

## MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Open Spaces and Footpaths Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October at 7.15pm

**Present:** Mr P Lock (Chair), Mrs M Lock, Mrs A Flynn, Mr R Douglas and Mr C Laughton

**Also Present:** Emma Curtis – Parish Clerk

#### **Public Question Time**

There was one member of the public present. No questions were asked.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Received from Mr J Pitman (Tree Warden)
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None received
3. **Minutes of the Open Spaces and Footpaths Committee meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017** were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
4. **Review and update Action List:** The Action List was reviewed with all items being complete and closed. The Clerk was requested to update and circulate the Action List following the meeting.
5. **Tree Warden Report:** Mr Pitman was absent from the meeting but had provided Mrs Flynn with a report stating that he had nothing untoward to report but that the lime trees adjacent to Church Path and The Grove required pollarding and that a tree works application would need to be submitted to SSDC. Mr Pitman had also stated that it may be worth considering the avenue of trees opposite Ven House in the Conservation Review along with the avenue of trees when entering the village through Crackmore Rocks. Mrs Flynn commented Mr Pitman would be sending the Clerk an email with further information.  
**Action – Clerk to commence tree works application form**
6. **Allotments:** No report received but Mr Lock thanked Mr Biss for his dedication to the allotments while a Councillor over many years. The Clerk confirmed that at present she was happy to monitor the allotments and was going to contact Mr Biss to see if he would meet to discuss any current concerns. Mrs Flynn mentioned that a white van was still seen parked at the allotments at peculiar times of the day.
7. **Cemetery and Churchyard:** Mr Lock requested that the Clerk contact the grounds maintenance contractor and request that they spray the cemetery pathways with weed and root killer. Mr Lock confirmed that the ranger was currently clearing some ivy in the churchyard.  
**Action – Clerk to contact grounds maintenance contractor and request they weed and root spray the cemetery pathways.**
8. **Station Copse Community Woodland:** The committee discussed Mr Crudgington's request for an anonymous donor to donate some wildflower seeds to be planted in the woodland. It was agreed that as the woodland is for the benefit of the community Mr Crudgington would be asked to identify a specific area of the copse for the seeds to be planted. The Parish Council would supply weed killer but all work would need

to be completed by volunteers and any debris and dead nettles removed from the site by the volunteers. It was recommended that the preparation should take place during the autumn and that indigenous British wildflowers must be used. The Clerk confirmed that the dog waste bin had now been erected at the copse.

**Action – Clerk to contact Mr Crudgington with the committee’s response**

9. **The Clump, The Ball Court and The Grove:** No specific report received but Mrs Lock confirmed that the wall and fence had been repaired at The Clump and Mr Laughton suggested that some time and effort be made on maintaining that area.

## 10. Play Area Updates

**Gainsborough:** Mrs Flynn explained that the hedge encroaching into the play area was massive overgrown and covering the path. Mr Lock confirmed that this would be attended by the ranger. The Clerk confirmed that a contractor had been requested to fix the broken bench and that this was in hand. Mrs Flynn mentioned again the ridges at the bottom of the skate ramps. The Clerk commented that she had passed this to Rob Parr at SSDC and he was sending an inspector out and would report back their findings. The Clerk said she would chase this up. To conclude Mrs Flynn confirmed that the new matting and equipment was being installed the week after half term and that the gate kept getting stuck open again. The Clerk said she would request the Handyman to look at this again.

**Action – Clerk to chase up SSDC and contact the Handyman regarding the sticking gate**

**Springfield Road:** The Clerk confirmed that Mr Lockey had completed the painting of the roundabout and had said he was happy to continue completing the risk assessments. Mr Laughton said it would be worthwhile investigating replacing the old tatty shelter and agreed to look at styles and design.

**Action – Mr Laughton to investigate new shelters**

11. **Consider options for village litter picks:** The Clerk stated that no volunteers had come forward. Mrs Lock suggested that the village be broken into street area groups responsible for litter in different areas and that she had contacted the WI for their feedback on this suggestion. She suggested that an option may be for villagers to adopt a street or area for litter picking. It was agreed that Mrs Lock would produce a leaflet/article to be distributed.

**Action – Mrs Lock to produce a leaflet/article to be distributed**

12. **Consider A30 Improvement proposals:** Mr Lock referred Councillors to the papers and draft letter he had distributed prior to the meeting. It was agreed and resolved to send the letter to the relevant stakeholders and the Clerk was requested to distribute. Mr Laughton took the opportunity to report on a positive meeting he had recently had with the new Highways representative for Milborne Port commenting that he hoped many actions would occur following the meeting. The Clerk was asked to type up a checklist of actions so these could be monitored. Mr Lock stated that a sign had been posted along Goathill Lane regarding the culvert not being cleaned for many years and asked the Clerk to chase up the cleaning schedule.

**Action – Clerk to write to A30 stakeholders, type up checklist following Highways meeting and chase up drain and gulley cleaning schedule.**

**13. Update on footpaths and issues arising:** Mrs Lock commented that the Parish Council had not heard from Mr Tizzard regarding the footpath despite writing to him and that the re-routing of the footpath through the playing fields was still outstanding. The Clerk stated she would chase Eve Wynn on both matters but that she had been informed there was a huge backlog in the re-routing of footpaths.

**Action – Clerk to chase Eve Wynn**

**14.** The date of the next Open Spaces and Footpaths Committee meeting was confirmed as **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017.**

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