

WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Footpaths & Village Maintenance Committee held on Monday 1st August 2022 at 7.30pm at Hooper's Field Pavilion

Present: Bob Biggs, Dave Hayward, John Warr

In attendance: Angela Raymond (Parish Clerk) and 1 member of public

Dave Hayward proposed that Bob Biggs chair the meeting in the absence of Mike Webster; John Warr agreed.

Meeting ref:
F&VM/08/22/

- 1 Apologies: Apologies received from Mike Webster, Kathy Glanville and John Emmins, and approved at the meeting.
- 2 Declaration of interest: John Warr declared a personal interest in item 4, footpath 44. *The Parish Clerk reminded John Warr of the advice that she had previously been given by Swindon Borough Council that, as the applicant, he had a prejudicial interest in relation to footpath 44, but this advice was declined.*

*Meeting was adjourned for Public Questions
No questions received.*

3 Footpaths:

3.1 Update on work carried out on footpaths

Clerk provided a report confirming work carried out on footpaths since the last meeting, plus an update from SBC's Rights of Way Officer.

SBC's Rights of Way Officer has confirmed that the wooden stiles on footpaths WA29, WA30, WA31 and WA33 that are difficult to use are due to be replaced with either kissing gates or swing gates. This work was due to be carried out in July 2022 but has been delayed until August 2022.

Committee agreed to ask SBC Rights of Way Officer to replace the blue footpath signs, which were incorrectly installed, with green footpath signs or preferably wooden ones (the same as those installed from Stacey's Lane to Hooper's Field).

Committee agreed that now SBC Rights of Way Officer has accepted that the surface for footpath WA14 is not safe and quotes are currently being gained for repair work, this should be reported to SBC with a reference number so progress can be monitored.

Committee agreed that now there has been an extension to the closure of the footpaths around The Marsh due to the Southern Connector Road. Once these paths are re-opened there is going to be a considerable amount of maintenance work needed to clear the paths ready for use. Committee agreed that this should be added to the Southern Connector Road works and cleared at their cost.

Committee agreed that all replacement fingerpost signage in The Marsh should be wooden.

Angela Raymond
Clerk to Wanborough Parish Council

3.2 Maintenance programme for Green Lane.

Clerk provided a copy of the maintenance programme for Green Lane from SBC's Rights of Way Officer. Shrubbery clearance either side of the bridleway is cleared four times a year under Parish Council's contract but SBC are still responsible for the surface. SBC's recommendation is to carry out maintenance to the surface every ten years, which means nothing is planned until 2025, unless it is deemed unsafe. Committee agreed to monitor the surface of the bridleway and to carry out an inspection in October 2022 and report any sections that could be considered as unsafe to SBC.

3.3 Applying for the bottom end of Kings Lane (near Kite Hill) to be added to the definitive map.

Committee agreed to apply for the bottom section of Kings Lane to be added to the definitive map. An article to be included in the Lyden asking residents who have used this section of the path for 20+ years if they are willing to provide a statement of evidence so that this can be submitted to SBC along with the application. There is the question of who owns the land as it is currently "unregistered".

3.4 Update on Village Walks for 2022.

Clerk confirmed that the village walks are going well; they have been held monthly in 2022 since April. Two more walks are planned on 5th August and 3rd September 2022. Due to illness, a request for help was made for the walk on the 5th August, as the Clerk was unsure whether she would be able to do it.

4 Footpath 44 modification order

4.1 Letter received from Planning Inspectorate and circulated to the committee. Committee agreed to take no further action.

5 Village Maintenance

5.1 Village maintenance reported to Parish Council since the last meeting:

- Rodway open space sculpture – Clerk confirmed that the sculpture is currently fenced off so no one can use the seat on the sculpture as it's unsafe. A quote to repair the sculpture has been received from Allbuild at a cost of £850. Committee unanimously agreed the quote, confirming the cost will be covered by village maintenance budget.
- Lower Recreation Field – play equipment – Clerk confirmed that the small springer's base is broken. As this is still under warranty, Clerk has asked Wicksteed to inspect. The issue of repairing the goal mouths was discussed and it was agreed that it is too dry to do anything at the moment. Clerk to discuss with Wanborough JFC as to when would be best to carry out this work.
- Broken dog bin – Rodway open space – Committee unanimously agreed to replace the bin; a budget of £300 allocated from the village maintenance budget.

5.2 Village clean-up day

It was agreed to hold the next village clean up day on Friday 23rd September 2022 at Foxhill and Saturday 24th September 2022 in Wanborough village. It was agreed that due to how busy Pack Hill is at the moment it would not be safe for volunteers to litter pick this area and this would need to be scheduled when Wanborough Road is re-opened.

5.3 Work completed by Village Handyman

Clerk confirmed that the Village Handyman is on top of his work schedule and everything is currently going well.

6 Update on the current Village Maintenance & Footpath Projects

6.1 Clerk provided a report and update on current village maintenance and footpath projects; a copy is included in the appendix to the minutes.

Committee agreed to purchase additional bulbs to be planted on the High Street. It was agreed to check with residents living next to the verges, some of whom currently cut and maintain the grass, that they have no objection to the bulbs.

7 To agree arrangements for a village Christmas Tree

Committee agreed that they would like to install a Christmas tree on Church Road, similar to 2021. It was agreed to check with Wanborough Village Hall committee as to what they are planning at the Village Hall.

8 Proposals put forward by Parishioners

8.1 To install planters on the High Street – Committee agreed that further discussions are needed to decide what can be installed on the High Street. Once designs/ideas are put forward Parish Council can then discuss further. It was agreed that the Clerk would speak to those who had expressed an interest.

8.2 To improve footpath surface from Mayfield to footpath from Warneage Green (WA11) – The committee agreed that this is a rural footpath and the surface is as you would expect for a rural path. It was agreed to raise this with SBC's Rights of Way Officer to see if he can gain a quote at the same time as footpath WA14.

Meeting closed at 9.25pm