumper printed edition: date to be confirmed. After that newsletters to be on-line on new Chignal website.</p> <p>Orchard Friends communications: harvest report and Fruit Celebration.</p> <p>Chignals & Mashbury Facebook Page: edited version of Chignal News article.</p>	<p>LB</p> <p>SS</p> <p>MT/MM</p> <p>LB</p> <p>MM</p> <p>MM</p> <p>SS</p> <p>SS</p> <p>SM/LB/SS</p> <p>LB</p> <p>SM</p> <p>LB/MT</p> <p>LB/MT</p> <p>SS</p>
3.Orchard maintenance	<p>Fruit trees: fewer fruit tree pests such as codling moths and diseases like blight this year as so dry although plum moth larvae have damaged plum fruit. Moth catches have been lower this year. Seabrook Red desert apples have responded well to fruit thinning. Dr Harvey apples did not fruit this year and the Pearl apples are small. Pears will be harvested during September and put on the picnic bench for people to collect.</p> <p>Grass cutting: the whole area of the orchard will be mown in October and paths mown again if required before winter.</p>	<p>MM</p> <p>AS/JL/LB</p>

	<p>Shed: gutters need clearing regularly.</p> <p>Bug Hotel: the bug hotel floor has been repaired and made level but the shelves will need to be replaced at some time. Wooden blocks drilled with small holes to provide holes for the smaller solitary bees have been installed and some tubes already being occupied.</p> <p>Orchard Information Panel: LB to discuss this project with SM.</p>	<p>JL JL</p> <p>LB/SM</p>
<p>4 .Review of the Orchard Committee Budget</p>	<p><u>Balance (at July 2022):</u> £2,105.16</p> <p><u>Approved new expenditure:</u> opaque film for shed windows https://www.diy.com/departments/d-c-fix-frosted-effect-film-l-1-5m-w-680mm/192288_BQ.prd £10.00; eco-disposable cups and napkins for Fruit Celebration cost tbc. Printing tree sponsor certificates £20.00.</p> <p><u>Income:</u> SS to check any outstanding tree sponsorship payments with Parish Clerk.</p>	<p>Parish Clerk</p> <p>MM</p> <p>SS SS/Clerk</p>
<p>5. ESORG</p>	<p>Continue to attend Essex orchard meetings/visits as appropriate.</p>	<p>LB</p>
<p>6. Date of next meeting</p>	<p>Wednesday 2nd November 2022 at 2pm in the Gazebo/ Village Hall Committee Room</p>	<p>LB</p>