

# FOOTPATHS AND OPEN SPACES GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING – MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2017

Present :

Paul Cullen  
Jordan Kerry  
Jules Edwards  
Sue Whiting  
Janet Warner  
Barbara Cassia  
Bill Harding  
Tony Bates  
Joe Cullen  
Jackie Cullen  
Cliff Warner

- 1/17FO Apologies received from: Val Shelton  
Explorer Scout Group  
Deb Lynch
- 2/17FO Paul spoke briefly on Declaration of Members interests
- 3/17FO Public Speaking – Paul spoke regarding the set up of the Group
- 4/17FO The notes from the preliminary meeting held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 were agreed.
- 5/17FO **Name of the Group** - Paul asked if anyone had any preference to the naming of the group, no-one expressed a preference. The group is to be called Footpaths and Open Spaces Group (FOSG)
- 6/1/FO **Terms of Reference** – Paul briefly explained the different Terms of Reference:  
: Membership – who would be committee members and who would be available to attend meetings and help but not sit on the committee  
: Accountability – as a sub-group any decisions/recommendations would be discussed with the Parish Council for agreement  
: Working Methods  
: Meeting schedules – The committee would meet on the 4th Monday of every month at 7pm in the Old School, Castleway, Willington
- Terms of Reference were agreed.
- 7/1/FO As above, Paul discussed the options for the Group, with regards the structure and hierarchy. Questions were raised whether it was a sub-committee, or a stand-alone group. It was thought that becoming a sub-group was preferable as it would gain the backing of the Parish Council.

Paul felt that the members of the Willington parish needed to feel part of the team/group, and as a newly established group any help would always be appreciated. Members of the public would be welcome to attend all or any of the meetings.

#### 8/17/FO      **Official Members with voting rights**

Those who attended decided if they would like to sit on the committee or not:

##### **Committee Members**

P Cullen  
J Kerry  
J Edwards  
S Whiting  
B Cassia  
C Warner  
T Bates

##### **Helpers**

J Warner  
B Harding  
Joe Cullen  
Jackie Cullen

Paul Cullen very kindly volunteered to be Chairman of the Committee and Jordan Kerry agreed to be Vice Chair.

#### 9/17/FO      **Plan of Action**

- Paul discussed the Plan of Action and expressed a willing to get some of the ‘quick fixes’ done first, thus allowing the village to see good progress being made sooner rather than later.
- Paul confirmed the difference between ‘Quick wins’ and ‘Long term goals’ of the Group
- The Explorer Scouts walked 2 of the footpaths as discussed in the previous meeting. As they were unable to attend due to a previous commitment, Paul thought it would be good if they could attend the next meeting and give the results of the walk-through themselves.
- Need to agree a POA for each footpath in the village and survey sheets to be completed for each to assess the problems and find a solution
- Tony Bates brought up the point whether the Council for liable for the footpaths in regard to Health and Safety – access for wheelchairs and less-abled village members and visitors.
- Would signposts showing the footpaths be a good idea and where would they be positioned in the village. Is this something the group can do, or is it part of the Councils responsibility. The footpaths perhaps needed better classification – those suitable for able bodied people and those not accessible for less able bodied people.
- Improve footpaths so accessibility was available all year round
- Need to focus on one path at any one time
- **Current issues:**
  - It was decided to focus on Footpath 7

- The Aide de Memoir was discussed alongside the Survey sheet. Members of the group would walk Footpath 7 and make necessary notes before the next meeting
  - It was discussed if FP7 needed to be signposted
  - The area of mud after the green bridge needed immediate attention due to the unlevel ground
  - Derbyshire County Council would be required to cut back some of the overhanging trees on FP7
  - The group would cut back some of the overhanging trees in the interim
  - Paul asked whether the group could go ahead and repair the areas of FP7 but it was decided that DCC should be aware of the issues and given the opportunity to put these right first.
  - Jordy Kerry and Tony Bates both agreed to walk FP7 and take necessary photos of the areas of concern. These would be emailed to Jules and she would send them to Lynn Taylor at DCC (and cc Justina in). It was mentioned that Lynn Taylor had previously walked FP7 and could not see what the issues were. We would ask that Lynn Taylor come again to view FP7 along with some of the committee members and go through the issues with the supporting evidence.
  - While Lynn Taylor was in Willington we would ask whose responsibility it was for the signposting of the footpaths
  - The fencing had been completed on FP7
  - It was proposed to have a morning of litter picking along FP7. Everyone was in favour of this and an agreed date of Sunday afternoon 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 1pm. Everyone would meet at the underpass and bring with them a large bin bag for the rubbish. We would actively advertise this in the hope of getting some of the village to come and help. We would also Ed Bates know for the Explorer Scouts.
  - The newt fencing along the fences of the new houses was discussed, Paul said he would ask if Justina had an update on this from Persimmon Homes.
  - Need to contact Network Rail to look at the upkeep of the green bridge on FP 7. The removal of moss, graffiti and general appearance.
- **Future Projects:**
    - Part of the canal footpath needs building up where it is very muddy
    - FP13 would be discussed at the next meeting
    - Need to look at the Definitive map for all the Footpaths in the village and ensure they are marked correctly
    - Jordan spoke about trying to form a new footpath – this would link FP12 to FP7. Jordan will contact DCC and put together the information in a pack to send
    - Open spaces to be discussed at the next meeting
    - The group to be advertised more widely to let the villagers know the group is available – Sue Whiting will look into this and confirm at the next meeting