

NOTE of a meeting of TURN LYME GREEN held on 12 May 2015 at the Royal Lion Hotel, Lyme Regis commencing at 7.30pm

PRESENT Candida Blaker, Mark Howarth, Polly Benfield, Terry Sweeney, Martin Mattock, Sue Mattock, Liz Robinson, Chris Boothroyd, Ann Boothroyd, Ruth Katz, Julian Fernandez, John Wood, Paul Smith of Groundwork South

BELMONT HOUSE GARDEN RESTORATION

Paul Smith of Groundwork South was welcomed. He is overseeing the restoration of the gardens at Landmark Trust's Belmont House. He will be working on site until the autumn and will welcome volunteers to be part of the project. The work at present is quite heavy involving clearing the site sloping down into Lister Gardens. In time, there will be less strenuous tasks of maintenance and planting. A public path is being created with access from the town gardens. He will endeavour to obtain plans for the garden. There is also a plan to create a Friends group of Belmont Gardens; Diana Hall is interested in working with Paul to set up a group of local residents to oversee maintenance and fundraising in the future once the garden is opened. He would welcome any local knowledge and information about the history, plant and wildlife of the site. Anyone wanting to work with Paul should contact him direct.

APPLE TREES

John proposed that a tree adoption scheme be encouraged to care for the TLG trees each year. Hopefully some of the those who went on the pruning day with Phil Gamble would look after a few trees each. Jo Smith Oliver had offered to look after the Slopes Farm trees. Several ideas for events were considered for next autumn to pick apples from the 3 sites (Slopes Farm, Anning Road & Magna) and perhaps use them for cider making. Chris would co-ordinate a list of those who took part in the 2 pruning workshops for the possibility of another organised prune next Jan-Feb 2016. Publicity would help the local residents know that the trees and their fruit were for the community.

RIGHT of WAY at SLOPES FARM

At Slopes Farm, Terry reported that plans were almost in place to create an all weather path for the public right of way from Horn Bridge up to the top of Woodmead Road, especially as there may be many more walkers coming through there once the Blore housing development is completed at the top of Colway Lane. Perhaps the construction company might contribute to the cost? The Woodland Trust backed the project and talks were underway with Dorset County Council.

BEACH CLEARING

Terry reported that the annual Great Beach Clean had been a success; there were 3 organised beach cleans each year co-ordinated by the Dorset Coast Forum, Matilda Bark. Julian described his ideas to collect and recycle/reuse the metal found on the East beach. The metal pieces revealed regularly by the tides were a danger to beach users. There might be scope for some income from metal merchants if a scheme for recycling could be started. Polly would put him in touch with Matilda to explore solutions to the problem.

ECO HOMES 2015

Ann reported that there were 4 definite home owners taking part, with another 2 or 3 possible. Liz would speak to Dorset House owners to see if they would like to join in. This year Dorchester would take part alongside Bridport and Lyme. Funding raised for last year would cover TLG brochure costs this year. Volunteers were needed to help homeowners with visitors. Anyone interested in helping should contact Ann.

LOCAL COMPOSTING SCHEME

Mark is keen to set up a local scheme as it is a long way to the recycling site in Wilmington or Bridport. Many issues to consider and he would contact Otter Rotters from Ottery St Mary to learn about their successful

scheme. It was thought the Town Council's Strawberry Fields might be a suitable site. Liz would make soundings at a Council meeting and possibly approach Anita Williams who was thought to be interested. Liz and Mark to liaise.

TURN LYME GREEN – a questionnaire

A questionnaire had been developed for supporters to answer, indicating their views on the way forward for TLG. The link would be online and was in the most recent newsletter sent out before the meeting. Views were needed on a range of issues such as the structure, type and content of meetings, communications and email links to members. Candida would like to stand down as chair and hand over to someone else; a treasurer was needed – a not too onerous role; Polly agreed to stay on a secretary getting out regular newsletters and acting as a point of contact. Everyone was encouraged to complete the questionnaire before the next meeting when further discussion would take place.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Candida recommended a book – “Playing for time – making art as if the world mattered”

Also Stir to Action in Bridport were organising a series of workshops the following week on Transition by Design.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 9th June. Polly would find an alternative location, hopefully another room at the Royal Lion as it is difficult to find enough quiet space once the holiday season gets underway. A suggestion that there should be 10 meetings a year – skipping August and December.