



EYNSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Extra Footpaths Committee Meeting
in the Bartholomew Room at 6.30pm
on Tuesday 11 February 2020

MINUTES

Councillors Present: Cllr Sue Osborne (Committee Chairman), Cllr Gordon Beach, Cllr P Crowley, Cllr Nick Relph, Cllr C Rylett and Cllr Mark Zumbuhl.

Also in attendance: Katherine Doughty, Clerk to the Council. There were two members of the public present.

20/PL1 To receive apologies for absence – Cllr Sue Brown.

20/PL2 To receive Declarations of Interest in agenda items - None.

20/PL3 To review the meeting minutes of the 17 September 2019 – It was noted that the minutes were approved at Full Council on 8 October. Referring to the previous minutes, Cllr Osborne reported that (19/FP24) she and Cllr Brown are still pursuing an appropriate footpath being suitable for people with mobility impairments. Also, (19/FP27) there isn't a Ramblers Society Parish Path Warden vacancy.

20/PL4 Public Participation – to receive submissions from members of the public relating to items on the agenda, in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct & Standing Orders – Oxfordshire County Council's (OCC) Minerals & Waste Plan was discussed in relation to the previously permitted section of Wharf Stream Way. A resident explained that they had walked the land for 40 years and wondered if the Council could register the land as a Village Green. Proof of use was discussed. Public Right of Way User Evidence Forms would need to be completed by way of proof.

20/PL5 To receive correspondence and agree actions (if appropriate) – Oxfordshire County Council, Notice of Landowner Deposit for Land at Cassington Road, Eynsham. Also, correspondence copied to the Clerk from Smith & Sons (Bletchington) Ltd read as follows:-
"The Highways Statement submitted to OCC is designed to confirm the Public Rights of Way in line with the Oxfordshire RoW Definitive Map. It is intended to provide clarity ahead of the land being brought back into agricultural use with a local farmer. This is standard practice by a new landowner. The very well used Wharf Stream Way is a permissive route so isn't shown on the submission. It runs across land that we now own and is shown as a green dotted line on the hand annotated plan attached. This path is fully recognised by Smiths and is acknowledged as a valuable asset to the local community. This will be completely unaffected by the farming of the land."

20/PL6 To note Smith & Sons (Bletchington) Ltd Landowner Deposits and agree actions to secure Wharf Stream Way art trail – Clerk is to pursue confirmation from OCC that evidence needs to demonstrate use prior to when the footpath became a permissive right of way. It was **RECOMMENDED** that the previous permissive rights of way are legally pursued as adopted footpath Public Rights of Way. Clerk is to obtain/draft a User Evidence Form and flier for downloading from the website. Heather McCulloch, Community Wellbeing Manager, West Oxfordshire District Council offered to support the cause by issuing a press release when documents are ready to be made available to the public.

20/PL7 Date of next meeting – 17 March 2020 at 6.30pm. Councillors and residents are to refer to the published meeting agendas for confirmed dates/times. The meeting closed at 7.10pm.