

Malvern Wells Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Environment Committee** duly convened and held in The Committee Room, Malvern Wells Village Hall- commencing at 7.30pm on **Wednesday, 17th October, 2012**

Present: Peter Clement (Chairman) Cllr S Atwell, Marilyn Millen, Norman Nimmo Smith, Michael Jupe, Pam Stanier and Richard Winterton

In Attendance: David Taverner (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer)
Tracy Sutton (Countryside Access Officer - Worcestershire County Council)

Apologies: Cllr Peter Buchanan, Ros & Tom Hayes and John Lambeth

1 Appointment of a Chairman for the Meeting & Welcome

It was agreed that Peter Clement should Chair the meeting.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 10 July, 2012, having been previously circulated, were **approved** and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3 Matters arising from the Minutes

Michael Jupe reported that the entrance to bridleway 551 had become very narrow. The Clerk replied that he would ask the Council's lengthsman to investigate.

Marilyn Millen again drew attention to the repairs to the steps that were needed on footpath 510 and Tracy Sutton was asked to see if remedial work could be undertaken by the County Council's contractor

4 Report of the Parish Warden

Peter Clement advised the meeting that a Parish Path Wardens thank you event was being held at County Hall on 26th October which he would be attending

All of the paths in the Malvern wells area had been very well maintained throughout the recent summer season despite the exceptional growth caused by the greater than average rainfall through the summer months

Peter agreed to contact the County Council Countryside team to arrange training on the role of an Assistant Parish Paths Warden for Cllr Atwell.

5 To Review Public Rights of Way in the 'Care of Each Member'

Assistant Parish Path wardens reports were submitted as follows:-

Marilyn Millen reported that three wooden supports to steps at the south end of path 510 had rotted and fallen off. The Clerk advised that the Parish Lengthsman had been to inspect the path but the job would need to be referred to the County Councils Contractors to undertake. Tracy Sutton asked if Marilyn could send her a photograph of the problem area so that the work needed could be reviewed.

Michael Jupe reported that a replacement way marker on footpath 524 had now been fitted.

6 Report of Tracy Sutton – Countryside access officer – Worcestershire County Council

Tracy advised that defects to paths and bridleways were now being given a new priority ranking to help with defect management. A schedule showing the new ranking system would be distributed to PPWs for their information

There were currently 2,500 defect reports outstanding across the County area but there were only two in Malvern Wells, one of which was a longstanding issue and one of which had been categorised as low priority.

Tracy thanked all of the PPWs for all of their efforts during the year which had helped to see the quality of footpaths and bridleways within Malvern Wells being ranked as amongst the best in the county area.

7 Date of the next meeting

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting of the Committee would be scheduled for Wednesday 16th January, 2013.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05 pm.

Chairman -----
Dated 16th January, 2013