

August 23

Dear Member

PLANNING & CONSERVATION MATTERS

The NDP working party has had some very helpful input from Cotswold District Council and is working on how best to reflect that in the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan so as to keep the whole process as streamlined as it reasonably can. The intention is still to have a draft ready for sharing in public as soon as possible.

We are delighted to see the renovation progress of Grevel House now that the scaffolding has been removed. Restoring and conserving this wonderful Grade I Listed building takes enormous amounts of planning, time, and money. For further information, you can view the detailed Heritage Statement and other planning documents via the Cotswold District Council Planning Portal.

We are continuing to monitor applications and work with others to argue for more strategic thinking, better design, and a more environmentally friendly approach to planning. We encourage everyone to submit their individual views about planning applications.

WOLDS END ORCHARD

Whilst July and August were a bit wet, it was great for the flora and fauna in the Orchard.

Harvesting will start this month and hopefully as many people as possible will join in the harvest through until early November - it's there for everyone! There is a huge number of apple and pear varieties, each of which ripens at a slightly different time; and every year the harvest is unique. Last year's apple trees produced a glut of fruit, whereas this time there aren't as many apples, but the pear trees are absolutely laden with tiny fruit. When work is going on, the gate will be open so please feel free to pop in, have a chat and pick apples/pears to take home and enjoy. (see dates below.) There are plans to separate the cider apple varieties and send them off to a cider maker; possibly the pears will also be sent off for perry. The WEO Apple Juice has been terrifically popular. We have been able to donate 17 cases (of dozen bottles) to the North Cotswolds Food Bank in addition to the 27 cases on sale - almost all of which have now been sold. The money raised goes towards Orchard upkeep.

WORK PARTIES

There are lots of jobs to get done this autumn - new young tree guards; mowing and collecting to prepare for more wildflower seed; numbering and labelling trees; hedge maintenance; winter pruning; and the festival of Apple Day on Saturday 21 October. Looking at the list, it feels like Campden has its very own Green Gym! - but there are jobs to fit every level of activity, knowledge and enthusiasm.

Work party sessions are between 10-12 alternate Saturday mornings. The dates are: 9 and 23 September; 14 and 28 October; 11 and 25 November; 9 December – please add to your diaries and consider coming along!

The Orchard's future and health depends on volunteer support. Thanks to the work of local people who came along this year the upkeep of this beautiful green space on the edge of town has been secured for another season. If you have any questions or would like information about the Orchard please drop us a line at fweo2020@gmail.com.

****Watch out for signs at the gate when we are harvesting. If the gate is open, you are most welcome to pop in and collect a bag to enjoy at home!****



Protecting the architectural and historic quality of Chipping Campden, its open spaces and its natural setting.

Running community orchards is getting popular across the UK and it's great Campden can be a part of the movement. Did you know **The Orchard Project** runs a Certificate in Community Orchard, with a course opening in Bristol this September. You can find out more on their website : www.theorchardproject.org.uk

**** DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: The next community event at the orchard will be APPLE FEST in conjunction with Jecca's House on Saturday 21 October. ****

Our next **Art Open Afternoon** will be 2 - 4pm on Friday 15 September. Bring your own art materials. There's no expectation to show anyone your work. If you register your interest by contacting foweo2020@gmail.com, or texting 07966734731, we can let you know if the dates change due to weather or other circumstance – but do feel free to just roll up on the day too, even if it's just for a wander. As always, everyone is welcome.

Looking forward to meeting up with more volunteers this autumn at one of the upcoming work parties!

Julianne, Geoff, Susie, Mike, Chris, John, Geoffrey and Steven

With our best wishes

Elizabeth Devas
Chair

APPLE JUICE made from Wolds End Orchard and Campden gardens is available to purchase at £3.25 a 75cl bottle. They can be bought from Rachel's Stall in Back Ends.

Alternatively we can deliver cases at a discounted price to members : 6 bottles at £18 or 12 bottles at £36 in the Campden area; to purchase a case or cases, please contact Geoffrey White on 0781 500 5879 or email geoffreymwhite@gmail.com.