

**MINUTES OF WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE TOWN COUNCIL'S FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015 AT 7PM IN THE CIVIC CENTRE**

**PRESENT:** Cllr C J Galbraith (Chairman), Cllr R Claydon, Cllr Dr J Cordwell, Cllr C V Galbraith, Mr S Jarmuz, Cllr T Luker, Mrs E Warren

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Deputy Clerk Mrs Y Milsom

**406. Apologies**

Mrs J Deveney, Mr B Rodman, Mr P Smith

**407. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

Proposed by Cllr Claydon, seconded by Cllr C V Galbraith, that the Minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Agreed all in favour.

**408. Footpaths Survey**

a) It was agreed that members would check the paths that they had previously been allocated with the following exceptions:

CWE25 and CWE 99-101 would be checked by Cllr R Claydon

The Clerk would email confirmation to members of the paths they should check.

b) There were no new reports.

**409. Holywell Leaze**

a) The Holywell Leaze Management Plan had been adopted by the Town Council on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015. Members were given a copy for their records.

b) Wall repairs – The Town Council had included a sum in its budget for the Financial Year 2015/2016 for stone to repair the old mill wall. The Cotswold Wardens would carry out the repairs. The outdoor classroom project had been approved by Town Council and the Cotswold Wardens were now applying to one of their own funding sources to purchase stone for the work. It was anticipated that both of these projects would take place early in the new Financial Year. It was suggested that an old millstone would make an interesting addition, to correspond with the picture on the information boards on site.

**410. Budget 2015/2016**

The Footpaths and Holywell budget for 2015/16 had been agreed as follows:

Stone for wall repairs	£850
Holywell Leaze boundary agreement legal fees	£400
General Footpaths/Holywell Leaze	£450
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1700</b>

It was noted that the legal fees for the Holywell Leaze boundary agreement had been increased from the amount suggested at the October meeting. Town Council had received a quotation for this work which was considerably higher than the amount included in the above budget. Members discussed at length various ways of pursuing the agreement without accruing high legal costs, whilst at the same time satisfying legal requirements. It was noted that Cllr Claydon had worked on an agreement some time ago, which had been returned from the adjacent landowners with a number of suggested

corrections. It was proposed that another agreement should be drawn up using this information and that it should refer to:

- (i) Town Council boundary as shown on the Land Registry plans
- (ii) State that the fence is not the legal boundary.

If this could be drawn up and agreed in principle by all of the landowners then it could be referred to a solicitor for advice/approval. If the landowners could not come to an agreement then it might be necessary to engage a solicitor to pursue the matter in order to protect Town Council interests, although this could prove expensive. Proposed by Mrs Warren, seconded by Cllr C V Galbraith, that Cllr Claydon should draw up a revised agreement as described. Agreed all in favour.

#### **411. Any Other Footpaths Matters**

a) Mr John Dansie, a Cotswold Warden who often carries out work for Tresham and Hillesley Parish Council, would like to establish a new permissive path between Kingswood and Alderley with the purpose of creating a user-friendly/disabled-friendly route from Wotton to Hillesley via Kingswood. It was noted that part of the path crosses land where the owner has not been amenable in the past to the installation of kissing gates. Mr Jarmuz would find out the exact line of the proposed route. Members were keen to support the project in principle but noted that this would not include financial support.

b) CWE28 – The aluminium sign has been broken into several pieces. This had already been reported to Amey/Public Rights of Way.

c) CWE24 – The bottom step is missing from the stile where the path meets Coombe Road by Holywell House. This is a steep drop and the step is essential. The Clerk would report to Amey/PROW.

d) The Clump, Wotton Hill – Reference was made to the railings on top of the wall. Some of the railings curve outwards and there are notches through which, formerly, a bar or wire would have passed. Mr Jarmuz asked whether, in principle, the Council would support the reinstatement of a bar if he could get the funding to do this. It was noted that Listed Building Consent would be required if the project progressed. The Town Council would need to see precisely what was planned in the first instance.

#### **412. Dates for Future Meetings**

Future meetings were arranged for 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

This completed the business of the Footpaths Committee

Signed:

Dated:

Chairman of the Footpaths Committee