

RHSO (Rivers Heritage Site and Orchard)

Meeting 4/10/2022 7.30pm

23 Rowney Gardens, Sawbridgeworth

Present: Ruth and Eric Buckmaster (Part), Lanier Pole, Adrienne Richardson, Colin Gill, Geoff Williams, Hazel & Dave Mead, Lanier Karnpole, Nickie Hancock

Apologies: Rob Richardson, Robinne, Monique, Steve Rogers

Purpose of Meeting: Planning for events

Topic	Discussion/ decision	Action
Welcome	Ruth welcomed everyone & we received apologies from Steve, Robinne, Monique	
Wash up from Apple Day	Everyone agreed it was a brilliant day. We also agreed that we would not want more crates of apples that we had. We need to be sure that the van used will take the weight of all the full bottles on the return journey Normally held 1 st Sat in October Consider a 2 nd pick next year for cider We agreed sweet refreshments for Apple Day & to make more chocolate cakes (Savoury for Wassail) Nickie to thank Peter Laws The refreshments took £308.35 so after expenses £123	Nickie
Initial Thoughts on Wassail	The proposed date is 14 th January 2023 6.30 - 8 Ruth to book Ukes of Hazzard Adrienne to book Zoe Next meeting we will plan detail	Ruth Adrienne
Finance	Hazel reported that we had £2718.86 in the bank Apple Day expenses were £185 E Herts Lottery is doing well	
Maintenance	Rob has been giving information to other volunteers – Geoff has info on pruning, Robinne on trees M25 stock don't need membranes Apple trees need pruning Dec/Jan/Feb so we need to find a date in January We had a discussion on pruning and courses – some of the volunteers are already trained & could cascade their knowledge (Geoff, Eric, Robinne, Paul, Colin, Hazel & Dave) We talked about the labels on trees and Adrienne reported that Eugene is planning to start re-doing the labels	
Equipment Storage	This is carried forward to when Steve Rogers is able to attend	Steve
AGM Date	Agreed for 15 th February – Ruth will book the Library Nickie to send out notice 14 days in advance	Ruth Nickie

Topic	Discussion/ decision	Action
Juice price & selling opportunities	<p>We agreed to continue to sell the juice at £3 a bottle on the basis that we are a non profit voluntary run Orchard as well as having over 1000 bottles to sell</p> <p>This led to a discussion about the future of the Orchard. It was agreed that maintaining what we have is the priority but we also need to think about the longer term. Colin and Lanier to talk to Rob, they will review the Management Plan Rob has already drawn up & can be found at this link <u>Rivers Heritage (rhs.co.uk)</u></p> <p>Ideas to be presented back to this group within 3 months</p> <p>Ruth will book a juice stall for 10th December with 17th as a back up</p>	<p>Lanier & Colin</p> <p>Ruth</p>
Plans for next year	<p>It was agreed that A Teddy Bears Picnic day to be planned for the community when the blossom is out – suggested date 22/4/2023</p> <p>We will need refreshments and publicity</p>	
Promoting events/ Social Media	<p>Lanier to explore Instagram using the <u>RHSO1725@gmail.com</u> as the login</p> <p>Lanier will explore DEFRA & preserving orchards</p>	Lanier
AOB	First Aiders – Ruth to contact STC to check requirements	Ruth
	Next meeting Tuesday 8 th November at 7.30	Nickie