

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, 6th April, 2017**

Present: N Nimmo- Smith, M Millen, P Buchanan, S Atwell

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

Apologies for absence: P Clement, R Hayes, J Smethurst, P Stanier, R Winterton and S Maund (Parish Lengthsman)

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 6th October 2016, 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 12th January, 2017 had been cancelled.

3 Matters arising from the Minutes

There were none.

4 Report of the Parish Paths Warden

MW-523: The fallen sign post at the eastern end of the bridleway has now been re-set by Steve Maund.

MW-551: Despite repeated requests from Fiona Argyle (WCC Countryside Service), the timber debris from two fallen trees obstructing the bridleway has still not been removed by Abbey College (the landowner). A piece of the timber had recently rolled onto the bridleway, causing yet another obstruction, but was cut up and placed to the side of the bridleway by Steve Maund on April 5th.

MW-513: A new metal kissing gate has been installed by WCC at the junction with MW-514, replacing the old wooden stile.

MW-512 and MW-514: For many years it has only been possible for walkers to use these bridleways because of a locked gate on MW-514 and a number of stiles along MW-512. WCC have now installed metal gates along the length of both bridleways, thereby making it possible for horse riders and cyclists to use them.

Golf Course: The Worcestershire Golf Club have made improvements to two public rights of way that cross the golf course. Fiona Argyle previously met Steve Lloyd (Course Manager at Worcestershire Golf Club) in October, and again in December, to discuss the Club's proposed improvement plan. Public safety relating to flying golf balls was one of the main concerns. In addition, Steve needed to improve drainage of a stream running alongside MW-508 where it enters the course, as a culvert frequently backed up during heavy rainfall and caused flooding. This work has now been completed. On MW-508, a new bridle

gate and fencing has been installed closer to the edge of the course, and the path underneath the railway bridge has been re-surfaced using materials supplied by WCC. On MW-665, a staggered barrier has been installed across the footpath where it emerges from the trees onto the open course. The overall aim of the safety improvements is to make the public aware that they're entering a "hazardous zone", and encourage them to look for golfers before proceeding further. Thanks must go to the Worcestershire Golf Club for continuing to work very cooperatively with the Countryside Service.

MW-536: Branches from trees and shrubs growing on both sides of the footpath are restricting its useable width and need to be cut back.

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

Peter Clement had again reported that **MW 526** requires vegetation clearance and the silted stream bed dug out.

The way marker post on **MW 523**, near to the road, had become unstable and repairs were needed.

A new gate is required at grid reference 78494175 on footpath **MW 528** but had not yet been fitted by the landowner.

Marilyn Millen reported that new metal gates have been installed in several places-**on B512** - 2 at the access from Blackmore Park Road and 4 replacing stiles along that bridleway.

B514 – 2 gates had been fitted at the junction with B666.

F513 – A kissing gate had been fitted at the junction with F513 and F510

6 Date of next meeting Thursday 6th July

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

Approved Chairman -----
Dated 6th July, 2017