

Honiton Town Council

General Purposes Committee

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held at the Council Offices, New Street, Honiton on Monday the Thirtieth day of July 2007:-

Members present

St Michael's Ward

Cllr A Boom
Cllr Mrs S A Casson
Cllr M J Teare

St Paul's Ward

Cllr Miss V Ash (from 19.50)
Cllr R E Coombs
Cllr Mrs D Morgan
Cllr C Tratt (Chair)

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr Gaughan (sick), Cllr Whitlock (personal), Cllr McGuire (personal), Cllr McNally (personal), Cllr Howard (personal), Cllr Tirard (annual leave) Cllr Farnham (Personal), Cllr Hopkins (Work) Cllr Taylor (Personal) & Cllr Holloway (in hospital)

2. To elect a Chair & Vice Chair

Cllr Boom Proposed Cllr Tratt as Chair, this was seconded by Cllr Coombs and duly carried.

Cllr Boom also proposed Cllr Casson as Deputy Chair and this was also seconded by Cllr Coombs and duly carried.

3. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

None received.

4. To discuss the maintenance of the Parish Paths Partnership footpaths.

Cllr Coombs outlined the work which had been completed. The footpaths are in a reasonable state the new gates on footpaths 10 & 15 being advertised in the Talk of the Town. There is a high stile on footpath 14 and several faded signs will be upgraded in the near future. The main work was on Hutgate Lane and the contractor has done a magnificent job. The high stile on footpath 14 will be resolved hopefully in the near future.

5. To discuss the maintenance of the non – P3 footpaths

There are five types of footpath.

- a. Walkways – usually on estates but it is a question of who maintains these. It was approved for the Town Clerk to write to resolve a problem with Roman Way but it may be necessary to include them on the Definitive Map Review to establish ownership.
- b. Privately maintained highways – Wadmore Lane and Stout Loop are the two examples of this type of Right of Way. It was agreed that the Town Clerk should write to the frontagers, as we cannot spend money on maintenance. It could be good work for the probationers.
- c. Definitive Map Review – We are now having to prove our claims because they were not submitted in the 1930's and 1950's.
- d. County Road – Brand Lane – no money is being spent and this will be another project for the probationers.
- e. Footpaths but no P3 money – The Town Clerk is to chase EDDC re footpath 22 to get some work done and make it safe. Ownership has been in doubt and this may now be resolved as they have cut the grass on the open land south of this footpath.

6. To discuss the current position with the consultation for allotments and to approve the way forward.

The Town Clerk advised there had been a good response to the article in the Talk of the Town. Further consultation will be undertaken at the Honiton Show and also on the neighbourhood assessment shortly to be undertaken. This was approved.

7. To receive an up-date of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan for Honiton

Cllr Coombs advised that there were 4 routes designated for improvement by Honiton Town Council namely:-

- a. Footbridge over the River Otter at Tracey Bridge
- b. Better exit form FP 12 at Tower bend on the A35.
- c. Better route from Copper Castle to Springfield Road
- d. Magpie Lane / Stoney Lane – to create a full footpath to the Coly Valley from Honiton.

These have however taken a back seat with the ongoing definitive map review.

8. To approve a meeting with East Devon District Council to discuss the way forward for the creation of the nature reserve off Battishorne Way

This was approved and it was suggested that the millstream be incorporated into the plans.

9. Charter Day for 2008

All those involved with the Honiton 750 are to be congratulated and there will be a meeting on 9th August at the Museum to get feedback from the event. It was felt that a Charter Day should be held on the Saturday following the Hot Pennies ceremony. It remains to be discussed as to what should be included.

10. To confirm a replacement bench for Stoney Lane

It was proposed that the bench be reinstated by Cllr Boom and this was seconded by Cllr Casson. The cost will be less than £100 and can be met from the existing precept.

11. Cycle racks for Lace Walk

It was agreed that the Town Clerk would get quotations for the work involved as the location is probably one of the best in the centre of the Town.

12. Parking Review.

The review had not been completed by the Councillors involved and it was suggested that they meet with the Town Clerk as several queries need to be resolved, this was agreed.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.30 p.m.

This information is available in large print on request