

## Honiton Town Council

### General Purposes Committee

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held at the Council Offices, New Street, Honiton on the twenty ninth day of January 2007.

#### Members present

##### St Michael's Ward

Cllr V C Whitlock (Town Mayor)

Cllr Mrs S A Casson

Cllr M J Teare

Cllr A Boom

##### St Paul's Ward

Cllr C Tratt (Chair & Deputy Mayor)

Cllr R E Coombs

Cllr Mrs V A Howard

Cllr Mrs M Mundie

Cllr Mrs E M Tirard

#### 12. Apologies for absence

Cllr Holloway (sick) and Cllr Hopkins (Work)

#### 13. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

Cllr Howard – Footpath 14 – Personal

#### 14. The maintenance of the Parish Paths Partnership footpaths.

Cllr Coombs reported that the white paint on the footpath signs has been washed off the newer signs. We have written to DCC to see if the sign / paint manufacturers could put this right.

The majority of the activity this year has been to Hutgate Lane and was carried out in time to prevent more costly damage occurring. Some drainage work is necessary where F/P 14 joins this road. Other works include F/P 10 where remedial work is required at two gates where there is considerable mud.

Drainage work is planned. A replacement sign has been erected on the junction of this path & Gardiners Lane. It is hoped that this lane and Magpie Lane will be brought into the P3 arrangements in due course through their inclusion in the Definitive Map Review.

The main unresolved difficulties are vehicle parking on F/P 12 and a tied gate on F/P 15/16. Enquiries are being made concerning F/P22 at Oaklea and F/P 23 section of Higher Brand Lane. It is hoped that these can be brought into the P3 arrangements. Duck's Path has had an order made, by DCC RoW Committee, to add the route to the Definitive Map.

The DMR has discovered that a section of Brand Lane has not been stopped up and would be a candidate to add to the P3 arrangement.

All routes have been inspected by the Footpath Wardens and also by Paul McFadden RoW Officer. We are due to meet to go through the various routes.

#### 15. The maintenance of the non – P3 footpaths

Wadmore Lane has had all the overhanging / fallen branches, except one, removed. The goyle at the Donkey Sanctuary end needs some attention otherwise it will create slippage of the lane. The Stout Farm lane has been obstructed by a fence and steep slope with the change in access to an adjacent field. This is a private maintainable route and improvements could be chargeable to the property owners. However this could reflect badly on this Council.

**16. Allotments and the way forward**

The Town Clerk advised that a letter had been exchanged with EDDC and, subject to consultation, if we can prove there is demand for the sites EDDC will approve a greater amount of land for that use.

The initial plans are within the overall budget set by the Town Council. The shed £3,000 base £1,000 and supply of water £251.45. Insurance on the Council Policy will be an extra £200 approx. Ground works could be quite expensive. It was agreed that we should seek the advice of Sulina Tullack at EDDC as to the questions to be asked in the consultation process.

**17. Provision of taxi ranks in the Town**

The two members who volunteered to look into the availability of taxi ranks in the Town were Cllr Tirard & Cllr Boom. This is to be reported back to the Town Council agreed by them and then to liaise with East Devon District Council and Devon County Council accordingly. It was felt the process would take between 18 / 24 months to come to fruition.

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

The following were agreed by HTC to be progressed through the DMR are

1. Old Cullompton Road
2. Devils Elbow F/P 12 terminates on the side of the road with no pavement.
3. Copper Castle to Springfield Road – no pavement
4. Gardiners Lane / Magpie Lane will go on the DMR. A permissive F/P to 17 which could skirt the golf course and provide a route from Town to the Coly Valley.

Cllr Ash had given details of the David Knightly Pride of Place Awards and Cllr Coombs will submit a paper for a grant towards the cost of re-furbishing the water channel. There are other places which could also qualify for an award but it was decided to concentrate on the one application.

**19. The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35 p.m.**

**Signed Chair**

**12<sup>th</sup> February 2007.**

**This information is available in large print on request**