

Meeting Note

Clay Farm Community Garden Steering Group

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

16th November 2018 11:30 – 14:00

Attendees

Lisanne Doran (LD) – Lead Gardener/artist

Carol Holloway (CH) – Local Resident

Ian Storr (IS) – Local Resident

Carol Wright (CW) – Local Resident

Sarah Tovell (ST) – Cambridge City Council

Paul Gibbs (PG) – Director, David Jarvis Associates/Landscape Architect

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

Danny Clark (DC) – Senior Technical Manager, Countryside Properties

Matthew Lintern (ML) – Assistant Planning Manager, Countryside Properties

James Weaver (JW) – Graduate, Countryside Properties

Apologies

Dominic Halford – Local Resident

Mel Shute (MS) – Headteacher, Trumpington Park Primary School

Naveen Sedley (NS) – Local Resident

Cate Gatti (CG) – Local Resident

Distribution

All present, plus those who sent apologies

1.	Actions from last Meeting / Other general issues	Action
1.1	Footpath still poor – concern over safety. DC advised that it is the same spec as the country park paths. Plantstyle will visit the site to assess it further.	DC
1.2	Polytunnel – leakage, concern from meeting last night. DC to instruct 'French Drain' and Colin Walker will address this issue in time for the public meeting on 29 th Nov. (Post-meeting update: successfully addressed in time for meeting)	DC

1.3	Raised beds to either side of central path were suggested. ML advised that the Council planners are concerned over drainage of the path; to the south it needs to drain to the swale, but the north side could potentially have raised beds. To be considered further.	All
1.4	It was pointed out that the bike racks and bollards on the spine road are in the wrong place, but there may in fact be some benefit in slowing cyclists.	
2.	Site Works Update	
2.1	The central foot/cycle path still awaits planning permission, however following further confirmation on drainage/water points should be approved soon.	
2.2	People have been cutting across the site to get to the country park. DC to liaise with LD to get Plantstyle to install a gate to stop people crossing the site.	DC/LD
3.	Group Activities on site	
3.1	The front of the gardens has been tidied and is slowly becoming more established. IS raised concern that planting is happening with no plan for the rest of the site. LD advised that the new planting that has been carried out on site recently (ring of whips etc) is only temporary and was done to keep the plants alive. This also promotes the garden and allows for early engagement with the community.	
3.2	Drop ins have been quite well attended and the primary school is now more involved. More drop-ins are envisaged from Spring, possibly on weekdays.	
3.3	Volunteers from the 6 th form college have been helping on site.	
4.	Community Engagement and Consultation	
4.1	ST advised that contact is to be established with Reena – the community engagement officer at Cambridge City Council - and ‘the Rangers’. In addition to Reena and ‘the Rangers’, Sandy at the University of Cambridge has been employed by the university to promote community engagement in gardening projects around the Cambridge. It would be worthwhile getting in touch with Sandy. A national citizen service has also been established.	LD
4.2	Resident consultation CH provided an update on the ongoing consultation exercise being run by the Gardening Group: - Flyers have been distributed. - Social media updates have been done - An advert has been placed in ‘The Trumpet’ – the parish magazine - A booklet inviting comments has been distributed - Door knocks have been conducted and letters posted with personal invitations to a special neighbourhood event	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A big event has been scheduled for the 11th December - There will be a stall advertising the allotments at the Trumpington Federation School Christmas Fair - There was a stand at the Hobson Square opening event held on the 27th October - The website is up and running. A few comments have been made on the website. - Reena at Cambridge City Council will be asked to tweet on the Council's Twitter about upcoming events. <p>The consultation period is due to close on the 14th December with the aim that it's findings are to be issued to Countryside/the Council before Christmas.</p>	
5.	Building Design& Location	
5.1	<p>JC had discussed matters with Alistair Wilson at the City Council who had consulted the Head of Planning; a building on the allotment site is not supported as this is Green Belt and the building should be sited on the community garden site as originally specified. CH stated that the Gardening Group feel that as there is to be only one building it should be on the garden site and that the allotment storage issue should be dealt with separately.</p> <p>Location within the garden requires further discussion. The plot in the south-east corner may not be suitable due to proximity to the windows of neighbouring residential properties. The site currently occupied by the Shed should be considered.</p> <p>ST advised that letters have recently been issued by the Council providing an update to current allotment holders on progress of the site. The City Council is unable to adopt the site until the conditions of the planning permission have been implemented.</p> <p>DC to arrange a meeting with the Council to discuss the lease arrangement for the allotment areas.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>DC</p>
6.	Public Art	
6.1	<p>Nils Norman's latest ideas for the entrance features were presented. The consensus was that they were still too large and too wide, also somewhat 'flimsy' looking and now, and complex. The Garden Group discussed them last night and they felt they were too big and that a garden name should be included. The Steering Group consider that 4 gateways features are needed and they should either match or have a stylistic link.</p>	-

	The proposals would be discussed as part of the Public Art Steering Group meeting at 2pm today. Also to be discussed is budget and potential for re-allocation of monies to the community garden project.	
7.	AOB and Date of next meeting	
7.1	The tank has been emptied.	
7.2	DC has ordered 200 pairs of plastic overshoes for use on site, which was welcomed, whilst improvement to the path itself is considered. IS suggested adding stone chippings to the path – DC to consult Plantstyle.	DC
7.3	Next meeting 15 th March, 11.15, Clay Farm Centre	

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