

Minutes of the Footpaths & Allotments Committee Meeting

Held on 1st June 2015 at 8.10 p.m. in the Bush Room

Present: - Cllrs. Marcus Fry (Chairman), Alison Peters (AP), Paul Caddick (PC), Denis Sanigar (DS) (AAA)

Graham Smith (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

Marie-Anne Buckingham.

2. Evacuation Procedures

Evacuation procedures were noted

3. Public Participation

None

4. Declaration of interests

None

5. Minutes of the previous meeting

5.1. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 2nd March 2015

15.046 Resolved: The Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd March 2015 were agreed and signed by the chairman.

5.2. Matters arising –

The committee remain concerned relating to the quality of the highway borders located along the A38 where excavation occurred due to the installation of new power cables. (Clerk) reminded Cllrs that the ongoing issue was that South Gloucester Council (contractor) would not cut the grass growing in the excavated areas due to their contractor leaving a significant amount of rocks and boulders at the surface of the infill. South Gloucester Council argued that these boulders could damage the mowers and cause a hazard to oncoming traffic if the cutting resulted in flying debris. (AP) expressed concern that the highway borders were in a very poor state of maintenance and proposed that the Parish Council write formally to South Gloucestershire Council with regard to dissatisfaction in the way that the SGC appointed contractor had not returned the verge to its original condition and the fact that SGC allowed this situation to arise. (AP) proposed that (clerk) draft a formal letter to SGC expressing parish council concern. (PC) seconded the motion and (MF) agreed.

FP150601-01: Draft a letter expressing parish council concern relating to the condition of the highway borders and circulate to Cllrs prior to forwarding to SGC.

Action to (Clerk)

5.3 Outstanding Actions -

None

6. Allotments

6.1 Matters arising from AAA committee meeting.

(PC) reported details of the AAA meeting of the 29th April 15 as follows: -

Plot 1b remains empty. (DS) informed the committee that currently the plot remains as grass and is being cut by the (AAA) and that 1b is a very wet plot.

Some members of the (AAA) are concerned that a representative from the parish council attends their meetings and this will be discussed / debated in more detail at their next meeting.

(PC) reported that the (AAA) were concerned that the parish council did not make a contribution toward their newly installed footpath. (AP) informed (DS) that parish council s137 payments were available for all community groups to apply and funds were limited. (Clerk) reminded councillors that the parish council walking calendar initiative raised £225 for the allotment association.

The bi-annual inspection will take place in July.

(DS) informed Cllrs that judges for the best allotment competition are being sought.

Electric Power Distribution are yet to cut the trees which are close to infringing upon the cables that run through the allotments. (Clerk) informed (DS) that a meeting had taken place earlier in the year and work had been agreed.

The (AAA) are looking to purchase a rotivator for the use of all the plot holders.

6.2 AOB (allotments)

(DS) informed Cllrs that he welcomed the opportunity to attend the F & A meeting in order to get a feel for the processes involved and that Erika Booth has stayed on as a member of the (AAA) committee.

(MF) is now at the stage of looking for community groups to take a month in the 2016 calendar and asked (AAA) to consider the opportunity.

7. Footpaths

7.1. Footpath Calendar progress report

(MF) reported that the calendar is now at the stage where 12 walks have been identified, mapped, and photos taken. He has written to scouts, approached First Bus and is now at the stage of writing to other groups and is keen to go further afield than Alveston Parish.

7.2. Memorial Gardens – Diversion of Footpath

(Clerk) reminded councillors of the footpath diversion proposed by The Memorial Woodlands and showed the location of the existing footpath on the current footpath map. (Clerk) had spoken to SGC and it was confirmed that the proposal for the footpath diversion is out to consultation and requires community feedback prior to a formal application for diversion being issued. (AP) expressed concern that a diversion to this footpath would set a precedent to other land owners who may wish to divert footpaths that transgress their property. (MF) agreed to contact The Memorial Woodlands to discuss the requirement further.

FP150601-02: Contact The Memorial Woodlands to discuss the requirement for diversion of footpath OAN/64/20 in more detail.

Action to (MF)

8. Bus Shelters.

8.1. (Clerk) provided a quotation of £210 plus VAT for bus shelters to be cleaned and informed Cllrs that there had been a delay due to the works being carried out by Western Power. (AP) proposed that the bus shelters be cleaned as per quotation. (MF) seconded and (PC) agreed.

15.047 Resolved: The Parish bus shelters to be cleaned as per quotation of £210 plus VAT

8.2. (Clerk) had circulated with the agendas a consultation paper relating to bus shelter upgrades provided by South Gloucestershire Council. The committee requested that (clerk) forward to SGC the following comments: -

1. The Alveston Parish Council are enthusiastic about the proposed improvement scheme and agree with the recommendations presented relating to all bus stops within the Parish of Alveston.

2. A question arose relating to the proposed new bus shelter at David's Lane Northbound (SG ref 24) with regard to who will own and maintain this bus shelter if installed.

3. With regard to bus shelters outside the Parish councillors were in favour of prioritising Rock Street Northbound (SG Ref – 31).

9. Street Care

As discussed under 5.2 – matters arising.

10. Website

(MF) requested that information relating to the fallen tree on Greenhill be uploaded onto the website.

FP150601-03: Contact Upload narrative (and photograph) with news relating to the fallen / felled tree on Greenhill Road.

Action to (Clerk)

11. Correspondence

None

12. Any other business

None

Meeting ended at 21.10pm.

**The next meeting of the Footpaths & Allotments Committee is on
Monday 7th September 2015 at 20.20pm.**