

MINUTES OF WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE TOWN COUNCIL'S FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12TH APRIL 2016 AT 7PM IN THE CIVIC CENTRE

PRESENT: Cllr P Smith (Chairman), Cllr P Barton, Cllr R Claydon, Mrs J Deveney, Cllr T Luker, Cllr N Pinnegar
In Attendance: Deputy Clerk Mrs Y Milsom

452. Apologies: Cllr John Cordwell, Mrs E Warren

453. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 19th January 2016

Proposed by Cllr Pinnegar, seconded by Cllr Claydon, that the Minutes of the Footpaths Committee meeting held on 19th January 2016 be approved as a correct record. Agreed all in favour.

454. Walking Festival

Cllr Claydon updated members on progress to date. There have been three meetings of the Working Group since the last Footpaths meeting and it was encouraging to get new people at the last meeting earlier this month. There are plenty of volunteers to lead walks but so far not enough willing to form an organising committee. However, since the last meeting Chris Sweet and her husband have volunteered their company to take the lead. Cllr Smith will meet with them shortly to clarify what is being offered. The next meeting, which is on 5th May 2016, is being advertised in various village news publications and it is hoped that there will then be enough volunteers to take this forward. Cllr Smith had been contacted by someone interested in joining the committee and Cllr Luker would pass on details to others he thought might be interested.

455. New Road Allotments

The Footpaths Committee had been asked for their ideas on various issues at New Road Allotments as follows:

- a) Suggestions for remedial work to improve the steep and slippery upper entrance path;
- b) Suggestions for remedial work for the narrow and uneven paths within the allotments site;
- c) Suggestions for landscaping and stabilising the bank below the Chipping Surgery development.

It was noted that the lower entrance to the allotments is relatively flat, although the first stretch of path needed work to make it more usable. The upper path is very steep and it was suggested that a sloping concrete path with shallow steps at intervals would be a solution. The concrete could be brushed to make the surface less slippery and the steps no more than 75mm deep so as not to inhibit wheelbarrow access. It was estimated that the cost for this would be around £2500. There are tree roots here which also need to be factored in, but this could be resolved by placing pipes around the roots to allow them to grow without causing damage to the concrete. It was agreed that Cllr P Smith would survey the site to accurately ascertain the levels and gradients. Members did not have any suggestions for the paths within the site, nor for the bank.

456. Wotton Clump

It was noted that Mr Jarmuz had arranged for stainless steel wire to be attached to the iron bars set into the top of the wall at The Clump and photographs of the finished work were circulated. Members hoped this would help to deter vandalism and it was agreed that Mr Jarmuz should be formally thanked under the Good Deeds section of the forthcoming Town Council meeting.

457. Circular Walk Number 3

In response to an email which had cited some difficulties following the route description, Cllr Claydon had followed the short route of the Town Council's Circular Walk Number 3 and made

revisions to the wording to make it clearer. The Deputy Clerk had now updated the website version and the paper version. The Chairman thanked Cllr Claydon for his help with this.

458. Holywell Leaze Land Agreement

It was noted that the Holywell Leaze Land Agreement had now been agreed and signed by all parties. The Clerk would check with the Buildings Manager to see if the padlock had been replaced.

459. Parking Issues at Synwell Green

It was noted that the parking issues discussed at the January meeting had been amicably resolved.

460. Footpaths Survey

There were no reports. It was suggested that the remaining path surveys should be carried out before the June meeting to take advantage of the (hopefully) better weather and then the roll-over to the next survey could commence. The current survey had commenced in 2011. Reports on some of the remaining paths had not been carried out during the previous two surveys so should not be overlooked this time.

461. Any Other Footpaths Matters

a) It was suggested that contact should be made with the organisers of Dursley Walking Festival and it was confirmed that this had already been done and that they had been most helpful.

b) It was reported that thorns were overgrowing the footway from the bank on the left-hand side of Synwell Lane from Mount Pleasant to Synwell Playing Field. The Clerk would report this to Stroud District Council.

462. Meeting Dates

Dates for future meetings were arranged for 21st June 2016, 20th September 2016 and 17th January 2017.

This completed the business of the Footpaths Committee.

Signed:

Dated:

Chairman of the Footpaths Committee