

SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Sherston Footpath Group held in Sherston Village Hall on Wednesday 2 June 2010 at 7.30.

Present:

Martin Rea
Phylip Harries
Maggie McKenna
Nigel 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 Helen Freeth.

2. Approval of Minutes of 28 April 2010.

The Minutes were approved.

3. Walks Booklet.

Phylip asked the Group for any really final corrections! Working around the Group several people pointed out minor points that needed to be changed and the text duly amended. Martin Rea proposed that we should use the word 'Guide' instead of 'Booklet' and the Group thought this was a good idea and the references would be duly changed. Phylip said that he was still making refinements to the photographs in the 'Guide' – trying to include some new ones to reflect the spring and early summer season.

Martin asked for a rough timetable for the production and Phylip reported that he would be submitting it to print week commencing 7 June. He would be getting proofs and printed copies should be ready one week before Boules Day (17 July).

Sue asked if the ISBN matter had been resolved and Martin/Phylip said that they believed this was now in order.

The Launch:

It is suggested that we should have a Stand in the High Street to sell the Guide on the day. (MR to liaise re Stand location)

We need to have Posters advertising the Guide. (PJH to Action)

An article will go into July issue of Cliffhanger (MR to write)

Copies should be for sale in Tourist Information offices – Tetbury and Malmesbury.

Copies should be for sale in Sherston Post Office and The Rattlebone Inn

Copies should be sent to local newspapers

Copies should be sent to all landowners. NB – Landowners need copies well before launch date – Martin Rea to write covering letter

Poster could be displayed on Tolsey Surgery notice board

Copies should be available for purchase on Sherston Village Website – NB They will need to be weighed to establish the correct postage charge.

Problem Paths / Finance

Martin Rea said he had nothing to report to the Group.

4. Liaising with Landowners / Wiltshire RoW Department

Martin will prepare letter to be sent out with the Guide to all the landowners.

Martin also reported that he had emailed Steve Leonard to ask if he would send out a 'general' letter re over cropping or will he contact landowners one by one as any problems arise.

5. Working Party

Steve Leonard had reported to Martin that he now has all the tools etc. needed for the Working Party – he would like to contact our co-ordinator to arrange a meeting. The Party should only tackle light clearance work. Stile repairs etc. should be tackled later.

Andy Osborn, and Pat Bunce, reported that missing or lack of way marks were a problem. Nigel Freeth as our co-ordinator will contact Steve Leonard.

Pat Bunce said that it would be good if way marks could be attended to before the launch of the Guide. Nigel said he would ask if they were available as apparently Steve Leonard had said that he had run out of supplies.

Martin reported that Parish Improvement Grants (PIGS) were available from Wiltshire Council to get materials to improve SHER 22 (the Cliff route) and Grove Wood. It was hope that Noel Banks and his team and/or Community Payback Team would be able to tackle this work.

Furthermore there appeared to be funds available for installing Kissing Gates. As the Group agreed there were several places where these gates might improve the Rights of Way for users, it was proposed that all members of the Group should email their proposals to Martin Rea and we can set up a list of potential locations which might be appropriate. Martin suggested that there could be an article in Cliffhanger asking for resident's suggestions.

6. Dog fouling and litter.

Martin Rea reported to the Group that Jay Dunn had sustained an attack by a dog in the churchyard. The Group expressed their shock that such a thing had happened and also their concern for Jay. The matter was inn the hands of the police. Martin said that, following this incident any incidents involving aggressive dogs should now not be dealt with in a 'softly softly' manner but would be reported straightaway to the police through the Beat Officer – Stephen Humphries. He had already been to see the owner of the problem dog in Pinkney to issue a formal warning.

7. Community Payback.

Martin reported that they will return in July to carry out various improvement works.

8. Grove Wood.

Martin reported that Noel Banks and his team will be working on the steps and paths over the summer months.

9. Regular Walks.

Sue McKechnie reported that the 3 people who joined her for the walk on 30 May had a lovely time! They walked the Sopworth Walk with the Didmarton extension.

Sue suggested that as the walks seemed to be taking place around the Bank Holidays this might be affecting the turn out and maybe the dates of future walks should be looked at again to see if changes should be made.

10. Village Green Day – 22 May.

All those involved said this had been a great success – helped by great weather!

11. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous Minutes.

12. AOB

Martin suggested that the Stand on Launch Day should be manned from 9.00 – 5.00. Group members said that of course some members would be involved in playing Boules. Martin said that he might prevail upon members of the Parish Council to help man the Stand. Maggie was asked to prepare a Rota as a guideline for members to man the Stand on the day.

13. Next Meeting.

As we would be concentrating on the Launch Day and it was the holiday season, the date of our next Meeting was likely to be in September and this would be decided at a later date.

MM
10.06.10