



Minutes of Crediton Town Council's Parish Paths Sub-Committee Meeting, held on Tuesday, 30th October 2018, at 2.00 pm, at the Council Chamber, Market Street, Crediton

Present: Cllrs Mr M Szabo, Mr F Letch and Ms K Piercy
Mrs Heather Sansom, Parish Paths Volunteer
Mrs Ros Davies, Devon County Council Public Rights of Way
Mrs Yvonne Pope, Crediton & District Access Group

In Attendance: Mrs E Anderson, Assistant Clerk
Member of the public

24. To Elect a Sub-Committee Deputy Chairman for 2018-2019

It was **resolved** to elect Cllr Piercy as the Sub-Committee Chairman for 2018-2019. (Proposed by Heather Sansom)

25. To receive and accept apologies

None received.

26. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Letch declared that as a member of more than one authority, that any views or opinions expressed at this meeting would be provisional and would not prejudice any views expressed at a meeting of another authority.

27. Public Question Time

There were no questions.

28. Order of Business

There were no changes to the order of business.

Mrs Ros Davies arrived at the meeting at 2.04 pm.

29. Chairman's and Clerk's Announcements

There were no announcements.

30. Parish Paths Committee Minutes – To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Paths Committee Meeting held on 26th June 2018, as a correct record. Copies had been circulated with the agenda. It was **resolved** to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Paths Committee Meeting held on 26th June 2018, as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)

31. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising.

32. To receive an update on the Parish Path Scheme from Mrs Ros Davies, Devon County Council.

Mrs Ros Davies confirmed everything is going well. Invitations have been sent for the upcoming P3 Walk and Talk events, one of which is being held in Shobrooke on 20th November 2018. Ros advised that the handrail on footpath (FP) 29 is scheduled to be installed in the Autumn/Winter.

33. **Financial Report - To receive the financial report relating to Crediton parish paths.** The Assistant Clerk provided members with an update on the P3 Parish Paths budget, confirming that the current balance is £6,973.15. This includes £6,000 allocated for the FP29 handrail project.
34. **To discuss the condition of Crediton's footpaths, including the following, and agree any works that may be required.**
- **Footpaths 1,2,10 & 11 also referred to as Tinpot.** This item has been requested by Heather Sansom. Further information had been issued with the agenda. Members agreed to discuss this under agenda item 15 as it relates to the same section of footpath.
35. **To receive an update on the following and agree any actions:**
- **Installing a footpath sign at the bottom of FP33.** Heather confirmed the sign is now in situ.
 - **Installing a handrail on FP29.** This project is scheduled to be carried out during the Autumn/Winter.
36. **To discuss how Crediton's footpaths can be made more accessible and agree any actions.** Mrs Yvonne Pope provided members with some background regarding her role in improving footpath accessibility, highlighting that the main issues are usually vegetation growing across footways and the lack of dropped kerbs. Yvonne also highlighted that one particular area which poses issues is the bridge located on the footpath from Crediton to Shobrooke. Yvonne queried whether there were any plans for the bridge and, if so, advised that making it wider would be very helpful.

Ros confirmed that Devon County Council has been considering replacing this bridge for sometime, however this is being hindered by the large quantity of service cables that run underneath the bridge creating large financial constraints. Ros confirmed she would discuss this project with her colleagues and find out whether it could be pursued next year. This project could then take into consideration increasing the size of the bridge and also installing some form of ramp.

Yvonne explained that many members of the Access Group like to join the Walk & Talk routes and do other walks with various groups in the Town. Cllr Letch recommended the walks held by U3A and Cllr Szabo recommended looking at the Creedy Walkers group who advertise in the Library.

Cllr Letch expressed concern that members currently lack knowledge in relation to which footpaths are suitable for mobility chairs. He suggested that each member of the sub-committee take on a section of footpaths within the town and walk those footpaths with a mobility chair in mind. If this is carried out over the next 6 months or so, by May 2019 all of the footpaths will have been assessed. Yvonne confirmed this would be really helpful and asked members to please take photographs when surveying the footpaths and measure gaps etc. as this gives the Access Group a better idea of what exactly is being looked at. Ideally paths need to be 1200mm wide to accommodate best access but, as this is not feasible in many cases, 800mm would be the minimum width required and it is preferable for the surface not to be too rough however it is not expected for the paths to be concrete. Yvonne also confirmed she would be happy to join members walking the paths and give advice where possible.

