

MINUTES OF WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE TOWN COUNCIL'S PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY AREAS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17th JANUARY 2017 AT 7PM IN THE CIVIC CENTRE

PRESENT: Cllr R Claydon (Chairman), Ms K Bailey, Cllr John Cordwell, Mr S Jarmuz, Ms P McGuinness, Cllr N Pinnegar, Mrs E Warren In Attendance: Deputy Clerk Mrs Y Milsom

488. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs T Luker and P Smith

489. Declarations of Interest – None

490. Public Forum – No public present.

491. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 20th September 2016

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20th September 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Agreed all in favour.

492. Footpaths Survey

Completed survey reports were given to the Deputy Clerk. The remaining unallocated paths were distributed among members and it was agreed to try to complete all of the surveys by the next meeting in April. The Deputy Clerk would send members a list of all the path allocations.

493. Community Action Plan

Section 6 of the Community Action Plan included several items within the remit of this Committee.

a) Footway Survey – As discussed at the September meeting Cllr Claydon had prepared a Footway Survey similar to that of the Footpaths Survey covering all of the streets of Wotton. Some of the streets did not have footways, some had private footways and comments to this effect would be included on the survey as well as any problems noted. It was agreed that members would look at streets convenient to them and report back to the April meeting, when it would be determined if the format was suitable; and the remaining streets to be checked would be allocated. Any problems requiring remedial action would be referred to the County Council.

b) Local Green Space Designation – Members were asked for suggestions for areas to nominate as Local Green Space in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Cllr Claydon would research the NPPF and produce a summary of the criteria for the next meeting.

c) Holywell Leaze – It was confirmed that the padlock had now been changed. The Buildings Manager had confirmed that there was no maintenance regime in place with regard to the stream banks and so far there had been no problems. An extract from the Holywell Amenity Land Management Plan December 2009 relating to the stream management was circulated to members. It suggested carrying out maintenance in a rotational fashion during the winter months to minimise disturbance to wildlife. Cllr Claydon would discuss this further with the Buildings Manager. It was suggested that advice could be sought from one of the Wildlife Trusts. The Cotswold Wardens would be doing repairs to the wall and installing the stone circle in the spring. Mr Jarmuz had procured a stone he hoped would be suitable to build into the wall to depict its Mill heritage.

494. Budget

The budget for this Committee for the Financial Year 2017/18 had been agreed at £500 as requested by this Committee.

495. Walking Festival

The Walking Festival would take place from 5th – 7th May 2017 to coincide with the end of the Arts Festival. The Town Council have given a grant towards the advertising and development of logo. There would be a variety of walks each day, including family-orientated walks, town walks, pub trail, bluebell walk and others of varying distances each day. There is some concern about how to proceed with the disclaimer as there appears to be no consistency with how other such festivals manage this. If this first festival is successful it is hoped it will become a regular annual event.

496. Correspondence

a) A letter of complaint had been received concerning the overgrown state of the path which runs along the back of the houses along Water Lane and the boundary of the British School. A response had been sent informing that this path was not an official Public Right of Way and so no action could be taken.

b) An email had been received concerning a partially collapsed wall running alongside the path between Valley Road and Manor Lane. It is thought that the wall is privately owned. It had been reported to the County Council and the member of the public has been asked to monitor the situation.

497. Any Other Footpath Matters

a) There is a tree down across the path from Wotton Hill to Nibley monument, the path running parallel to CWE9. Mr Jarmuz agreed to check it and clear it if possible.

b) On the Cotswold Way path to Wotton Hill there is a laurel tree leaning over the path, coming from the access-way to Hillside Cottage. The Deputy Clerk would report this to Gloucestershire County Council.

498. Dates for Future Meetings

The next meeting was scheduled for 25th April 2017. Further meetings were arranged for 4th July 2017; 26th September 2017; and 30th January 2018.

This completed the business of the Public Rights of Way and Amenity Areas Committee

Signed:

Dated:

Chairman of the Public Rights of Way and Amenity Areas Committee