

Woodchester Parish Council

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Minutes of the Rights of Way Meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday 2nd June, 2016 at 6.15pm

Present: Cllrs. Warnes, McNealey, Swait and Hamilton

In attendance: The clerk, Cllr. Baynham-Honri and two members of the public

2016/1 To receive apologies for absence.

There were no apologies for absence.

2016/2 To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

2016/3 To discuss and agree a list of sites in priority order for the use of s.106 funding to replace stiles with kissing gates.

Councillors agreed that when considering replacing a stile with a kissing gate it should enable more people to use the path. Therefore on a steep footpath inaccessible to some residents, a kissing gate may bring little benefit.

Councillors discussed a number of sites through the village and priorities were agreed as:

- Villa Field to Selsley Road MWO5 (near Park View)
- Convent Lane to Atcombe Court Drive MWO20. Replacement of this stile would enable easier access right through from South to North Woodchester.
- Park Lane to Woodchester Valley Village MWO21
- Behind the Priory leading to Selsley Hill MWO2
- Lagger Lane to Bospin Lane MWO12. The slope of the land makes the stile difficult to manoeuvre. A stile was replaced with a gate further down this path (between Lagger Lane and land owned by Woodchester House) by the Cotswold Volunteer Rangers.

2016/4 To discuss and agree a course of action for the replacement of stiles.

S.106 funding has been allocated from Rooksmoor Mills (£3790), Piano Works (approximately £2624) and land adjacent to Treetops (£1686). The clerk had been in contact with SDC concerning the Treetops application as it was believed this was payable on commencement of construction, but had not as yet received a response. The gates are expected to be approximately £500 each and installation approximately £200.

The clerk will approach landowners of the priority sites to discuss the change and ask for their consent in principal to carry out the work.

2016/5 To discuss and agree appropriate action regarding the poor state of the kissing gate between Tower House Drive and the High Street.

The post supporting the kissing gate needs replacing as access is difficult particularly with a pushchair, but ownership is not known. Several properties have right of access along the path and the post is required to be removable to allow large vehicles through.

The clerk will draft a note to residents along the lane asking if they are able to enlighten the Parish Council as to ownership. Should no-one come forward, the kissing gate will be removed.

2016/6

To discuss and agree appropriate action regarding the footpath from Park Lane where walkers often choose a preferred route rather than the official route of the path.

The clerk will contact the landowner about the possibility of replacing the stile and will also suggest that if he is concerned about walkers using the incorrect path, he put up a notice to advise them of the correct route.

The meeting closed at 6.45pm.

Signed

Date.....