

Glebe Field meeting

20th March 2019. Holy Trinity Church, 7.30-8.30pm

An open meeting for Church and community

Hosted by Phil Cansdale (Vicar), Mike Haddaway and Erica Staples (HT Wardens)

Points of Information asked at beginning:

- What land was the Glebe Field swapped with? – Hilda Harding field off Roman Road
- What is to happen to HH field? – PCC looked at this in the past but considered not 'developable' at the time. Now in hands of Diocese. If sold in next 50yrs, church receives financial benefit.
- Is/is not the field a designated green space? One attendee to email church office regarding conservation extracts from 4/8/72 and July 2006. RW Gibb(borough surveyor)

Question put to those attending:

How can the church and local community best use the Glebe Field?

Brief responses from table discussion(about 10 different groups)

- Open and welcoming
- Produce and a community orchard
- A place for children to enjoy recreation, to gather – “village green”
- Amphitheatre/performance space
- Managed meadow – why change?
- Car parking is an issue
- Children play – natural playground – forest school
- Garden for Windfall Project (project working with adults with learning difficulties)
- Woodland / wildlife site
- Community garden
- A place for young people
- Car parking on some of the site
- Pastureland for local farmers
- ?parking – but not tarmac (specialist advice needed)
- Community garden with play area, toilet, available for forest school, nature study, skateboarding
- Parking issue – widen road?
- Council to extend hard standing for parking
- Friendly for wildlife – protect ecology
- Green energy – solar panels
- Not keen on car parking – “grasscrete” beyond existing hard standing area
- No housing
- Ground source heat pump
- Legally binding covenant not to build
- Biodiversity survey
- Community use – simple and easily maintained

- Sustainable
- Safe learning environment – all ages
- Different methods of transport to come to church

Suggestions through written or email correspondence prior to meeting:

- Marquee space for weddings
- Donkeys
- BBQ area
- Inflatable screen with small coffee shop
- safe dog walking area(for hire)
- seating areas
- Maze
- shed for older men in community
- designated area for cycles
- Gardening project for older members of the community

Further post-its: (numbers refer to tables/maps)

Each bullet point refers to an individual post-it note, and everything on it

1.

- Mixed use: mixture of
- Planting trees(screening)
- Wildlife area(bees, hives, hedgehogs, pond, etc)
- Flat grass area for events(marquees, stalls, market)
- Limited car parking
- Wildlife haven
- Plant an orchard
- Parking for Trinity Centre – sympathetic to nature
- Amphitheatre
- Include environmental area – involve children and adults from church and local community
- Explore 'green' car parking
- A pretty communal garden to sit in and enjoy
- Heating source eg ground source heat pump
- Communal garden for fruit , etc
- In parallel, revive the proposal to improve car parking next to the football match(grass –crete)
- Beehives – produce honey – environmental area – gardens - no housing – BBQ area
- Whatever it is used for: maintain and enhance wildlife habitat – mitigate species extinction – survey grassland – bioblitz as benchmark
- No housing – minimal car parking

2.

- Do nothing with it

3.

- Fruit trees/ food beds – use by Windfall or members of church and community

- Safe space for families – picnic
- Don't need swings, slides, etc
- Paths around it for Trinity Centre users and others to walk round
- Botanical survey needs to be done before deciding what it is used for
- Keep as green area – whatever
- Needs to be protected from development – covenant forever – no parking/ever – 'green hardstanding' – even a small amount will spoil the whole (and will inevitably grow)

4.

- Church and village fete type events
- Leave it as a managed meadow
- Has any thought been given to removing the iron fence around the Bradbury Hall (originally required if livestock was kept in Glebe)
- Therapeutic community space
- Growing veg/fruit/flowers
- Enjoying green space
- We need car parking – I don't believe it should be ripped up – that plastic stuff that grass grows through

5.

- Windfall Gardening project – allotment and orchard space – to work with adults with learning difficulties (existing jam/chutney project in TC – safe space. Use patch of field)
- Space for children/families to play, eg mud kitchen/outdoor living space for community – alternative to 'soft play' – opportunities for free/outdoor safe space for children. Canopy needed, log seating
- Solar panels on any or all of it for environmental and financial reasons
- Car parking?!? – we see it's needed – could we add more space sympathetically? – we need expert help to know what's best – could Town Council use some of the less nice space by football hut?
- Re-landscape hedgerow along Church Road to open up site of TC and church and make safe space for pedestrians

6.

- I would like to see, additional to parking, a quiet, reflection garden, for use by the local community, possibly with a sensory element to attract both wildlife and children
- Let's think 'are there problems/issues which the community have in this area to which this land offers an unexpected possibility of solution: Grace. Parking is an obvious example but not the only one > play area, toilets, skateboard
- I think it would be a good idea if the Glebe Field could be used as a conservation area. There are 2 schools close by and they could use it as a place for rural studies and to study nature and the environment
- I would like to see Church Road access route widened to ease congestion with the huge increase in traffic that has arisen in recent years.
- I would like to see parking on a section of this field as there is an issue with unsafe parking in the local area ? such events as weddings, funeral etc when school parking is not available
- Widen road between vicarage hedge and church yard boundary

- I feel tarring the Glebe Field would be v commercial with focus on letting out Trinity Hall
- A garden with interesting and perfumed plants and a pond to encourage wild life diversity. How many living things are supported by the Glebe Field. If parking is a problem, could the existing parking be extended by the soccer field. Costs to be ?? so wild ?? have to be the solution!
- Designate for a walk through garden/tree area for church and local community use

Z.

- Biodiversity increase – oak planting – water – access, revelation for community increased – managed meadow area – protection of ancient hedgerows – fruit trees
- Conservation area – edible flower produce beds – area that encourages people to dwell – grassed amphitheatre
- Woodland – wildlife – biodiversity – encourage people to use the space
- Community garden – something for young people and future generation – once paved, difficult to re-green
- Community meeting space – recreation – a place to gather – a village green
- Community gardens – orchard
- Landscaped for children's play area
- Amphitheatre
- Sculpture trail
- Car park sympathetic to the area – not tarmac but plastic 'sheet' for grass to grow through
- Ongoing maintenance
- Previous issues – 2006 – objections to car parking on Glebe Field – difficulties crossing the road – issues with car parking now, ie people driving to church; no car sharing; footballers; problem ambulance access; dangerous blind corner; narrow road
- People coming to church need somewhere to park – some car parking(part of site) –problem not esp. Sunday, but bigger events such as weddings and funerals
- Area around the edge fenced for bikes and dog walkers – welcome entrance to make it feel accessible to all
- Community woodland and increased seating and quiet places to sit – village green – small dais – art sculpture trail