

Chignals & Mashbury Community Jubilee Orchard

Minutes of the Chignal Parish Council

Orchard Sub-Committee Meeting

2nd March 2022, in the Village Hall

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

Co-opted members: Moira Tarrant; Maggie Mills

Apologies: Steve Middleditch; Sarah Scott

The recent death of Mr Geoff Pitts was noted with sadness. Geoff was a founder member of the Orchard Committee and acted as our warden until ill health prevented him from taking an active part in looking after the orchard. He is remembered fondly and valued for his local knowledge, common sense, humour and practical skills.

The following matters and actions were discussed and agreed.

Agenda items	Action points	Responsible
1.Outstanding actions from 5th Jan 2022	Orchard information panel: add the new trees to the orchard plan and update on installation for next meeting. Other outstanding items were picked up on the agenda.	SM
2.Orchard events, activities and marketing	National “Orchard Blossom Day” on 29th April this year. Use this event to promote visits to the orchard to see the trees in blossom with information on the importance of protecting pollinators. Queen’s Jubilee: work in partnership with the community group on a joint event on Sunday 5 th June in the playing field and orchard (dedication of new “Queen” tree 72). LB to attend the community group meeting on 7 th March. Chignal News: end of March deadline for May edition. Article on tree blossom and pollinators, tree sponsorship and Queen’s Jubilee celebrations. Orchard Friends communications: final reminders to be sent to tree sponsors who have not renewed with cut-off date of 11th March . Unsponsored trees to be offered to those on the waiting list, then to those on the parish email list. Chignals & Mashbury Community Facebook page: SS to liaise with LB/JL about copy and photos on tree blossom and pollinators.	LB/JL LB SS/LB SS LB SS
3.Orchard maintenance	Tree planting: 1x Queen and 1x Twining’s Pippin apple tree delivered 1 st March to be planted today. The Queen apple will be dedicated to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in June and added to the Queen’s Green Canopy webmap. 2 xTregators to be purchased. Tree sponsor plaques: to be checked and cleaned after the sponsorship scheme has closed at the end of March. New plaques to be engraved. Grass management: first cut of grass paths in April. Cleavers to be cleared from fence before setting seed. Shed: tiles dislodged during storm Eunice to be re-glued.	LB/MT LB SM AS/JL MM JL
4 .Review of the Orchard	<u>Balance (at March 2022):</u> to be updated when tree sponsorship payments completed	Parish Clerk SS

Committee Budget	<p><u>Approved new expenditure:</u> Prepare a grant application for consideration at the Parish Council meeting on 14th March to purchase a robust power scythe, such as: BCS 614 Crusader 100cm cutter 3.6kW engine £3,300 incl VAT plus carriage https://www.tracmaster.co.uk/collections/bcs-products/products/bcs-614-crusader-power-scythe</p> <p>Identify local providers to service the power scythe, such as Grasshopper or Len's Mowers. Ground anchor required.</p> <p>Perspex leaflet holder for children's activity sheets (up to £20.00) to be purchased with CCTV warning signs to save postage.</p> <p><u>Income:</u> need an update on tree sponsorship renewals now the deadline for payments has passed.</p>	<p>LB</p> <p>JL</p> <p>JL/MM</p> <p>SS</p>
5. ESORG	Continue to attend on-line meetings as appropriate.	LB
6. Date of next meeting	Wednesday 27th April 2022 at 2pm the Gazebo	LB