

SHERSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Sherston Footpath Group held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 20 October 2010 at 7.30.

Present:

Martin Rea
Phylip Harries
Maggie McKenna
Richard Skeffington
Sue McKechnie
Steve Dunn
Jay Dunn
Helen Freeth
Nigel Freeth
Pat Bunce
Stan Bunce

ACTION

1. Apologies.

Apologies had been received from Chris Edgecombe and Tina Pattie.

2. Approval of Minutes of 1 September 2010.

The Minutes were approved.

3. Walks Booklet.

Martin reported on current progress of copies sold or available:

Boules Day – 110
Post Office - 200
Luckington Post Office - 30
Rattlebone - 20
Tucks – 30
Malmesbury Tourist Office – 10
Tetbury Tourist Office - 4
Yellow Lighted Bookshop – 2
Mangold Hurl – 4

Martin will put an article in Cliffhanger encouraging people to purchase copies for Christmas gifts.

MR

There will be a notice board in Grove Wood where we can advertise the booklet.

The bus shelter is undergoing repair but when this is completed we need a display in the shelter.

Phylip said he will prepare an A3 and A4 poster for general use.

PJH

4. Problem Paths.

SHER 13 - Martin had met with John Hillier and they had discussed the issues that John Hillier had with the path location. John Hillier has agreed that the published path can stay as it is.

Problems that had been raised in the last Minutes have been forwarded to Steve Leonard.

Martin reported that he had written to Luckington Parish Council regarding LUCK 20. It did not appear that they were going to take the matter up so Martin has asked Steve Leonard to deal with it.

Sue McKechnie reported that there was still a problem on SHER 4 with over-cropping on the diagonal path.

Commonwood Lane – Phylip and Maggie reported that the way mark from Commonwood Lane had been broken off; the second field stile was very unstable; the two fields where the path runs diagonally across to the converted cottage have been planted and as of now there is no clear footpath route; a hedge has been planted around the cottage which would appear to cross the official path.

Sue McKechnie reported that the stile at the top of the hill of John Hillier's land that adjoins the sewage farm is unsatisfactory. Although this is not one of the booklet paths, Nigel said that he would take a look at it and see if he can carry out NF repairs.

Sue also reported that there was an over-cropping problem in Easton Grey (EGRE2?).

Richard Skeffington said that the kissing gate in Hunters Field is still broken. Nigel said he would take a look at that to see if he can carry out a repair. NF

Andy Osborn was going to contact Steve Leonard regarding way marks. We await the response. AO

5. Working Party

See notes above.

6. Dog Fouling and Litter.

This is an ongoing problem and Martin said the Parish Council was getting lots of complaints. There will be another article in the Cliffhanger.

7. Community Payback.

The team made another visit to Grove Wood. They were due back to do work on the Macmillan Way as they needed to re-do some fencing and create a circular walk.

8. Grove Wood Up-date.

Nothing major to report – Martin said that the plan was to clear and thin the tree canopy with a view to seeing what was already in the wood before moving towards a planting scheme. Some bulbs would be planted this autumn – mainly wild daffodils – in the first third of the wood which was opened up last winter.

9. Regular Walks

Sue reported that she had had about 8 people on her last walk. The next walk is scheduled for 31 October at 10.00 – and she plans to do the Willesley walk.

Apparently Sue has had several approaches from churchgoers asking if the start time of the walks could be changed to 11.00 am – and this time would be adopted in the future. The next walk would be on 19 November.

10. New Projects.

Kissing gates.

The Group has yet to make up a list of suitable locations for the installation of kissing gates on our ‘booklet’ walks.

ALL

Martin will contact Steve Leonard regarding the installation of a kissing gate alongside the stone stile which provides access from the road into the ‘Stretchline’ field. He felt that it might involve Highways because of the proximity of the road and the gate may need to be set back a little to make a safer access. Noel Banks might be approached to see if he can arrange to carry out the work.

Phylip said that he suggested it would be appropriate to have a kissing gate replacing the stile which links the two fields on SHER 26 (Easton Town Farm).

Maggie said she had not been in touch with Steve Leonard to obtain information of pricing etc. re kissing gates. Martin suggested that Maggie do some research with Centre Wire, who supplied the materials.

MM

River Walk – Sherston / Malmesbury

Steve Cox (who will be Mayor of Malmesbury next year) is very enthusiastic. He even asked Martin if the Group would be interested in participating in the creation of a Walk from Malmesbury to Bath. Martin said ‘NO’! Martin reported that there were all sorts of schemes being spoken of and groups were talking of a ‘Philosophers Walk – from Oxford to Malmesbury etc.

Bus Shelter Notice Board

As reported already, the repairs are being carried out to prevent water ingress. When this is completed we will arrange for publicity for the Walks Booklet to be displayed.

MR/PJH

11. Matters Arising

There were no points raised.

12. AOB

The Parish Council had had a letter regarding fly tipping on the Tetbury Road. Nigel said that there had been a problem but it appeared to have been resolved – presumably by the Council.

Anglo Saxon Christmas Market – this is to be held at the Rattlebone on Friday - December 10 from 3.00 pm until 9.00 pm. There will be assorted stalls etc.

Phylip raised the question of publicity and whether we could stir up some more interest from the local press. Martin said he would have a go at Wiltshire Life amongst others.

MR

13. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday 1 December 2010 at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

MM
27.10.10

