**CHIDHAM & HAMBROOK PARISH COUNCIL**

**HAWTHORNE and PYNHAM MEADOWS - PUBLIC OPEN SPACES**

Chidham & Hambrook Parish Council is now the registered owner of Pynham Meadow in addition to Hawthorne Meadow. The intention is to develop these as complimentary public open spaces. The meadows are located on the west side of Broad Road in Hambrook between the housing developments known as Hawthorne Gardens, to the south and Pynham Crescent, to the north respectively.

**Hawthorne Meadow** has been owned by the Parish Council for some years now and is essentially a beautiful wildflower meadow where dogs can be exercised. Funding has been secured for further developments to include:

* pedestrian access to hawthorn Meadow via a footbridge from Broad Road
* limestone hard surfaces to allow wheelchair access from the footbridge to a group of picnic tables and benches near the Hawthorn bushes in the centre
* an information board and a dog bin station close to the footbridge.

Work is expected to be undertaken within the next few months.

The acquisition of **Pynham Meadow** by the Parish Council was delayed by the Pynham Estate development ending up in the hands of an official administrator. All negotiations with relevant parties have now been completed and transfer of the land to the Parish Council took place in late June.

In mid-2020 a very successful public consultation resulted in a consensus for there being natural spaces with minimal structural development.

The original planning application for Pynham Meadow included the provision of allotments and a community orchard. In addition a new drainage ditch must be excavated as a priority, to ensure water flows are maintained.

A key feature of this area will be an open grassed family area. Pedestrian access will be via Pynham Crescent or via an access bridge off Broad Road at the southern end of this meadow. Pynham Meadow will be a dog free zone and will be the only community leisure facility in the area where children can play without dogs present.

Fruit and nut trees will be planted to the west of the meadow in the orchard and other varieties of large trees will be planted around the edges to increase biodiversity. It is also proposed to introduce a mini-wood (Miyawaki Forest). An allotment will be developed to the north west of the meadow and fenced off.

At present the footpath (FP258) along the western boundary of both meadows is the only link between the two meadows. Provision for limited vehicular access between the two meadows is planned.

A more detailed design map is below.

Comments and Feedback; in the first instance please contact either

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