

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, 17th April 2019**

Present: N Nimmo- Smith, Mrs J Smethurst

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

Apologies for absence: P Clement, P Stanier, R Winterton

1 Appointment of a Chairman for the Meeting

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

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the 8th October 2018, having been previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of that meeting. It was noted that the meeting which had been originally scheduled to take place on 16th January 2019 had been cancelled.

3 Matters arising from the Minutes There were none.

4 Report of the Parish Paths Warden – Norman Nimmo – Smith PPW Report for Environmental Committee Meeting, 10th April 2019

A new bridge and gate were installed on footpath **MW-526** in December 2018. The previous wooden bridge was suffering from rot and had reached the end of its natural life. As part of the works, the adjacent stile was replaced by a metal gate.

The dilapidated wooden gate on bridleway **MW-528** at its junction with footpath **MW-525** was finally replaced by Simon Morris of Brickbarns Farm in December 2018 with a metal gate supplied by the Countryside Service gate over two years ago in May 2016.

A new waymark post was installed at the junction of **MW-566** and **MW-517** in December 2018. The previous post had become rotten and fallen over.

Fiona Argyle from the Countryside Service had received a number of complaints from a horse-rider at Hillview Arena stables about the condition of bridlevays running across Brickbarns Farm from Shuttlefast Lane to Kings Road. A site meeting took place on 23rd January to discuss the issues. Fiona stressed that she was in regular contact with Simon Morris and was doing everything possible to ensure that horse-riders could readily traverse the bridlevays in question.

A large over-hanging branch on bridleway **MW-550** had reduced the headroom such that horse-riders could not easily pass underneath. The landowner was requested to remove the branch, which he did on 4th February. In addition, Steve Maund cut back trees and undergrowth in some overgrown sections of the bridleway to provide increased width for the horse-riders.

A large wooden fence running beside footpath **MW-546** was damaged by the strong winds of Storm Gareth in March, causing it to lean over and block the footpath. The house-owner was requested to tie back the fence and remove the blockage until proper repairs could be made to the fencing. New fencing was installed on 8th April.

5 Review footpaths and rights of way reports from assistant parish paths wardens (PPW)

There were no issues reported with any of the footpaths and rights of way under the care of each assistant PPW

Jackie Smethurst kindly agreed to assume responsibility for paths 510,511,512,513 and 514 following the resignation of Margaret Millen from the Committee.

7 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that future meetings would take place as far as possible on the third Wednesday of each month.

The next meeting of the Committee was then scheduled for Wednesday 17th July

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15 pm

Approved Chairman -----

Dated 17th July 2019