

	<p>The fruit trees are planned to be mulched with remaining Strulch, with appropriate fertiliser applied on 23 February.</p> <p>MT has informed SM of tree plaques that need replacing or re-fixing. LB to provide up to date list of tree sponsors to SM and SS.</p> <p>Hedge cutting: Andy and Jon were thanked for cutting the hedge along the northern edge of the orchard. The hedge on the southern edge along the road to be tidied up on 23 February.</p> <p>Picnic table: work to sand it and treat with the preservative used on the shed to be carried out when the wood is dry.</p> <p>Installing the new bench: bench to put in place for the Blossom event in April. Review fixing methods at the next meeting.</p> <p>Shed: contents of shed need to be reorganised to make it easier to remove the ladder. The marquee will be moved into the new village hall storage building when it is completed in the summer.</p> <p>Jon was thanked for installing slabs for the water butts to sit on and it was reported that these are now full. JL to be given a shed key.</p> <p>Information on fruit trees has been laminated and will be pinned on the front of the shed in time for the blossom event in April.</p> <p>Orchard Information Panel: SM has completed the artwork for the orchard and playing field information panels and will provide a specification for the backing board and erecting the posts so that both cost and a contractor can be approved at the Parish Council meeting on 8th March.</p> <p>Orchard entrance. The City Council as landlord was approached in December about providing suitable kerbing. A reminder will be sent.</p> <p>Car park. A pull down bollard with combination lock has been installed at the entrance to the playing field car park. The code is available to orchard committee members on request.</p>	<p>SM LB</p> <p>LB/AS</p> <p>JL</p> <p>JL</p> <p>LB</p> <p>LB MT</p> <p>SM/LB/Clerk</p> <p>LB</p> <p>LB</p>
5 .Review of the Orchard Committee Budget	<p><u>Balance (at Feb 2021):</u> £532.01</p> <p><u>Income:</u> donations collected at spring blossom event. Fund raising ideas needed as rent payments now making a significant dent in the orchard budget.</p> <p><u>Approved new expenditure:</u></p> <p>2021/2022 rent payment due by 31 March to City Council: £200</p> <p>Tree sponsorship: review charges for tree sponsorship later this year, (renewals due in spring 2022). Consider providing additional benefits to tree sponsors.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>SS</p>
6. ESORG	<p>Essex Orchards Group (ESORG) now meeting on-line. SM may attend on 22 February to highlight the orchard report in the December edition of Chignal News.</p>	<p>SM</p>
7. Date of next meeting	<p>On-line meeting on Thursday 1st April 2021 at 9.30am</p>	<p>LB/Clerk</p>