It was **resolved** for the committee to survey the footpaths within the Town with accessibility in mind. (Proposed by Cllr Letch). It was further **resolved** for a separate leaflet to be devised, following the survey, using only accessible footpaths. (Proposed by Heather Sansom)

37. **To consider quotations received for two wooden signs to be produced to indicate Redvers Ramble Routes 4 & 5.** Copies of the quotations had been issued with the agenda. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that the owner of the wall at Downeshead Lane was happy for the sign to be installed. He did also express concerns that the sign may not always be visible due to cars parking on the pavement.

It was **resolved** to accept the quotation from Bespoak Designs Ltd for two oak signs to be produced, at a total cost of £410.00 + VAT, with the money being allocated from the P3 Parish Paths budget. (Proposed by Heather Sansom)

38. **To consider information received regarding the works required to the surface of FP2.** Further information had been issued with the agenda. The Assistant Clerk advised members that the contractor contacted had recommended stoning up FP2, however this sort of project would cost approximately £3,000 + VAT.

Since receiving this quote, the Town Council has been approached by a local resident who proposed getting a team of local people together to spread hardcore stones along the footpath, if the Town Council is able to supply the stones and arrange access. It was agreed that this seemed like a much more affordable option and also a good way to get the community involved in the upkeep of the footpaths. Members agreed for the Assistant Clerk to contact the resident and confirm that the sub-committee would be interested in pursuing this project.

It was **resolved** for the Assistant Clerk to find out how much stone would be required and to obtain quotations to source the stone. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)

39. **To discuss possible ideas for next years Redvers Ramble promotional walk and agree any actions.** It was **resolved** to invite Mr Henry Parker to attend the promotional walk either in late June or July. (Proposed by Heather Sansom)
40. **To consider holding a Boxing Day Redvers Ramble and agree any actions.** This item has been requested by Cllr Szabo. It was **resolved** to arrange a Boxing Day Redvers Ramble starting at 10.30 am until approximately Midday. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo). It was agreed for the Assistant Clerk to devise a poster to advertise the event and publish this on the Council's website, social media pages and via local businesses. It was also agreed for the Assistant Clerk to email the Parish Church Administrator to request that the Boxing Day Redvers Ramble be advertised in the December Parish Magazine as well as in the pew sheets.
41. **To discuss public transport access to the five walks included in the Redvers Ramble & Other Walks leaflet and agree any actions.** This item had been requested by Heather Sansom. Heather suggested including public transport options within the *Redvers Ramble & Other Walks* leaflet. The front of the leaflet would include the line "showing public transport access" and each route would include a line stating which bus could be used to access the walk. For example, the Dartline 369 can be used to access Route 5 and all the No.5 buses access Routes 1, 2 and 4. It was **resolved** to make these updates to the leaflet ready for the next print run. (Proposed by Heather Sansom)
42. **To consider producing signage for routes 2 and 3 of the Redvers Ramble & Other Walks leaflet and agree any actions.** This item had been requested by Heather Sansom.

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Further information had been issued with the agenda. It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting in order that the balance remaining within P3 budget can be reassessed.

43. **To discuss the possibility of erecting additional permanent signage within the Town and agree any actions.** This item had been requested by Heather Sansom. It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.
44. **To discuss installing barbed wire warnings and agree any actions.** This item has been requested by Heather Sansom. Further information had been issued with the agenda. Heather discussed tying some sort of hi-vis material to the barbed wire to make it more visible. Members agreed that the landowner should be approached to see if the barbed wire could be replaced.

It was **resolved** for the Assistant Clerk to find out who owns the fields in question and approach the landowners to find out if the barbed wire could be replaced. (Proposed by Cllr Piercy)

45. **To consider two members of the sub-committee attending one of the upcoming P3 "Walk and Talk" Days.** Further information relating to this item had been issued with the agenda. It was **resolved** for Cllrs Piercy and Szabo to attend the Walk and Talk day being held in Shobrooke on Tuesday, 20th November 2018. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)
46. **To receive an update on the possibility of arranging a tree planting project with local children and agree any actions.** The Assistant Clerk provided members with an update, explaining that she had approached Mid Devon District Council (MDDC) regarding the land near the Leisure Centre as a possible area for tree planting. MDDC advised that this site is dedicated currently to leisure and recreation and consultation and licensing would need to be looked into. Members agreed to defer this project idea for the time being as it had been suggested by Mr Graham Chudley and he is no longer a member of the sub-committee.
47. **Close**
The meeting closed at 3.14 pm

Signed.....
(Chairman)

Date: 26/3/19