

SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Sherston Footpath Group held in Sherston Village Hall on Thursday 28 April 2010 at 7.30.

Present:

Martin Rea
Phylip Harries
Maggie McKenna
Nigel Freeth
Helen Freeth
Pat Bunce
Stan Bunce
Chris Edgecombe
Richard Skeffington
Sue McKechnie
Andy Osborn

1. Apologies.

Apologies had been received from Jay and Steve Dunn and Will Connock.

2. Approval of Minutes of 31 March 2010.

The Minutes were approved.

3. Walks Booklet.

Martin Rea reported that at a recent Parish Council meeting John Thomson had suggested that we could take advantage of the OS Licence that was already granted to Wiltshire Council. Gary Latchman had said that as long as the publication was described as produced in partnership with Wiltshire Council with the logo and copyright that would be acceptable. If we needed a re-print it will need a commercial OS Licence. This means that we can make a saving of £300 for the first printing.

The publication also needs to have an ISBN number – Martin Rea said he was clarifying this as it appears that the batch of 5 numbers he thought were for the Parish Council were in fact in the name of Cilla Liddington (and some had been used for her village publication). Martin will continue to establish the position and if necessary get 5 more numbers for use in the future.

Phylip requested that the Group should continue to complete the proof reading of the remaining text for the booklet. Richard Skeffington and Andy

Osborn need to finalise the copy for the Country Code. (NB it appears that this is now called The Countryside Code.)

3. Walks Booklet contd.

Martin reported that Jay and Steve were disappointed that the Group had not had more input into the decisions that Phylip had taken regarding the photos that had been used in the booklet. Phylip said that whilst he would be happy to discuss including some different photos he believed the format of the booklet was acceptable and the members of the Group agreed that the final design decisions were down to Phylip.

Phylip reported that he had got some old pictures of Sherston from Cilla's collection and had incorporated them on the Village Walk pages. Phylip passed around a printed proof and some laminated walks pages to give examples of the final finish. He said he had also slightly redesigned the pocket to provide a better product.

Andy raised the issue of Launch Day – i.e. when were we thinking of the final date for any alterations, proofs, printing etc. At previous meetings it had been discussed that the booklet might be ready for Village Day in May. However with the various delays over the potential savings for the OS Licence and clarification of ISBN numbers it was felt that to rush the copy date and risk mistakes would be a pity – better to take our time and get it right! The Group discussed moving official launch to Boules Day – July 17 – and we could use this time for organizing publicity, marketing ideas etc. The Group should try to have some sort of display on Village Day to advertise the forthcoming publication of the Booklet.

Phylip also showed the Group a mock-up of a poster he had designed to advertise the Booklet and said that he reckoned we would need about 100 copies of the Booklet to use for PR – press, parish clerks, landowners etc. He thought we would be printing around 700/800 copies.

The Meeting then went on to read through the copy for 'Sherston – an introduction' and 'A Village Walk' in the same way as in the previous meeting – i.e. Maggie read through and everyone asked for their corrections and alterations after the read-through.

Andy felt that for the booklet we should be only using the text that was on the website for 'The Countryside Code'. The Group discussed this and agreed that this would be sensible as there could not be any problems if we used the 'official information'.

The Group also read through and discussed the section 'General Information' and again it was felt by the Group that we should only offer fairly simple guide lines as it was only a village walk booklet.

Phylip will incorporate the alterations and corrections discussed at this meeting into a final document that will be circulated to all the Group members – together with the 9 Walks and Descriptions already completed.

Problem Paths / Finance

Martin Rea said he had nothing to report to the Group other than information already covered in the meeting.

4. Liaising with Landowners / Wiltshire RoW Department

Martin Rea said that the composition of the letters to the landowners was becoming increasingly complicated. However he suggested that we should send a copy of the Booklet with a letter to all the landowners. This would cover the work of the Group, the formation of our working parties to keep the RoW in good order, our liaison with the County Council on the RoW, way marking etc. Potential problems of over-cropping would be flagged. Also we should stress the point that the Group would be able to assist the landowners and we would hope that any problems would be reported to us so they could be resolved.

Nigel Freeth pointed out that the over-cropping issues need to be addressed now as it was a relevant time of year. Martin Rea also suggested that he should write to Steven Leonard asking him to write an appropriate letter to all the landowners flagging their responsibilities in respect of the RoW on their arable land. Also he would express the Group's thanks for all the support that Steven had given us over the last few months.

5. Working Party

Martin reported that it appeared that the insurance for the members of any working party seems to be okay as long as we are using the tools supplied by the Council.

6. Dog fouling and litter.

Martin reported that this was obviously still a problem that needed all Sherston residents to be aware of.

7. Community Payback.

Martin reported that the Community Payback were coming to redecorate the Village Hall and they would also be involved in creating a pathway in Grove Wood. Martin was keen that they should also be involved in the work to be carried out on SHER 22 to create a more satisfactory path. (Martin to email Steve to ask if Council can supply some scalplings for this work. Also very important to inform Peter Sidebottom of this potential work on his land.)

8. Grove Wood

Martin reported that the initial phase of work to the wood had been completed.

9. Easter Walk

Sue McKechnie reported that the Easter Walk had gone well with some 15/16 people attending. They had taken the Easton Grey walk and Sue said that she was inclined to try to use the Booklet walks as the basis for the walks in the future. The next walk is to take place on 30 May.

10. Village Green Day – 22 May.

Martin and Sue told the Group that this was proving to be outstandingly popular with some 50 stalls already booked. The Group all agreed that it would be a good thing to have some publicity for the Booklet at the event.

11. Matters Arising

The point raised by Mr. Hillier at the previous meeting about the condition of the Cliff walk had already been covered in the meeting.

12. AOB

Andy asked Martin if it would be possible for people to purchase the Booklet on the Internet via the village website. Martin said he would look into this subject as it would involve payment methods/postage etc.

13. Next Meeting

To be advised

MM
070510

