

SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Sherston Footpath Group held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 1st December 2010 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Martin Rea, Richard Skeffington, Jay Dunn, Steve Dunn, Andy Osborn,
Nigel Freeth, Sue McKechnie

Peter Campaigne Chairman of Norton Parish Meeting was welcomed to the meeting. Good wishes for a speedy recovery were extended to Phylip Harries who has been admitted to hospital.

1. Apologies: Phylip Harries, Maggie McKenna, Pat & Stan Bunce, Chris Edgecombe

2. Minutes.

The date of the next Regular Walk was incorrect. The minutes were then approved.

3. Walks Booklet

Posters advertising the booklets are now up for an advertising drive before Christmas.

4. Problem Paths

LUCK 35 – Steve Leonard has spoken to Andy Godwin re over cropping and path line. The gate to the road will remain locked as a digger has been stolen from the property but a stile or kissing gate is to be erected. The work party may possibly take this on.

SHER 20 – re manhole cover on river bank. Martin has spoken to landowner, Richard Smith, who has placed a cone over the cover. He is finding out who has responsibility for it. Steve Leonard, Wilts Council, is to provide a kissing gate free next to the stile by the road. Richard Smith has requested a wooden gate. Cotswold Wardens have offered to erect the gate and improve the slope down to the field.

SHER 22 – along the Cliff, Community Payback Team to improve the surface.

PINKNEY – Sue reported on incident with a dog while on the public minor road while leading a walk. Martin has reported to police.

JOHN HILLIER'S ACCESS LAND- Nigel has repaired the stile reported as broken at last meeting.

SHER 30- Gate at Hunters Field. Nigel and Andy to make repairs.

EGRE 4 – over cropping. As this field is sown with rape, with use of path the crop will die back. Andy reported that Steve Leonard has way marker discs but a response was awaited to a request for posts. A new post is required at Pinkney end of SHER 32. Martin to email Steve

5. Working Party – see above

6. Dog Fouling & Litter

Dog Warden has warned a dog owner about fouling.
There is yet another article in the Cliffhanger about this problem.
Patrick continues to do a good job at litter picking.

7. Community Payback.

The team of 10 people are coming to Sherston for 12 weeks starting this Sunday Dec 5th. They will start by helping volunteers in Grove Wood, then with better weather improve the riverside path SHER 20 and cliff path SHER 22

8. Grove Wood update.

Clearing and coppicing will start this Sunday, Dec 5th. Volunteers welcome! Bulbs have been planted in pots for planting out where required next spring.

9. Regular Walks.

Sue reported that she had 8 people and a dog on the last walk which was through Pinkney. Very enjoyable, apart from incident of the dog as reported above. 1 churchgoer came on the walk now starting at 11.00 but there was "Meet the new vicar" after church service that Sunday. The next walk will be Sunday Jan 2nd.

10. New Projects

Kissing gates.

Maggie has written an article in the Dec Cliffhanger re sponsorship of gates. Stan has produced prices. We need to know the cost of a plaque to attach to gate.

Martin to check with Steve Leonard re possibility of Wilts Council paying 50% of cost of gates

River Walk –Sherston/Malmesbury

Tony Wood walked and documented this walk 10 years ago but the documentation appears to be mislaid.

Martin suggested that a meeting with Steve Cox, deputy mayor Malmesbury, and his group was arranged in the New Year (providing they are enthusiastic and not hoping we will do it all!)

Other Parish Footpaths

Peter Campaigne spoke on how he would like there to be a viable walk from The Vine Tree at Norton to The Rattlebone at Sherston. There are problems at the Norton end and unclear paths through Ladyswood property. He was advised to liaise with Steve Leonard re Norton problems. Martin extended an invitation to interested people in Norton to attend next meeting and maybe arrange a joint walk.

Bus Shelter Notice Board

Phylip has produced a prototype of a large poster showing Rights of Way in Sherston, the Walks booklet and space for the regular walks. This met with much approval. It is to go in the bus shelter notice board to be provided by the Parish Council.

11. AOB- none

12. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 26th January 2011 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

SMcK 2.12.2010