

Meeting of St Ives Community Orchard and Nature Reserve Community Group Annual General Meeting

5th October 2017

Attendees:

Elise Langley (Treasurer)

Senara Hodges (Chair)

Mattie Poachee

Gill Scott Anderson (Secretary)

Rupert Manley

Carol Price

Vera Mitchell

Jay Dunstan

Melanie Frankell

1. Introduction and thanks:

EL introduced the attendees and thanked the growing group of regular volunteers over the last 12 months who have supported the orchard in many ways including: Volunteer Cornwall, Duke of Edinburgh students, weekly working groups, Leach Pottery Volunteers

2. Celebration of Achievements:

EL and SH have collated a list of some of the main achievements over the last 12 months, these include:

- The construction of the clay pizza oven on site: Laurence from the Leach pottery has been very involved in the design and build of the clay oven working with community volunteers and local children on the construction. This has also been supported by Duwayne Langley who has built a protective roof over the top of the oven.
- Planting of over 32 trees in the course of the year
- The planting of the wildflower meadow and wild raspberry bushes to support pollination
- The building of beehives by Duwayne and the introduction of bees into the hives, Duwayne has also attended a bee keeping course to improve his knowledge of this area.
- Clearing the entrance and ongoing maintenance of the land including a huge push to clear the remaining brambles on site.
- The introduction of seasonal events advertised and attended by a wide range of local people including:
 - Pizza evenings
 - Apple day 2016
 - The wassail
 - An Easter Egg Hunt
 - Foraging walks starting in the Orchard
 - The documenting of the plant species on the website
 - The production and maintenance of a vibrant website by Elise Langley!
- The launch of the 'Adopt a tree' scheme – 7 have been adopted so far

3. **St Ives Ladies Darts** team attended to present the group with a generous donation of £240.00, the chairperson expressed her gratitude to the darts team for choosing the Orchard

4. **Treasurers report** It was agreed that next year the group will organize the AGM to be held in April so it represents a full financial year's accounts.

A copy of the accounts was circulated by the Treasurer and are attached to this document.

Opening Balance March 2016 - £0

Balance at end of March 2017 - £2279.77

The full report was presented by Elise Langley, Treasurer and comments and questions were taken. The spreadsheet was circulated for information and a final reconciliation to be carried out.

5. **Tesco fund update:** total award was £2000 to be spent by end of March 2018 and £1890.00 has been spent to date.

6. **Future Grant applications:**

St Ives Town Council

Coop

7. **Tool shed** update: £450.00 has been spent to date on the concrete and steels for the shed and the materials for a green roof.

8. **Site Report:**

Working parties:

Working parties have been taking place weekly between 4 – 6 pm in the summer months. This will move to weekends at the end of October 2017.

EL has started a register of regular volunteers and is looking into in kind funding, skills banking etc.

The activities undertaken by the work parties include:

- Clearance of the site
- Planting of trees
- Opening up new areas
- Clearing to the edges of the site
- Landscaping
- Clearing of bee hive area
- Flattening the land for the pizza oven

Duke of Edinburgh: There is a new group of DOE students from St Ives school. Children between the ages of 12 – 18 are eligible for time banking, where they can receive rewards for giving time to the community.

EL to reconcile volunteer hours and profiles

9. **First Aid Course** to be sourced for outside work only. GSA to investigate 1 day training options.

10. Insurance: in place

11. **Forward plan:**

- Grant funding
- Tree Maintenance
- Building the tools shed
- More seasonal events
- More and different types of hives

12. **Bees:** The bees are being kept as natural pollinators not for honey production. The chair congratulated Duwayne Langley for all his work on the bee hives.

13. **Apple Day 2017:** EL has advertised the event in the press and on social media and in local shops. Planning is underway for the event.

14. **Election of committee members:**

Chairperson: Senara Hodges was reelected, proposed by Mattee Poachee and seconded by Jay Dunstan. Treasurer: Elise Langley was reelected proposed by Senara Hodges and seconded by Melanie Frankell. Secretary: Gill Scott Anderson was reelected, proposed by Elise Langley and seconded by Jay Dunstan

Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting closed