

# **PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

**Between**

**TELFORD AND WREKIN COUNCIL**

**and**

**RODINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**and**

**RODINGTON PARISH PATHWAYS  
PARTNERSHIP**

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Telford and Wrekin Council, as highway authority, has a duty to assert and protect the rights of the public to the use and enjoyment of all highways for which it is responsible. This Agreement will not affect that statutory responsibility.
- 1.2 As custodians of village life and rural values, local people and councils are uniquely placed to decide what needs to be done in order to make their rights of way easy to use and enjoyable.
- 1.3 This Parish Paths Partnership aims to harness these resources and skills to complement the work of Telford & Wrekin Council by providing support to the needs of maintaining rights of way in Rodington Parish.

## **2. Telford and Wrekin Council agrees to**

- 2.1 Make available the support of a Senior Rights of Way Officer to all Parish Councils entering into a Partnership Agreement. The officer, in conjunction with the Parish Rights of Way Warden, will provide advice with regard to the following:
  - surveying the condition of the local path network and identifying the needs of the parish.
  - drawing up a work programme to tackle identified problems and improving the path to an agreed standard.
  - arranging for the works to be undertaken, according to reasonable timescales agreed with all three parties of this agreement.
  - assist the parish with promoting the local rights of way.
- 2.2 Support funding to the Partnership, via payment to Rodington Parish Council, a maximum of £4,000.00 per annum for part funded schemes and purchase of signposts, gates, other signage and street furniture. This sum is reviewable and subject to the overall budgetary constraints of Telford and Wrekin Council.

- 2.3 Provide signposts, way-markers, gates, stiles, bridge kits and fittings for work undertaken within the Partnership Agreement on rights of way.
- 2.4 Establish (through Telford & Wrekin Council) adequate public liability insurance for volunteers and to undertake risk assessment of projects according to health and safety legislation.
- 2.5 Through the Senior Rights of Way Officer, arrange training tasks and seminars as required for all involved in practical work and produce a set of associated guidelines.

### **3. Rodington Parish Council agrees to**

- 3.1 Make available in its annual budget, funding available to support the costs of projects such as purchasing of street furniture, gates, signposts and other signage. The funding available shall be set at £1,000.00 for the first year of this agreement and annually reviewed when the precept is set in January.
- 3.2 Ensure all contractors that have been employed by the Parish Council to carry out works on rights of way have minimum £5m public liability insurance.
- 3.3 Publicise and provide information about local public rights of way on the Parish Councils website, notice boards and through the quarterly parish magazine.
- 3.4 Annually appoint at least one Councillor to act as an Outside Body representative to Rodington Parish Pathways Partnership and provide reports to Full Council meetings about the work of this group.
- 3.5 Make every effort to ensure representation at Rodington Parish Pathways Partnership meetings.

### **4. Rodington Parish Pathways Partnership agrees to**

- 4.1 Make all reasonable effort to carry out and submit to Telford and Wrekin Council a condition survey of its complete path network on an annual basis and upload these surveys to the Parish Councils website.
- 4.2 Liaise with landowners where possible regarding works to be undertaken and make the initial approach concerning any problems such as obstructions.
- 4.3 Once written approval has been provided from the Parish Council, and written agreement has been sought from landowners, make approach to Telford & Wrekin Council to progress any Modification Orders for re-routing of rights of ways. The Parish Councils written approval shall be acceptable in the form of minutes with a clear resolution of approval.
- 4.4 Endeavour to ensure all rights of way in the parish are correctly signposted and way-marked where they leave a metalled road.

- 4.5 Make every effort to attend training seminars organised by Telford & Wrekin Council.
- 4.6 Provide Telford and Wrekin Council with the details of all volunteers undertaking work on rights of way to ensure that they are covered by public liability insurance.
- 4.7 Ensure that any communications that derive from the group, including but not limited to emails, minutes and letters are made under the name of the group and cannot be confused with the Borough or Parish Council.

We the undersigned, as representatives of our respective bodies, pledge our support to this agreement and shall encourage all present and future members to always work towards achieving the agreements set out in this partnership.

Any future amendments to this agreement shall be made by request in writing from either party and shall be shared with all parties set out in this agreement before any changes can be considered.

SIGNED on behalf of **Telford and Wrekin Council**

Name: Andrew Careless

Post: Senior ROW Lead

Signature: (signed)

SIGNED on behalf of **Rodington Parish Council**

Name: Martin Holyoake

Post: Chairman of Rodington Parish Council

Signature: (signed)

SIGNED on behalf of Rodington Parish Pathways Partnership

Name:.... Tom Currie...

Post.....Chair of RP3

Signature:.....(Signed)