

Minutes of the Rodington Parish Pathways Group Annual Meeting

Present

Tom Currie (Chair) Brian Gaskin (Secretary)
Andrew Careless David and Sue Brown
Gemma Crossley

Apologies

John Seales Nick West Duncan Maidens Simon Rogers
Steve Lowe

Welcome, and review of the year – by Tom Currie

Tom reviewed the substantial progress made by the group this year, featuring the successful DMMO in Longdon-on-Tern, the installation of gates, stiles, posts and way-markers. There has also been good progress on producing a booklet / leaflet of circular walks (thanks to the efforts of John Seale and others) which will be produced shortly.

The rights of way are becoming more visible and more frequently used. The work on the canal will also bring a striking feature to the village of Rodington once the circular walk there is created.

Brian Gaskin asked if we were quorate and Tom Currie confirmed that we were not. Consequently, it was considered best to continue with the meeting but to confirm any decisions at the next ordinary meeting.

1. Election of Officers – Chair and Secretary

Tom Currie and Brian Gaskin confirmed they are prepared to continue in their roles if requested to do so.

2. Any required changes to Constitution

None were proposed.

3. Review of Partnership Agreement

All those present were very satisfied with the P3 partnership and the support that Andrew Careless and Gemma Crossley have provided in

supplying gates, bridges and other items, not to mention their technical expertise on DMMO's and issues with landowners. Confirmed continued support, as stated in partnership agreement.

Over-view of Rights of Way and priorities:

Rights of Way Team, Telford and Wrekin Council

Andrew Careless also expressed his satisfaction at the progress the partnership has made, but warned that cuts in council spending would reduce his budget in future years. Nevertheless, he reiterated his support for the group and requested that we identify all the future requirements as a matter of urgency and report these to him so that he can meet them this Summer. He also stated that they were just about to submit the appeal to the Minister about the Rodenhurst DMMO.

He also hoped that we would be able to present our P3 partnership as a template for other parishes to follow at one of the two upcoming meetings of the Open Access Forum.

Presentation – Rodington Parish Pathways

Tom Currie reflected on the progress made on the Rights of Way in the last year using a power point presentation (available on request).

Partnership plans for the next 12 months

Priorities

Rodenhurst DMMO appeal

L4 gate/ retaining steps, pedestrian barrier (major works)

R 4B B5062 by Ercall Mill hedge cutting and double stile

R9 New stile / gate at Poplar Farm access road and Drury Lane

The first stile on the unnumbered RoW to Withington also needs replacing.

L3 Clearance of the fallen tree – we need to get a chainsaw gang there

L1 Access issues (pending contact with new landowners)

L1 Way-markers needed on the route, approaching the L2 (intersection with L1 and by the church/ B5063)

L3 Signpost at B5063 road access & sign-post

R4 Signpost at both ends

R9 Signpost at Somerwood, Drury Lane and at field boundaries.

R10 Signpost at both ends.

R11 Signpost at Somerwood road end

R15 Signpost at Sugden Lane/ replacement sign-post

Andrew Careless said he had the signposts ready to put in.

Other signage

Andrew Careless said he would provide signs about the country code and dog fouling which is an environmental and health hazard.

Brian Gaskin to request a poo-bin for dogs at the entrance to R9 in Rodington Heath.

Leaflets / Booklet

The first version of this needs to be finalized, printed in small numbers initially and made available online and at Village Halls in leaflet and format, with details of how to obtain the booklet format or access this online. Additional routes can then be added. The 3 Churches Walk is about to be amended and Andrew Careless will put all the maps in the same format, preferably without the footnote and enlarged to the full width of the page. More walks to be designed and added later.

Participation

Brian Gaskin pointed out that we need to review the designation of routes to members for reporting issues and basic clearance work. It would be helpful if we can get more residents involved in this to reduce the burden on existing members. It is particularly important to recruit members from Longdon-on-Tern. Brian Gaskin will ask Sue McGavin and potential new Parish councillors from there if they can help find some.

Gemma Crossley suggested organizing guided walks to engage people and it was agreed that this was a good idea to be raised at the next meeting.