

Minutes of the FOSG meeting held on 24th April 2017

27/17FO To Receive Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted for Jules Edwards who also tendered her resignation from the group.

28/17FO Declaration of Members Interests.

There was nothing to report.

29/17FO Public Speaking

Questions raised by the public: a. What is an open space? Chair answered that it was a piece of land in the village that was not necessarily on the definitive map and was an area with no buildings. E.g. Coachway to Sealey Close. b) Meadow Lane – would that stretch be classed as open space, Egginton Brook crosses here and it's not on the definitive map but it should be. c) a member of the public handed the clerk a map of the 7.5 tonne weight restriction limit for the village.

30/17FO To approve the minutes from the monthly meeting held on Monday 27th March 2017

The minutes, having been previously circulated, were approved as a true record of the meeting. Cllr Cullen asked for it to be noted here that Val Shelton is a Committee Member with voting rights as this was not mentioned in previous minutes.

31/17FO Presentation from Melbourne Footpaths Group. Barry and Paul kindly visited the meeting to talk about their work in and around Melbourne. The group started in 2012 out of the Civic Society and have recently been awarded Best Community Group in their local awards. A synopsis of the group would be – producing booklets on walking routes in the area; repairing styles; putting up signs; clearing paths; putting in gates in both Melbourne and in Parishes that butt up to Melbourne e.g. Ticknall. There are 15 members with approx. 8 active and these include a surveyor and a carpenter. They do paid walks and have received funding from Western Power, DCC and East Mids Airport. They promote their group through Facebook, website, radio and the Village Voice publication. The group have run 2 main campaigns – 1. To extend a footpath near Swarkestone Bridge that involves private land and 2. Establishing a footpath by usage rather than by definitive map near Persimmon Homes estate. The group got 26 statements spanning 40 years to demonstrate the usage of the path. Barry and Paul informed everyone that all footpaths need to be on the definitive map by 1st January 2026 and the Derby and Derbyshire Local Access Forum can help groups claim footpaths. 1949 all the paperwork had to be archived and these showed where all the footpaths were in the Parish. These will be at County Hall.

The Chair thanked Paul and Barry for attending and their offer of help.

32/17FO FP13 - Accessibility and ongoing issues. The Chair reported that the clerk was still chasing the EA regarding the accessibility and the dumping of waste is not a Parish Council matter but a matter for the Environment Agency which the clerk has reported.

33/17FO FP7 - Particularly short stretch between Green Railway Bridge and Canal. The Chair reported that DCC had emailed the PC regarding this stretch and they had suggested stoning the area and using the Footpaths Maintenance Grant from DCC but the PC have now approved the raised walkway idea and Cllr P Cullen will now get costings for the materials for the 20m stretch and seek approval from the PC for the spend then volunteers will need to do the work.

34/17FO FP6 - Ownership of land and other related Persimmon Homes issues. The PC has been pushing for a meeting between DCC, SDDC and Persimmon as the PC would like to take ownership of the area where the sales cabin use to be; the area of land between the estate and the footpath; and the area of land opposite the Doctors. A meeting has been arranged by the enforcement officer of SDDC and Persimmon and hopefully we should get some feedback from this.

35/17FO Promoting the FOSG. A regular slot needs to go in the Resource – Sue to arrange; in the village newsletter – Paul to arrange; Posters of the group – Scouts to arrange; Facebook and Twitter – to go to Full Council for recommendations. An article in Derbyshire Life was also suggested.

36/17FO Creating and/or extending footpaths. It was decided a campaign was needed and the first one should be Meadow Lane across the Gravel Pits to the Green Bridge. DCC have provided an application for Public Rights of Way and the creation of a Public Path Order, but we will need to demonstrate usage. Derbyshire Wildlife Trust own the Nature Reserve and we need to establish whether Hanson's own the edge of the land, this may require a land registry search but John Orme offered to ask his contact first at Hanson's.

37/17FO Schedule of works. Cllr Cullen to draw this up and circulate. It was also suggested that a sign off sheet be created for the walks so group members could monitor the footpaths. Next meet is Sunday 4th June at 10am meeting at Footpath 7.

38/17FO Letters received from Mr Orme. The PC had received a letter from Mr Orme suggesting that one of the bridges be named after a former clerk 'Brenda's Bridge'. The Chair stated that there are many Brenda's in the village and it would be difficult to select a person to name something after. The clerk also said it would be setting a precedent and recently the PC had decided not to name any benches after people in the village. It was decided to discuss at a later stage.

39/17FO Email regarding towpath and Canal and River Trust. Clerk to write to Canal and River Trust and ask when the towpath will be done.

40/17FO Date of next meeting

The date of the next Willington Parish Council FOSG Committee Meeting is to be confirmed as Monday 22nd May 2017 at The Old School starting at 7pm.