

MINUTES OF WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE TOWN COUNCIL'S PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY AREAS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 7PM IN THE CIVIC CENTRE



PRESENT: Cllr R Claydon (Chairman), Cllr John Cordwell, Mr S Jarmuz, Cllr T Luker, Cllr N Pinnegar, Cllr P Smith In Attendance: Deputy Clerk Mrs Y Milsom

519. Apologies – Apologies were received from Ms P McGuinness

520. Resignation of Co-opted Member

It was noted with regret that Ms K Bailey had resigned from this committee. She had made a considerable contribution to the Footpaths Survey and her input had been much appreciated. The committee therefore needed new co-opted members. Cllr Pinnegar would enquire at the Walking Festival group whether anyone would be interested in joining this committee and a notice would also be placed on the Town Council website.

521. Declarations of Interest – None

522. Public Forum – No public present

523. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 25th April 2017

Proposed by Cllr Pinnegar, seconded by Cllr Smith that the Minutes of the meeting held on 4th July 2017 be approved as a correct record. Agreed all in favour.

524. Footpaths Survey

a) Reports on the 8 unchecked paths were given, thus completing the Footpaths Survey for 2016/17. The Deputy Clerk would report the issues raised.

b) In response to the various problems with stiles reported as a result of the Footpaths Survey the County PROW Officer had suggested the Town Council might consider purchasing some replacement stiles or kissing gates. It was noted that maintenance of stiles was the responsibility of the landowner and it was therefore considered inappropriate to spend taxpayers money in this way, unless it was to upgrade from a stile to a kissing gate to improve access. It was agreed to re-check the paths which had been noted as having issues with stiles after allowing 6 months from the date the problem was reported to County PROW for remedial works. If the issue persists then the problem should be reported again. The Deputy Clerk would identify who had checked the paths originally and produce a list of those needing to be re-checked alongside the dates the issues were reported to County PROW. Volunteers would be requested for those paths checked originally by Ms Bailey.

525. Footways Survey

The footways on Synwell Lane had been assessed as requiring £8000 for repairs from the County Council plus the remaining £1000 from County Cllr Cordwell's Highways Local budget. It was not known when the works would be done as Virgin are currently still installing cabling in the town's footways. It was noted that the Oatground needed weed clearance from the edges of the tarmac. There had been little progress with the Footway Survey due to the continuing Virgin works and it was agreed that serious work on the document would take place once these works were complete.

526. Cotswold Gateways Project

The Cotswold Conservation Board is putting in a funding bid to develop a number of towns and villages as gateway sites for walking and cycling in the Cotswolds, and Wotton has been selected as one of the sites to be included in the project. A number of suitable routes for walking and cycling were needed for submission to the Cotswold Conservation Board. Suggestions were circulated to members and the routes to be submitted were identified and agreed, with appropriate amendments to some of the routes. A poet's walk, commemorating U A Fanthorpe, had been suggested but, although the idea was well-received, it was agreed that this could not be properly accomplished within the tight time-frame. The Deputy Clerk would compile the final maps and submit them very shortly.

527. Any Other Footpaths or Amenity Areas Matters

An area at Holywell had been cleared by the Wardens in readiness for the wall repairs. A semi-circle of wall seating would also be built near to the wall. It was hoped this would be carried out before the end of this year.

528. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 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