

Minutes of the Footpaths & Allotments Committee Meeting

Held on 1st December 2014 at 8.00 p.m. in the Bush Room

Present: - Cllrs. Marcus Fry (Chairman), Terry Hunt (TH), Alison Peters (AP), Paul Caddick (PC), Steve Blick (SB), Erika Booth (AAA)

Graham Smith (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Evacuation Procedures

Evacuation procedures were noted

3. Public Participation

Marie-Anne Buckingham

4. Declaration of interests

None

5. Minutes of the previous meeting

5.1. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st September 2014

14081 Resolved: The Minutes of the meeting held on 1st September 2014 were agreed and signed by the chairman.

5.2. Matters arising –

Investigate the process involved in re-routing bus services. – (Clerk) informed members that investigations had taken place with regard to a request from a resident to re-route the 312 bus. However the action had been resolved with the resident by introducing the availability of community transport which resolved the resident's issues.

5.3 Outstanding Actions -

None

6. Allotments

6.1. Usage – Waiting List

(Clerk) informed the committee that the agreement had been delivered to the tenant for allotment 1B which now leaves the waiting list with 4 waiting, however no applications had been received since the 2013 Alveston Show. The committee recommended that (Clerk) place information on the website to attract new potential allotment holders to the waiting list.

FP141201-01: Place an advertisement on the website to attract new potential allotment holders to the waiting list.

Action to Clerk

6.2. Improvements

(PC) read to the committee a report from the AAA

The AAA committee are improving the access path by extending the original one laid and enables access to the allotments and have raised money through grants from Magnex (£500) and South Glos. Council (£1000) to lay geogrid, membrane and chippings. The geogrid has proven to work as the original set up by the Parish Council has proven to be fit for purpose. The grant covered the following costs:

£1025.44 geogrid

£59.99 Ground support material

£381.60 12 x 800kg of aggregate.

=£1467.03

However extra finance is required for:

- The top up of existing chippings on footpath, over the giogrid
- Particular aggregate fixing base layer for the area between the kissing gates
- Wire mesh over the bridge (as its slippery).

(Clerk) informed (EB) that a letter had been issued to all grant applicants advising of the outcome of the 2014/15 Parish Council Grant process and that a grant had not been awarded to the AAA for this year.

Mrs Hawkins has given permission for the AAA to improve the path on her land. The footpath could be improved by S Glos Council and perhaps needs to be investigated as during the winter this does not dry out and access to the allotments becomes limited leaving the public footpath as the alternative route which also becomes hard to negotiate during winter.

The path outside of the allotment is on the land owned by Mrs Hawkins. The AAA committee members trim and prune back the path, but encroaching brambles, nettles and trees will need a major cut back, which needs machinery.

(AP) informed (EB) that footpaths fall under the normal maintenance remit of South Glos. Council but the brambles and drainage mentioned are separate issues and need to be investigated.

FP141201-02: Inspect issues relating to access and report to Parish Council.

Action to Clerk & (PC)

The AAA would encourage the PC to engage in issues with the new Chair and/or Vice Chair when elected at the AAA AGM on 23rd March 2015.

6.3. Inspections

(PC) volunteered to conduct the winter inspection on behalf of the Parish council and would arrange a date with (AAA).

FP141201-03: Arrange and conduct the winter allotment inspection.

Action to (PC)

7. Footpaths

(MF) introduced Anne-Marie Buckingham to members. Anne-Marie has volunteered to assist the Parish Council and South Gloucestershire Council to co-ordinate the monitoring and reporting of footpath issues. Anne-Marie had previously worked at South Gloucestershire Council Public Rights of way / Footpaths with Lindsey Saunders (SGC).

- 7.1. (MF) reported an increase in footpath usage since the publication of the Calendar and had attended St Helen's fair recently where a few more had been sold. Action is now required to investigate further initiatives.
- 7.2. Walking Groups – (MF) reported that a public walking group had been formed which meets on Sundays. At the last meeting 15 people attended.
- 7.3. Monitoring & Maintenance. (Public rights of way support & process) – Anne Marie Buckingham (AMB) informed members that prior to working with rights of way at SGC she had been a cartographer and is used to working in this area and is available to assist the Parish Council. (MF) recommended that walks be assessed three months prior to the month promoted on the walking calendar and to encourage users to feedback any issues. This information and details of the walk to be placed on the website each month throughout 2015.

FP141201-04: Arrange for provision to be on the website to promote monthly walks on Alveston.org

Action to Clerk

8. Bus Shelters

- 8.1. A38 Upgrade - (Clerk) informed members that (AP) and he had completed an inspection of bus shelters and prioritised the shelters for upgrade. This information was then submitted to Tom Roberts at South Gloucestershire Council (Project Manager) and is awaiting a reply.
- 8.2. Future Maintenance – There were no immediate issues to report and (Clerk) will order a full clean of shelters in Spring 2015.

9. Street Care

- 9.1 Future of Dog Waste Bins.
(MF) presented to members a document demonstrating considerations relating to the future of dog waste bins within the Parish.

(TH) reported that upon enquiring the bin usage with SGC Street Care that all bins (with the exception of one on Down Road) are well used. (PC) informed members that he supports continuing to fund Dog Bins on the same basis. (AP) recommended that rationalising Dog Bins with an aim to obtain best value should be considered. (Clerk) informed members that by removing three of the seven dog bins do not necessarily mean that a saving of three seventh the cost will be made. This is due to cost of travel / vehicles and labour. The question had been raised with SGC and is awaiting a reply.

(AP) recommended that further consideration and consultations relating to creating savings should only be perused if the savings amounted to £500 or more.

FP141201-05: Obtain an accurate quote from SGC relating to pro rata savings.

Action to Clerk

10. Correspondence

None

11. Any other business

(Clerk) informed members of a SGC consultation relating to Sort it Centres.

Meeting ended at 20.55pm.

**The next meeting of the Footpaths & Allotments Committee is on
Monday 2nd March 2014 at 20.00pm.**