



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Roads, Footpaths and Commons Committee Meeting

held on Tuesday 27th June 2017 @ 7.00 pm

at The Parish Council Office, 27 Victoria Road, Mortimer. RG7 3SH

Present:

Councillors: Cllr. D. Ives (Chairman), Cllr. M. Dennett, Cllr. J. Earl, Cllr. C. Lewis.

Clerk: Haydn Selwyn-Jones – Parish Clerk

Public/Press: No members of the public and no members of the press present.

17/01	<p>Public Questions</p> <p>Cllr. M. Dennett spoke as a member of the public to express his deep concerns over the parking on the dropped kerb outside the Café in Victoria Rd. and on the footpath along from the dropped and outside his house.</p> <p>In his view this is resulting in a serious obstacle to the use of the footpath by parents with children, pushchairs and prams as well as for elderly and disabled using wheelchairs.</p> <p>The positioning of bollards along the footpath edge of the paved area set up for chairs and tables outside the Café has now restricted the pavement to an impassable width if vehicles are parked illegally on the dropped footpath area.</p> <p>This has been discussed at length with WBC and still nothing has been done to reduce this serious hazard to pedestrians using the footpath and he requested that the Parish Council once again brought this matter up with WBC as an escalated issue.</p>	
17/02	<p>To receive any apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr. N. Carter and Cllr. M. Lock.</p>	
17/03	<p>To receive any declarations of interest and dispensations</p> <p>Cllr. M. Dennett re-joined the meeting and declared a personal interest in Item 17/10 (c) as he lives next door and is himself affected by the issue to be discussed and it was decided that he would not take part in the discussion on this item, but would not need to leave the room.</p>	
17/04	<p>To consider any outstanding matters from the Roads, Footpaths & Commons Committee minutes dated 29th November 2016</p> <p>None that are not covered by the Agenda.</p>	
17/05	<p>To receive update of the Footpath Project</p> <p>Ex-Cllr. A. Butcher had initiated this project but had not been able to progress it. Ex-Cllr. M. Johnson then took it on with Cllrs. J. Earl, J. Bull and C. Lewis but, again, this was not completed before he resigned.</p> <p>Most of the information is now to-hand and the Clerk was requested to provide a large scale map of the footpaths in the Parish so that the issue spots could all be pin-pointed for resolution discussions with WBC. The Clerk was also requested to contact Ex-Cllr. M. Johnson to obtain any papers he is holding relating to this project.</p>	MJ
17/06	<p>To receive an update on Commons Registration</p> <p>The Clerk is to arrange a meeting with WBC for himself and Cllr. C. Lewis to discuss the registration and responsibilities of the Parish with regard to the commons registered to the Parish Council.</p>	

	Windmill Common is owned by the Parish Council and the Clerk is to investigate advantages/dis-advantages of registering the common and report back.	
17/07	<p>To receive an update on footpath registration</p> <p>The Clerk advised that this had not been possible to progress and requested for Cllr. C. Lewis to assist in progressing this, which was AGREED.</p>	
17/08	<p>To consider the issue of overgrown footpaths</p> <p>Cllr. C. Lewis volunteered to conduct a survey of footpath conditions and report back to the Clerk.</p>	
17/09	<p>To receive an update on the NDP Heritage Trail</p> <p>Cllr. D. Ives gave a verbal update on the current status of the proposed leaflet being progressed by the NDP Community Projects Committee.</p> <p>The Clerk brought to the meeting a smart WBC glossy concertina folded leaflet on walks in Mortimer which had just appeared in the Library.</p> <p>The Clerk was requested to investigate this with WBC, as it was strongly felt that such a style of presentation was to be recommended as smart, sufficiently rainproof and easy to use as a model for the NDP Heritage Trail Leaflet.</p>	
17/10	<p>To consider current and recent issues raised regarding roads:</p> <p>a. Speeding – Update on SID</p> <p>Cllr D. Ives advised that the recent deployment of SID had failed to record the data properly, which couldn't be downloaded.</p> <p>It was AGREED to continue with the SID program as it was a useful deterrent.</p> <p>b. Improper use of St Johns Car Park as a cut through from The Street and West End Road</p> <p>This has again been raised at a recent meeting with WBC, but again the response is that no action can be taken until there is a serious injury situation.</p> <p>Various actions were discussed to actually gather evidence of road traffic infringements to put pressure on the Police and WBC to push for something to be done.</p> <p>The Clerk was requested to write again to WBC expressing how seriously the Parish Council consider this risk to be and was given a name to write to. Cllr. D. Ives was to provide the Clerk with the details of the new TVP Neighbourhood Sergeant now in post.</p> <p>c. Issue of bollards outside the Cafe on Victoria Road and reconsider decision taken on 21st July 2016 not to proceed any further</p> <p>This is now a serious pedestrian hazard situation and needs to be urgently brought to the attention of WBC to be dealt with as soon as possible.</p> <p>The possible options are either bollards or raising the pavement, but it is understood that either solution has its problems.</p> <p>Regardless the Clerk was requested to write to WBC expressing the serious view that the Parish Council are taking on this matter, which needs to be rapidly resolved before people get injured.</p>	
17/11	<p>Minor matters for information</p> <p>None</p>	
17/12	Future Agenda items	

	None	
17/13	Date of next meeting It was AGREED that meetings should be every three months and the next meeting should be planned for the 2 nd half of September.	

The meeting closed at 8:25 pm.