

Duffield Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Footpaths Committee held on Tuesday 19 October 2004 at 7.15pm in the Committee Room, Hazelwood Road, Duffield

Present: Chairman: Councillor Mrs P Buckle
Vice Chairman: Councillor J Rice
Councillors: Storer and Mrs B Woodings

Also in attendance: P Boardman, D J Crowson, T Hodson, C Tonks & Mrs M K Tonks
D R Bostock – Parish Clerk & R F O
Mrs S Bygraves – Assistant Clerk/Treasurer
W Lenton – Risk Advisor

Apologies: Councillors Knibbs and Sartin

FP/28/04 Minutes

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Footpaths Committee held on 15 June 2004, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

FP/29/04 Matters Arising

08/04 the Clerk confirmed that the Walking Festival Walk was re-scheduled to Friday 17 September 2004 and not the 18th as originally planned.

25/04 the Clerk reported that no reply had been received from Wyvern Rail, regarding stiles accessing the railway line.

FP/30/04 Annual Footpath Reports 2004/05

The Clerk confirmed that he had received the reports from the SW, NE and NW areas, leaving only the SE area to complete. He further stated that he would try and instigate any actions before the next meeting.

FP/31/04 Minor Maintenance Agreement with the County Council

The Clerk confirmed that he anticipated that the usual County Council grant in the sum of £430.00 would be paid to the Parish Council in the present year and a similar sum could be anticipated in 2005/06.

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FP/32/04 2004/2005 Budgetary Control

The Clerk reported the budgetary control situation regarding the Footpath Committee's budget of £3,000.00 for the current year, which is showing an overspend in the region of £1,000 due to exceptional expenditure to repair Stiles Walk, as follows:

	2004/05
	£
Budget	3,000.00
DCC/Minor Maintenance Fund	430.00

Total Income	£3,430.00

Footpath Clearing 2004/05 to date	366.00
Stiles Walk (tree removal)	524.00
Stiles Walk (footpath repairs)	3,600.00

Total Expenditure	£4,490.00

Resolved: that the Clerk's Budgetary Control Statement be noted and the anticipated overspend, due to higher than anticipated tender prices be approved.

FP/33/04 Budget Requirement for 2005/06

The Clerk requested a budget of £3,000 plus the County Council grant for the coming year, in order to complete the Stiles Walk scheme (ie. repairing fencing, creating new seating area and provision of dog and litter bins) and clear footpaths.

Members present expressed a desire to carry out works on Cockpit Lane now that it had been adopted as a Public Right of Way.

Resolved: that a Footpath Committee Budget of £7,000 for the 2005/06 financial year be requested from the Parish Council.

FP/34/04 Stile Requirements for 2004/05

The Clerk advised members of recent correspondence with the County Council regarding the Clerk's request for eleven stiles to be renewed within the Parish. In response the County Council have agreed that eight of the stiles are in need of replacement and are happy to provide financial assistance for the work, subject to the Parish Council obtaining the necessary agreements with the land owners concerned.

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Resolved: that the Clerk establishes the land ownership at the above agreed stile replacement sites and instigates the stile renewals with gates if possible in order to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act.

FP/35/04 New Countryside Code

The Clerk circulated members with copies of the revised Countryside Code, with its emphasis on the theme “Respect – Protect – Enjoy”.

FP/36/04 Amber Valley and Erewash Walking Festival

The Clerk read out a letter from the organisers of the above event, which stated that the above event had been considered a resounding success again this year, with increased attendance’s and positive feedback from walkers.

The Clerk was thanked by Groundwork Erewash Valley for his contribution to the programme. He in turn thanked the Assistant Clerk and the Village Tidyman for their valuable support with the Duffield Walk.

FP/37/04 Footpath No.17

The Clerk reported that he had arranged for the temporary closure of FP No.17 from 18 to 20 October 2004, in order to facilitate the Parish Council’s new Blackspot lighting scheme.

FP/38/04 Stiles Walk Project

The Clerk confirmed that he had arranged for the temporary closure of Stiles Walk from 1 to 5 November 2004, in order to facilitate the repair and resurfacing of various sections of the footpath.

FP/39/04 Public Footpath Diversion Order 2004

The Clerk reported that Amber Valley (Footpath No’s. 13(part), 14(part) & 18 (part) – Parish of Duffield) – Public Footpath Diversion Order 2004 on the Hawley’s Colour Works Site, is in the process of being confirmed.

FP/40/04 Widening of Footpath No. 14

The Clerk advised members of a complaint by Mr D Soul of Holloway Road, regarding the widening, surfacing and removal of old stone stoops on FP No.14 at its junction with Snake Lane adjacent to the White House. The Clerk confirmed that the work was apparently all part of the Hawley’s Colour Works Site redevelopment, Planning Consent.

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Resolved: that the Clerk sends an official letter of complaint to the County Council regarding the above widening of FP No.14, which has totally changed the character of what was a very attractive part of our Parish footpath network.

FP/41/04 Footpath No. 10 – The Glen

The Clerk confirmed that in response to complaints from a resident, he had instructed Ric Allen Contractors to modify the stile on the Glen, where it

meets the Ecclesbourne Railway line, in order to allow the elderly to negotiate the stile more easily.

FP/42/04 Other Business

a) the Clerk read out a letter received from the Government Office for the East Midlands, which detailed a letter of support received from Mrs J Gatenby of 12 Town Street, which further supported the Parish Council's claim to add the Chapel street to Kings Head footpath to the definitive map.

b) the Council's Risk Advisor reported a possible trip location on Cockpit Lane, near the railway over bridge.

c) members expressed thanks to the Tidyman for strimming the footpath adjacent to 55 Broadway.

d) the Clerk was requested to report the following matters to the DCC Rights of Way Section:

1. Fence rails missing and broken on the newly widened section of FP 14, adjacent to the White House on Snake Lane.
2. Overhanging hedges – Old New Inn site and various other locations on Hazelwood Road, Station Approach (A6) and Castle Hill
3. New FP sign required for existing post on FP 10 The Glen.
4. At GR343442 on FP40 beasts can walk through the stile.
5. At GR347443 at junction of FP's 9, 15 & 16 two sleepers on bridge deck collapsing and dangerous.
- 6.FP34 (A6 to Burley Lane) Finger Post required at the A6 end.

FP/43/04 Date of Next Meeting

Resolved: that the next meeting of the Footpaths Committee will take place on Tuesday 15 March 2005 at 7.15pm.

There being no other business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.03pm.

Signed ----- Date -----

Duffield Parish Council

Terms of Reference of the Footpaths Committee

1. The Committee is responsible for carrying out the policy related to Footpaths and the inspection of pavements, within the Parish of Duffield, as determined by the Parish Council and any other matters referred to it by the Council.

The policy includes maintaining all footpaths in a usable condition, ie clearly defined, free from man made obstruction and not overgrown by vegetation.

2. The Committee shall ensure that all paths are walked at least once each year and a report on their condition shall be made to the Council together with a report on the monitoring of the condition of pavements.
3. The Committee shall have delegated powers to direct the activities of any Contractors including the Grounds Maintenance Contractor, who are engaged on any authorised works. Instructions to Contractors will normally be issued by the Clerk. In exceptional circumstances, instructions may be issued by the Chairman of the Committee and / or the Chairman of the Council.
4. The Chairman is responsible for reconciling annually that there is sufficient funding allocated in the budget plans set by the Council to meet the objectives set out in paragraph 1.
5. The Committee shall be responsible for the management of the Public Footpath Minor Maintenance scheme, in partnership with Derbyshire County Council.

Reviewed at the Footpaths Committee held on the 15 June 2004.