

Frieze Hill Community Orchard

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NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STEERING GROUP

Wednesday 19 May 2004

Present: Margaret Gibson, Linda Conway, Roger Conway, Mary Bagshawe,
Tony James, Maurice Jordan and Kate Redgate

Apologies: Ross Friend

Minutes of previous meeting – These were agreed and signed

74. Matters Arising

74.1.1 Rosie's Hair (69.1) RMC reported that he had received her cheque for £200, which had been posted at Heathrow airport on her way to New Zealand. Members who had collected on her behalf would let him have what they had raised.

74.1.2 Arch (64.1) MJ said that he was postponing the making of the arch until the Autumn and MG informed the meeting that a friend of hers wished to supply a rose to climb over it

74.3 Display (68.1) LC had booked 2 stands in the foyer of the Library for the period 26-31 July and it was agreed that this should be a bold presentation and that RC and MG should put it together.

75 Maintenance (64.2)

MB and MJ reported that this was up-to-date, trees had been mulched and the paths defined.

76 Trees (71)

MG reported that she had spoken to Barbara Collier regarding trees other than apples and that it was agreed that these could be purchased (to a cost of £200) but that they would be paid for from a difference source. They would be ordered as bare root and planted in the Autumn. Several 'friends' and members had said that they wished to donate trees and MB would put together a list with approximate prices for distribution.

77 Licence (72)

MG told the meeting that, following comments/amendments made by Ben Conway (solicitor) and others, she had returned the document to Stephen Cuthill and was still awaiting a reply. LC said that she was aware that Barbara Collier had also made some comments on the document to SC.

78 Seat (73 Totem Pole)

BC had been in touch with the maker of the Totem Poles and he had submitted a drawing for a seat. The committee agreed that this was far more appropriate and in keeping with the site and, with a minor amendment of the carving of an oak leaf to be an apple. Thanks were extended to both BC and the maker.

79 Site Meeting

BC had requested a site meeting so as to update herself on progress and MB, LC and MJ had met her on Monday 17 May for a walk round. The position for the seat was decided and marked out and she was shown the defined footpaths which were slightly different to those on the plan. It was agreed that these would be cut 4 times

this year (6 in following years) and that the whole area would be cut after grass/wild flowers had seeded in September. Some of the brambles needed to be cut back again so that the paths could be kept open. Her opinion was asked regarding the removal of the hedge spirals as it was felt that they were impeding thickening out growth. She felt that they should remain in place as protection from rabbits and deer. (See below No 80.) TJ was carrying out a controlled experiment and it was agreed that he should carry on with this. The 'dry' water feature was discussed and BC suggested that it might be a good feature to put forward as an item to be paid for by 'industry' or a granting body. The party walked up to the Staplegrove Road entrance to the Allotments to discuss the siting of an appropriate sign to the Orchard pointing down the footpath to discourage people from walking down through the allotments. BC said that she would follow this up with the appropriate department and the seat maker. TJ suggested that 'No motorbike' signs should be put up too as he (and MB and MJ) had seen bikers on the site riding round the trees.

80 Communication

It was agreed that a newsletter should go to all Members asking for help in undertaking various tasks, particularly the putting together and approach to funding bodies for financial assistance. It was also agreed to encourage members to come to site on Sunday 13 June between 10am and 12 noon to remove spirals, pull up the grass and replace spirals. Apple juice and biscuits and fruit would be served. A list of trees required would also be included. A date was not decided for the future but one would be required for ragwort pulling in the summer.

81 Any Other Business

81.1.1 MG said that SC had informed her of several bodies to whom she might make an approach regarding funding but it was decided not to follow these up at this stage (see No 80 above).

81.1.2 TJ suggested that a laminated plan of the site should be fixed to the display board on site. This was agreed.

Date of next meeting - Wednesday 30 June at 7pm at 18 Roughmoor Cottages or on the Orchard if weather appropriate.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm