

Minutes of Leechwell Garden Association Committee

Monday 8th March 2010. Leechwell Cottage

Present: Sue Holmes (Chair), Ed Vidler, Robert Vint, Dave Mitchell, Janet Mitchell, Jim Carfrae, Jeannette Willington.

1 Apologies: ` Jackie Francis, Shirley Prendergast, Wendy Reid

2 Minutes of LGA Meeting 22nd February 2010: Agreed

3 Matters arising:

Ed is still waiting for a response from Ross regarding his enquiry about VAT on our expenditure. **EV**

In response to Phillip Warne's request to be on the Committee it was agreed to invite him as a co-opted member. **SH**

4 Garden Progress:

Jim reported that he has a copy of the specifications of the work on site, but no schedule regarding the construction.

Mike Jones has looked at the eucalyptus tree- trunk and would be able to use it in his plans for children's play.

It was noted that the latest plan has no trees along the western boundary.

The question of trees and hedge planting will be raised by LGA at the next partnership meeting, We would like to see the new planting plan with names of the trees specified.

At what point will the planting in Phase 1 happen? **JC**

5 The Pool:

In Shirley's absence, Dave reported that after the draining of the pool, Shirley, Alex and a colleague had removed the mud from the bottom ready for the inspection by English Heritage and Richard Gage on 9th March.

Shirley will report fully on the situation at the next committee meeting.

6 Questionnaire and Display:

Shirley and Wendy have organised the delivery of leaflets in the area, inviting people to view the Garden Plans, and have set up the Exhibition in the Library for this purpose. Comment forms to give us the up- to- date feedback required for Phase 2 Application are now available in the Library.

Dave has set up the on-line interactive questionnaire (Comment Form) on the Leechwell Garden website.

Jeannette has sent an e-mail to members alerting them to the need for a response to the latest plan; directing them to the website questionnaire and the volunteer help form; also informing them of the progress in the Garden.

Dave reported that about twenty completed questionnaires had been

received so far, of which only two were negative. He is putting new photographs of work in the Garden on the website.
The Committee thanked Dave for setting up the really superb Leechwell Garden Website.

7 Stage 2 Application:

We are still waiting for quotes from Mike Jones. These are for seating, pergola and picnic tables/benches. Jim will give him a week, then remind him. **JC**

Would Mike be able to involve children in designing the play area? **SH**

As it is good practice to have more than one quote we will invite quotes from other suppliers as back-up. We already have some from commercial suppliers.

Dave will abstract supplementary material from DOS documents to submit for the Phase 2 Application. **DM**

Sue will arrange a meeting with Jackie Francis to consult on documents needed, to go over what has already been done, also to learn what information Jackie can provide from SHDC. **SH**

Councillor Whitty has been asked to act as referee, as required by Community Spaces.

8 Public Art:

Midas will not release the £5000 to SHDC for public art until the latter releases the land.

Sue will find out from Ross whether there was an initial agreement that the money was intended for the Garden. **SH**

It is not possible to pursue the matter of rival claims for the £5000, because at the moment the money is not available.

Janet will get in touch with Peter Randall-Page to see if he is interested in making a sculpture for the Garden and possibly to visit the site. **JM**

9 SHDC/Midas Meeting:

LGA feels that it is not being properly represented as an equal member of the Partnership. The Chair is not at present allowed to attend meetings which bear directly on fundamental issues. Sue is to ask Ross for reasons why she cannot be at the meeting between SHDC and Midas, and will state her position and the concerns of the Committee.

Ross asked for feedback from the Committee on the possibility for compromise alterations to the original Garden Plan. The Committee was unanimous in wishing to preserve the integrity of the plan as approved by the community. Any proposed change to this would need to be explained to the community.

Sue will let Ross know the decision of the Committee at once. **SH**

AOB

Press Release:

Shirley provided a briefing document for Marianne Hendrix to use in publicising the questionnaire. She has produced an article about the Leechwell Garden illustrated by two photos. This should appear in the Totnes Times this week.

SHDC needs to release information about what is happening on the site. Sue will ask Ross to contact the Press Office. **SH**

Ed will circulate notes of the last Partnership Meeting, held on 10th February.

Dates of further meetings:

Design Group Meeting (JJJ) Monday 15th March 7.00 pm At
Belvedere.

Partnership Meeting Wednesday 24th March

Committee Meeting Monday 29th March 2.30 pm Leechwell Cottage