



Love's Farm Community Association Meeting
Love's Farm House
15th February 2017
19.30

Meeting notes

Agenda Item

1	Attendees Barry Chapman Ian Gardener Emma Lovelock Helene Tame Jonathan Tame Romana Kandziora Ellie Gray Marcus Pickering Caroline Gregson Di Briggs Penny Norton Lynn Bleakley Ian Hall Jenny Parris	Apologies Ben Pitt David Wells Julie Wisson Daniel Grant Marilyn Wood Kathryn Beck Colin Chaplin Keela Shackell Smith Steve Briggs Rosie Ferguson
----------	--	--

2 Developing a community plan for Loves Farm

This item was introduced and led by Ellie Gray. Members divided into 4 groups, each to discuss one of the four agreed themes and to feedback one issue and one action to a plenary discussion.

Action: Ellie to provide and circulate more detailed notes from the discussion.

3 Northern Access

Cambridgeshire County Council are planning permanently to close the northern access to Love's Farm (across the bridge from Priory Hill), meaning there will be no access for buses or emergency vehicles. This was of considerable concern to the meeting. Emergency vehicles had used the access as recently as last week. Cambs County Council has been lobbied on this issue over a period of time with a variety of reasons given as to why this access should be closed. These included the bend on Priory Hill Road, lack of pavements, other safety issues and cost. The access has historically provided access for emergency vehicles and buses but the buses had been discontinued. Hence the closure proposal and the council are now claiming that the emergency access was never its intended purpose.

There was some discussion about the level of consultation required and whether or not there would be a requirement for a Traffic

Regulation Order.

It was agreed to ask for the closure decision to be deferred until the parking controls had been implemented.

Action - Marcus to write to the Highways Committee to voice the level of concern about emergency vehicle access.

Issue to also be raised with Police and Crime Commissioner – see agenda item 5.

4 Village Green

This is the open space adjacent to Hogsden Leys. Concerns have been raised about its condition with particular reference to the trees and gravel. It had been established that Gallaghers were still responsible for the maintenance of this area but had been unresponsive to complaints about it.

Action – Caroline to forward to Marcus further information and he will write to Jo Wolstencroft - HDC officer for green spaces

5 Visit of Police and Crime Commissioner

Jason Ablewhite, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire, will be visiting Love's Farm on 4th March. See item 3 – as one topic to be raised. Other suggested topics were youth related issues and also ways in which to positively promote Love's Farm.

6 Senior Youth Club

It was reported that there were a couple of prospective new volunteers but nothing concrete. The club was looking at fund raising and hoping to get back up and running by the beginning of April. The Farmhouse had other hirers interested in the slot and so had imposed a deadline for the relaunch – see item below.

7 Farm House Update

The new staff recruits, Luan and Steve, are settling in well. Luan is taking on various building maintenance tasks and is currently liaising with companies to repair the automatic door and hopefully improve on its design.

The increased staff means we're no longer as reliant on volunteers for day-to-day operation. It also means that our finances are tighter, but we're still covering our running costs and we have some money in the bank to address some issues with the building, including the front door, the blinds in the hall and kitchen ventilation.

We have plans for various in-house events throughout 2017, and are hoping to recruit some extra volunteers to help with these. If anyone's interested in helping please get in touch with Ben. There is currently a vacancy in our trustee team after the resignation of Judith Sampson. Again, please get in touch with Ben if you're interested.

Our programme of regular groups continues to grow, with the Karate group moving across from the school this month, a new parent and toddler Zumba class, parent and baby yoga and pregnancy yoga groups. The fitness instructor who enquired about the Wednesday evening slot has been offered a limited run of six weeks starting on 1 March.

The senior youth club still has first refusal on the 7-8:30pm time slot for the summer term. This is against our normal procedure but the trustees are keen for the youth club to succeed; we appreciate the work that has gone into setting it up and how it will be difficult to restart it once the Wednesday slot has gone. The trustees have asked LFCA to confirm by 1 March whether they're in a position to continue the youth club in summer term (ie starting on 26 April). At the last trustee meeting we discussed whether it would make a difference if LFCA or Kidz & Sibz offered to pay the hire fee to hold the slot open. This would only be considered if it was a short-term solution to tie things over for a specific launch date.

8 Working Groups

- **Dogs** – no information.
- **SMART** – next days 25 Feb and 25 March (pizza).
- **Events** – quiz continues. Easter egg hunt planned - open to suggestions for a comic Relief event.
- **Parking** – decision on bid to Local Highways Initiative to be made next month but there have been unofficial favourable noises. The CCC car park proposal will go to the Assets Committee next month – some buildings will be taken down.
- **Street Reps** – two new street reps now in place. Caroline had written a Neighbourhood Watch guidance document but it had been decided that it was more practical to stay with the three Love's Farm areas. Romana was intending to have a regular monthly meeting with Daniel (PCSO) and would feedback any relevant information from those meetings and LFCA committee meetings.
- **Finance** – no information.

11 Any Other Business

There was a high level of concern about lack of school places at the Roundhouse next academic year. Barry had some preliminary discussion with the CC schools provision team who were not aware of any problem. It was thought that this may be because there were enough school places in the whole of St Neots rather than on Love's Farm.

**Action - Penny to forward some further information to Barry.
Item to be placed at top of next meeting agenda**

12 Next Meeting Date

Wednesday March 15th 19.30
