

**DRAFT MINUTES OF WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE TOWN COUNCIL'S PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY AND AMENITY AREAS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> JULY 2018 AT 7PM IN THE CIVIC CENTRE**



**PRESENT:** Cllr Roger Claydon (Chairman), Cllr Nicholas Pinnegar, Cllr John Cordwell, Cllr Terry Luker, Mr Staszek Jarmuz, Mr Dale Curtis, Mr Pat Comer, Mr Marcus Cross.  
In attendance: Information Officer, Jenny Wyatt

**549. Election of Chairman** – Cllr Claydon was proposed by Cllr Pinnegar and seconded by Cllr Cordwell, all in favour. Cllr Claydon was duly re-elected as Chairman.

**550. Apologies** – Cllr Paul Smith, Mrs Jane Mason

**551. Declarations of Interest/Dispensations** – None

**552. Public Forum** – No members of the public were present.

**553. Minutes of the Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

The Minutes of the PROW and Amenity Areas Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**554. Footpaths Survey**

a) Members reviewed a document containing the results of the work carried out by members to check if issues identified by the original Footpaths Survey had been remedied. Many issues were still outstanding and some new problems had been identified. The Information Officer had tracked all the original reports made to Gloucestershire County Council and found that few had been actioned. Following the rechecks by members of the group the Information Officer had focussed on the most urgent issues and had either updated the original reports to indicate that the work was still outstanding or sent in new reports where new problems had been identified. The online tracker system on the GCC website is currently unavailable so it is no longer possible to check the status of reports made. Concern was expressed about the fact that issues raised had still not been remedied and there was a view that GCC appeared to be overwhelmed by its current workload in this area. Members were satisfied that all issues that presented a hazard had been reported to GCC. Mr Comer expressed particular concern about condition of the bridges on CWE 77. Mr Comer will check them again and advise members of the group by Friday if they have still not been repaired so the Information Officer can follow this up. Mr Jarmuz advised that in the past the Town Council had contacted the Cotswold Wardens direct to get work done if repairs had not been completed by GCC. Cllr Claydon expressed the view that it would be preferable to follow up issues through GCC if they had already been reported to them. It was agreed to continue focussing on resolving the most urgent issues before moving on to lower priority problems identified. Mr Curtis queried what responsibility landowners have where footpaths cross private land. Cllr Cordwell advised that landowners must keep a path clear where it passes through crops. The footpath behind Parklands leading to Streamfield was identified as being particularly overgrown at present as well as CWE 98. The Information Officer will report these to GCC and members were requested to notify her of any other overgrown paths that they become aware of.

b) **Condition of Footpath CWE 53** – Mr Cross reported that this footpath had recently been cut back, no further action required.

### **555. Footways Survey**

Members reviewed a document showing the results of the Footway Survey and actions taken. A small number of paths are still to be completed and members responsible for these will survey them. The Information Officer had reported all the most serious issues to GCC and members were satisfied that everything that presented a hazard to pedestrians had been reported. Cllr Cordwell will follow up the works reported on the list via his contacts at GCC.

### **556. Cotswold Gateways Project**

Cllr Claydon reported that the Cotswold Gateway Bid had been successful and that the Cotswold AONB had contacted the Town Council regarding the works required to implement the project in Wotton. It is expected that this will be achieved in conjunction with the Cotswold Wardens. Cllr Claydon advised that members of the PROW Committee and the Walking Festival Group are likely to be involved in the work to set up the new routes – four walking routes and four cycling routes. New noticeboards showing the routes are to be installed. Further information about what is required and the timescale for implementation is currently awaited from the Cotswold AONB and funds allocated are due to be spent by December 2019. Members are to be notified as soon as further information is received.

### **557. Town Council Walk Leaflets**

A complaint had been received from a member of the public that walk number 6 was out of date. As a result of this it had been decided to review all the walk leaflets published by the Town Council and update them as required. Routes were allocated as follows – **Walk 1** – Cllr Pinnegar, **Walks 2 and 4** - Mr Cross, **Walk 5** - Mr Jarmuz, **Walk 6** - Mr Cross and Mr Curtis. Cllr Claydon has already reviewed **Walk 3** and only recently provided **Walk 7** so these do not need to be updated.

### **558. Any other Footpath/Amenity Area Matters**

Mr Jarmuz reported that work to repair the walls and other improvements at Holywell Leaze had been delayed as the Cotswold Wardens were working on Brackenbury Ditches. The Wardens are now due to start at Holywell Leaze in two weeks' time.

Cllr Cordwell advised the meeting about changes being made to Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMOs). More evidence now needs to be provided to inform the process. Cllr Cordwell expects that some money will be available from his Highways Local Funding Budget and he has shared the information on works identified by the Footways Survey with the local Highways Manager. Stinchcombe Parish Council has produced a set of 14 walk leaflets which Cllr Cordwell had brought to the meeting. In the Stinchcombe area, signs had also been installed to show the boundary of the Cotswold AONB. Mr Jarmuz advised that he was not aware of this having been done by the Cotswold Wardens but would look into where they could be obtained. Wotton Town Council could consider doing the same if the source could be identified.

Cllr Claydon queried if the outcome of the application for a DMMO for the footpath at Ellerncroft was known. The current status of the application is not known and Cllr Cordwell will check on the situation.

### **559. Dates for Future Meetings**

Further meetings are arranged for 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019

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

Signed:

Date:

Chairman of the Public Rights of Way and Amenity Areas committee