





# The Tithe Barn – Landbeach

	<p><b>Brief Update</b></p>
1	<p><b>Governance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name of charity agreed: Tithe Barn Trust</li> <li>Draft vision statement and draft objects now in place – see Appendix 1</li> <li>Application to Charity Commission – draft data in discussion and final submission expected by end March 2015; likely to use CIO-model of a charity (final advice to be taken)</li> <li>6 trustees now firmly on board with varied background (ref skills &amp; experience), more trustees being advertised based on skills identified in gap analysis; anticipated to have at least 8 trustees in place (max. 10) by end April 2015</li> <li>treasurer – now in place (a professional accountant)</li> <li>good momentum now established with tasks being completed by emerging trust group and ideas and project details being developed and prioritised.</li> </ul>
2	<p><b>Procurement of Works</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>historic building survey undertaken by specialist (procured by SCDC); works required outlined and initial repair costs estimated as £240K incl VAT (some professional consultants advice missing, thus final will be costs higher)</li> <li>Detailed joint works schedule (SCDC and Tithe Barn Trust) to be devised to illustrate restoration works, essential consultants work and those items which can be undertaken by volunteers (based on surveyor’s report), fundraising works etc; partnership working with SCDC would be beneficial in some areas during restoration phases and close liaison with SCDC Project Officer throughout envisaged</li> <li>Bat &amp; owl survey – free survey completed by ecologist from Conservation Construction Ltd (Littleport), no bats nor owl found, recommendation made to remove owl box and close any gaps in façade (to be completed in March); an offer of donated owl box received and suggested locations at Common and also Worts Meadow =&gt; liaison with SCDC Ecology Officer and relevant neighbouring landowners to be undertaken</li> <li>Hedge cutting completed – pro-bono by neighbouring farmer</li> <li>Liaison with neighbouring land owner underway (Old Rectory) to explore options in relation to works as well as further enhancement works benefitting community usage of the barn and its surroundings</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>Setting up supporters</b> – update by GO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently membership as part of a friends group under consideration; also to include patrons and corporate support options</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>SCDC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Several meetings held with SCDC project officer, conservation officers, legal officer (17 and 25<sup>th</sup> February 2015) – minutes taken and joint working group is going well</li> <li>Legal officer will advice on current covenants/ easements regarding title deeds of Tithe Barn – this will give a better understanding of the land holding’s constraints and opportunities</li> <li>Lease/ ownership of building needs to be clarified before any grant application can be made summer 2015 onwards (currently suggested a 2 phase contract covering initially restoration phase then followed by a quasi management phase) – good practice to be learned from other charities with similar set-up</li> <li>Procurement of works discussed – need to consider best value of money and resources throughout</li> <li>Revised joint programme of works (covering preparation works, restoration/construction works, consultants, community involvement, SCDC committee timetable etc) under preparation</li> <li>Initial works to include temporary protection of the building using well pinned down/ secured tarpaulin sheets covering areas of leaks within thatch too prevent further deterioration within the next year and whilst fundraising is underway</li> </ul> <p><b>Agenda items</b> for next joint meeting – draft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint project plan/ programme – first draft; Legal – insurance (building and liability – need written proof); access rights (barn and Old Rectory); Site visit – surveyor and representatives of ET and SCDC</li> </ul>



5	<p><b>Finances &amp; fundraising</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently finalising the pledge document – to be rolled out widely by mid March</li> <li>• alternative pledge/ donation routes under investigation</li> <li>• Savings account set up with local bank (Cambridge Building Society)</li> <li>• Charity Aid Foundation – to host main bank account and currently being set up</li> <li>• List of local individual donors and organisation donors in preparation and “asks” being prioritised</li> <li>• In kind/ pro-bono donation list being developed</li> <li>• Meeting with major donor (anonymous) held and significant pledge expected</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Media &amp; PR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facebook – events page set up and linked with wider contact list of local people and organisations</li> <li>• Twitter account set up – going live with the “big ask “ – everybody to complete a pledge</li> <li>• E-mail account set up</li> <li>• April event promoted (local community newsletter, posters)</li> <li>• talk to Parish Council’s Annual Meeting planned for Thur 30 April @7:30 Village Hall – update on progress to date of the emerging Trust</li> <li>• e-news – 2<sup>nd</sup> issue in preparation for issue week commencing 9 March 2015</li> <li>• a logo for the trust is being developed – in house.</li> </ul> 
7	<p><b>Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>January Open Day – 2 hour morning session was attended</b> by 25 people and very useful contacts made including with at least one major donor</li> <li>• <b>Cleaning Day – March 2015</b> – local company Cosworth are keen and hopefully can help as part of team building exercise</li> <li>• <b>Saturday 11 April Open Day - 10:30am – 13:00pm</b> – family fund day with various activities now widely promoted via posters, local community newsletter etc</li> <li>• <b>Summer event</b> – larger event in planning</li> <li>• <b>Stalls at local fairs and fetes</b> – summer 2015</li> </ul> 

## Appendix 1

# Tithe Barn Trust

last revised 27 February 2015

## Vision

*Working for a vibrant, diverse and sustainable future of the Tithe Barn and its surroundings to safeguard their unique heritage features for the benefit and enjoyment of local people.*

## Objects

- to sympathetically restore and maintain the remarkable site – the Tithe Barn, its land and its wider surroundings
- to maximise public access for all to the site for local communities and from further afield and to value it being part of the local heritage and leisure provisions
- to deliver sustainable, efficient and effective core activities and management for the site to generate income to support its long-term upkeep
- where beneficial to develop sustainable and effective partnerships with others
- to raise awareness of the site’s unique and special qualities and character – in terms of heritage, landscape and culture
- to carry out exemplar educational events/community-based and/ or income generating activities and to enable full interpretation of the site's diverse heritage
- to help interested communities, groups and individuals or similar to aid the upkeep of the site.