



Wye Community Farm

TIME TO TURN THE VISION INTO REALITY!

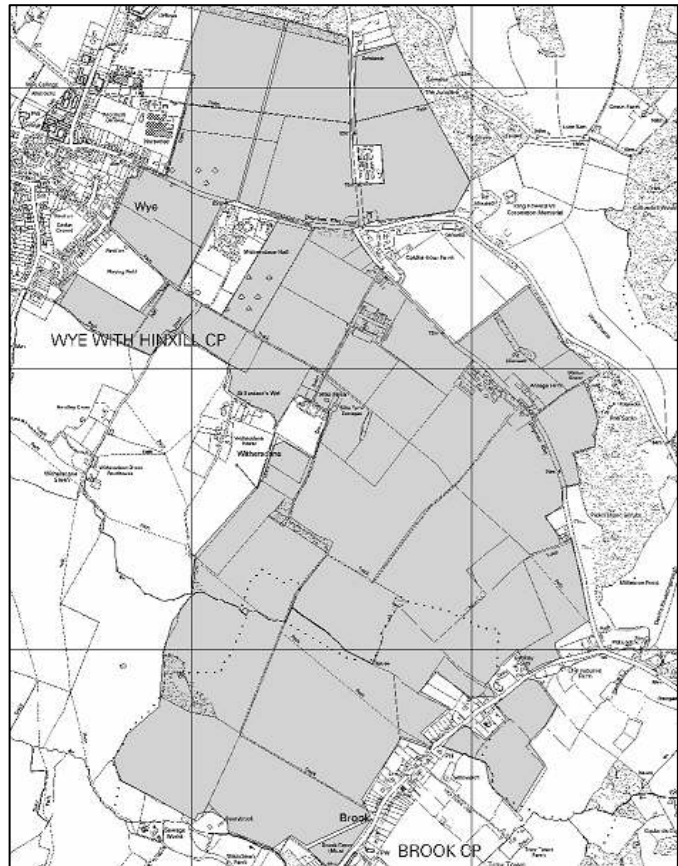
July 2007

Since it was confirmed that agricultural research at Wye was coming to an end, a vision has been developing for a new chapter in the history of the Wye College Farm.

Over the last six months, the Wye Community Farm steering group has been working to put all the necessary measures in place for a

community-led bid for the tenancy of the farm. Extensive public consultation has taken place, a business plan developed, and the relevant technical and professional support secured.

This project has now moved to the next crucial stage, with the release of the tender documents for the farm. The map above shows the 307 Ha (758 acres) to be offered for tenancy, on a 10 year Farm Business Tenancy. The Wye Community Farm steering group is ready to submit a bid, but will only do so if it is confident that sufficient public support exists. Please see overleaf for further details on the benefits to be had from this initiative, and on what you must now do to ensure the vision becomes a reality.



with support from:

www.wyecommunitylandtrust.org.uk



A new chapter for food and farming in Wye



Wye Community Farm

If the Wye Community Farm is successful in securing the tenancy of the farm, work will be focussed on the following guiding principles.

- ❧ **Local food for local people:** The dairy herd will be retained, with an on-farm pasteurisation and bottling facility being installed. Other direct sales enterprises will be developed in partnership with local businesses.
- ❧ **Education and training:** Thousands of school children will visit the farm every year, to learn about food production and its central role in countryside management and care for the environment. Training and volunteering placements will be created.
- ❧ **Employment:** Jobs will be created, both directly on the farm and within the ancillary businesses adding value to farm produce.
- ❧ **Access and enjoyment:** The Wye Community Farm will be managed to maximise use of the land as a place of tranquillity and relaxation for local residents and visitors.
- ❧ **Biodiversity and wildlife:** A range of agri-environment schemes will be entered into, to ensure profitable food production operates alongside a rich flora and fauna.

None of this can be achieved without your support!

The Wye Community Farm will be a co-operative business, with membership being held in the form of £50 shares.

Please visit www.wyecomcommunitylandtrust.org.uk and return the expression of interest form today. Everyone who pledges their support in this way will then be sent a prospectus within the next few weeks, setting out investment details.

You will not be asked to buy shares until the tender bid is successful, but your pledge of support is needed by **20 July** to allow a bid to be submitted.

(If you have already returned your expression of interest form there is no need to do more at this stage, you are already on our database to receive a prospectus).

Many thanks

Phil Ward, WCF Steering Group Chairman

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