

Malvern Wells Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the **Environment Committee** duly convened and held in The Committee Room of Malvern Wells Village Hall- commencing at 7.30 pm on **Thursday, 9th October, 2014**

Present: N Nimmo-Smith (Chairman) P Clement, Cllr S Atwell, Ros Hayes, Marilyn Millen, Pam Stanier and Richard Winterton

In Attendance: David Taverner (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer)

Apologies for absence: Cllr P Buchanan, Michael Jupe and S Maund (Parish Lengthsman)

1 Appointment of a Chairman for the Meeting

It was agreed that Norman Nimmo-Smith should Chair the meeting.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 10th July, 2014, having been previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of that meeting.

3 Matters arising from the Minutes

Norman Nimmo-Smith reported that he had again replaced signage on **MW 666** which had been taken down by persons unknown on several occasions.

Works had also been completed on **MW551** where the hedgerow had been blocking signage and access to the footpath had been improved.

A new way marker was had been installed on **MW 514**.

Peter Clement reported that there were still some issues with the clearance of overgrowth which was blocking a brook adjacent to **MW525** and **MW526**. This could cause flooding during wetter weather and Steve Maund would be asked to see if it was possible to carry out any further clearance work to the overgrowth whilst the underfoot conditions in that immediate area remained dry.

4 Report of the Parish Paths Warden

Norman Nimmo -Smith advised that he had attended a strimming course run by the County Council. He was now authorised to carry out strimming work on the various rights of way as necessary

Norman also informed the meeting that that he would now be returning the six monthly wardens work record summaries to the County Council and asked that all outstanding such records should be returned to him as soon as possible.

The Clerk advised that the Parish Lengthsman had encountered difficulties with local landowner whilst undertaking maintenance work one of the local footpaths.

The incident had been reported to the local policing team and the County Council's Countryside Access officer

The Clerk had written to the landowner concerned, regarding the incident, and it was hoped that a more collaborative working approach with the landowner would prevent a recurrence of the problems which had arisen. The situation would continue to be closely monitored.

5 Review of public rights of way in the care of each member of the Committee

There was an ongoing issue with overhanging tree on **MW511**, badly restricting height for horse riders. The County Council Countryside Services team had been contacted to undertake remedial works.

Path **MW 554** had been overgrown during the summer months although it was now noted that the path was now fully accessible.

A letter had been sent to the secretary of the Worcestershire Golf club concerning repairs that were necessary to a broken gate and rotted marker posts on footpaths **MW509** and **MW665** for which they were the responsible landowner. A reply was awaited

A gate catch on footpath **MW502** near to the golf course was in need of attention.

Nettles and brambles on **MW518** had been cut back. An abandoned car near to the footpath had been reported to the Police

Pam Stanier reported that hedge trimmings had been left on path **MW 555** by an adjacent property owner, making it slippery underfoot.

Peter Clement reported that bridleway **MW 523 should** be widened to its ideal width of 3 metres. Steve Maund would be asked to carry out this work."

6 Date of the next meeting

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting of the Committee would take place on Thursday 8th January, 2015

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50pm

Approved Chairman -----

Dated 8th January, 2015