

MEETING NOTE

Clay Farm Community Garden Steering Group

Held at: The Public Shed, Community Gardens, Clay Farm

22nd June 2018 11-2pm

Attendees:

Lisanne Doran (LD) - lead gardener/artist

Carol Holloway (CH) – local resident

Naveen Sedley(NS) – local resident

Ian Storr (IS) – local resident

Carol Wright (CW) – local resident

Dominic Halford (DH) – local resident

Mel Shute (MS) – Headteacher, Trumpington Park Primary School (present from 1.15pm)

Paul Gibbs (PG) - Director, David Jarvis Associates / landscape architect

Jo Clark (JC) – Associate Director (Planning), Countryside Properties

Apologies:

Sarah Tovell, Dave Fox and Cate Gatti.

Distribution: All present plus those who sent apologies.

1.	Update from Community Garden Group and AGM	ACTION
1.1	It was reported that the following appointments have been made to the Clay Farm Community Garden Group (CFCGG): Liz Cox (Secretary), Carol Holloway (Chair) and Carol Wright (Treasurer) to end September.	
1.2	Concern was expressed about what could happen after September when LD's current contract ends. Despite a lot of hard work very few people are so far offering their time to the project. The AGM had 9 attendees of whom two were new, including a landscape architect. The flyer has been circulated to all residents of Trumpington. Most interest so far is from passers-by. DH suggested a box on site for contact. Vicky Haywood, City Council Community Worker, only now works one day per week in Trumpington and her contract is due to end in December.	

1.3	Sub-groups need to be set up including a publicity one but currently there are too few people involved to create sub groups.	
2.0	Update re Works on Site	
2.1	JC/PG gave a general update regarding works carried out and to be carried out on site. The land to the west of the spine road had been subject to a general tidy up ie litter pick and burial of large stones. It will then have green manure mixed in and 6" topsoil.	
2.2	The central path should be laid around mid-July subject to planning etc. Opening is dependent upon safety and whether there is wider connectivity in place. Chicane design (discussed at a previous meeting) needed from David Malia.	JC/DM
2.3	JC confirmed that the polytunnel has now been ordered. IS asked how long it would be in place for. This is uncertain but the possibility of it being permanent was mentioned.	
3.	Design, location and timing of permanent building	
3.1	CH reported that some at the recent meeting of the CFCGG felt that the permanent building might be better located in the south-east quadrant of the Community Garden; JC advised that the north-east must be the starting point for discussion as always intended and overall area designed with this in mind, plus buyers may have seen documents with this plan (ie 2010 Allotment and Community Garden Strategy). IS pointed out that CALA residents had not been aware of the permanent building.	
3.2	IS updated the Group on an email he had received from Alistair Wilson at the City Council further to a query about allotment storage. This stated that storage buildings were a sensitive issue as the land is Green Belt, the lease does not allow for any and that no allotments on the 'Fringe Sites' have sheds, but that lockers need considering and Glebe Farm has some. CH said that Dave Fox had an image of a type of low level storage and it was agreed this sort of option should be pushed and JC was asked to approach the City Council via David Malia/Sarah Tovell.	JC
3.3	Brief discussion took place on the nature of the permanent building. The Nine Wells development's allotment building was mentioned and had been visited by some of the Steering Group members; general thinking was something similar would be suitable. PG advised that a building of the same width could fit into the north-east quadrant without impinging on the gas main easement. Other ideas already looked at were PG's initial drawing (shared at a previous meeting) and the Glebe Farm one. Another option the AGM considered was two separate buildings. A decision re allotment storage is needed within one month in order to allow proper discussion/consultation on the building within the Community Garden site.	
3.4	JC confirmed that the S106 'Community Gardens Maintenance Payment' Countryside must make is £15,000.	
3.5	The CFCGG were to meet with a new Councillor Katie Thornburrow in mid	

	July.	
4.	Concept Masterplan	
4.1	The concept plan was intended to be sent to the 200 individuals on the mailing list but there was a technical issue that meant the attachment could not be opened. It was shown at the CFCGG AGM. Consultation is organic and ongoing. It was suggested that the Plan be placed on display in the new library. There is to be an opening event for the community centre/Hobson Square in September (<i>Post-meeting note: now later</i>) and consultation could tie in well with this. Also potential at Southern Fringe Forum; JC to discuss with ST.	JC/ST/DM
4.2	MS is very keen for the Primary School to be closely involved and this will link well with the Forest Schooling Programme; they can advise on best use of the space. MS expressed how the children themselves should be directly involved in decisions. The School can make bids for trees etc. The Secondary School has a sensory garden and MS has met the Head to discuss the Community Garden; potentially both sets of school children could help to maintain the Garden. Also MS had recently discussed this with the School's Governing Body and there is much support. MS offered to include Community Garden info in the weekly newsletter and stated that the PTA would assist. After 11 th September there will be a second intake of children at the Primary School.	
4.3	It was agreed that those on the allotment waiting list should be consulted.	
5.	Funding and future development of community garden group	
5.1	IS mentioned the South Cambs 'Grant Grabber' and suggested the group should look whether there is similar at the City Council.	
5.2	LD advised that local childminding and home schooling groups are interested in using the space.	
5.3	LD mentioned the Headway group (for those with brain injury) who have been meeting and working on site and the possibility of a funding bid for a grant to fund staff. The Group may meet on site weekly. Also potentially groups with mental health issues.	
5.4	JC to feedback on what remaining funds are available for work on community engagement to continue after LD's contract ends, and funds available for artworks by Nils Norman. CW to set up bank account. The Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens have advice on setting up bank accounts.	JC/CW
6.	AOB	
6.1	DH advised that Dave Fox is working on the website.	
6.2	PG to re-title plan and add Clay Farm Community Garden. (<i>Note: this is circulated concurrent with these meeting notes</i>)	PG

6.3	Next meeting early Aug, potentially 17 th .	JC
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Meeting note compiled by Jo Clark, Countryside Properties.31st July 2018.