

SHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Footpaths Properties & Greens Committee
Meeting held on 6 September 2018 in Shorne Village Hall**

PRESENT

Mrs L McCluskey (Chairman)
Mr R Lane
Mr R Theobald
Mr J Bugg
Mr C Rea
Miss P Clifton

APOLOGIES

for absence were received from Mrs S Lindley
and Mr R Hardy

14 Minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2018

The minutes were AGREED as a true record.

15 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

16 Update on Crabbles Bottom

(a) Update on repairs to the bridleway fence

At the previous meeting, it was agreed that Mr Lane would check on previous quotations for replacing the 10 metre section of fencing and to proceed with the work if the price quoted was reasonable. Mr Lane contacted AGS Hoarding & Fencing, who blamed the price increase on a 30% increase in timber costs. However, they offered a 5% discount and they were therefore instructed to proceed. This has now been completed.

On 30 July, Mrs McCluskey reported further damage to the fence and gate at the Crutches Lane end. AGS Hoarding & Fencing were instructed to carry out the repairs at the same time. This has now been completed.

Mrs McCluskey visited the site on Tuesday, 4 September 2018 and discovered that the gate was open but the padlock locked. The chain on the padlock needs to go around so that the gate can be locked. Mr Lane will check on this.

With regards to the more extensive fence repairs, members agreed to defer this for reconsideration later in the year.

(b) Update on meadow maintenance

Mr Lane has requested Tom Gozzett to carry out the final cut of the season during September. Mr Lane will chase this up.

(c) Update on footpath & bridleway maintenance

H&P Conservation Works have been instructed to carry out a second cut back of the footpaths and bridleway during September, and to include the non-pedestrian section of Bowesden Lane as agreed at the previous meeting. Due to the hot weather they are a bit behind but the second cut will be done at the end of next or the start of the week after. Mr Lane has contacted KCC to find out whether they will pay towards this work, and to consider a similar arrangement for Crown Lane, but without success.

(d) Update on signs for Crabbles Bottom

At the previous meeting, it was agreed to consider installing 4 appropriate signs at the entrances to Crabbles Bottom. Mr Lane is obtaining quotations for the signs and estimates for installation.

5 Litter Patrols

The next Shorne litter pick is arranged for 22 September 2018. It will be necessary to coordinate the dates with any litter picks carried out in Shorne West, so that the litter picking equipment can be shared. The Shorne West litter pick is yet to be arranged but it will be sometime in mid-October; Mrs McCluskey will inform members as soon as a date is set. Higham Parish Council is organising a litter pick at Crutches Lane on Sunday 9th September 2018. Members will be advised of a further litter-pick later in the year.

6 Court Wood - Update on pathways

At the previous meeting, Mrs Lindley reported that she had made further enquiries to the Land Registry to try to establish land ownership. Mrs Lindley reported that there has been a planning application from one of the owners of a piece of land, who has purchased a further piece of land and had erected a fence. He is applying for retrospective consent.

Mr Theobald previously undertook to discuss the matter with the planning case officer at Gravesham and to arrange a date to walk the tracks. Mr Theobald reported that he has been in contact with Mr Richard Hart at GBC who has Sat Nav on his bicycle. He is willing to go around on his bicycle with Parish Councillors who will walk the tracks. Mr Theobald will arrange a date with Mr Hart and advise everyone.

7 Supplementary Cutting of Greens & Verges

At the previous meeting, it was agreed to carry out an additional (fifth) Spring cut of the greens and verges where bulbs are planted. Mr Lane has arranged this with Colin Lawrence. Mr Lane also asked Mr Lawrence to quote for extending the scope to include Shorne Crossroads, Forge Lane, and Malthouse Lane, but the additional cost is difficult to justify.

8 Update on verges at Forge Lane and Malthouse Lane

KCC had previously reported that they will arrange to have both sites levelled, top soiled, and seeded later this summer. This was delayed due to wet ground conditions. Mr Theobald will raise the matter with the Area Manager at KCC.

9 Replacement Signs in Shorne Common Rough

Mr Lane is in the process of obtaining quotations for the supply and installation of replacement signs, along with the signs for Crabbles Bottom.

10 Fence in Burdett Avenue and Footpath NS156

Mrs Lindley had undertaken to contact the land owner about establishing access from Burdett Avenue to footpath NS156.

KCC were updated during the week by Mrs Lindley and others that the fence hadn't yet been removed.

KCC said that they have been told that the fence will be removed by Tuesday 28th August and that the householder is aware that if the removal works are not completed, KCC having served notice (now expired) they can remove the fence and recover their costs. Mrs Lindley is to contact KCC about this.

Mr Theobald reported that he now has the forms ready for walkers to sign. The owner is willing to dedicate this footpath as a Public Right of Way.

11 Possible Telecom Mast in Shorne

At the previous meeting, it was agreed that Mr Lane would contact Shared Access Ltd to arrange a meeting to discuss the matter further; in order to assist the Parish Council's decision. Shared Access Ltd subsequently decided not to pursue the proposal further at this stage.

12 Village Hall Car Park - Surface Repairs

Mr Lane has obtained a number of quotations for resurfacing the village hall car park. In view of the expense, members were invited to consider whether to take this forward. Following a discussion, it was agreed not to do the repairs at the present time. Mr Lane will advise the Village Hall Management Committee of this.

13 To Consider a Proposal for a CCTV maintenance agreement

Mr Lane has circulated a proposal from Prestige for an annual maintenance agreement for the CCTV system. Mr Lane proposed that this is adopted for a year or two to determine its usefulness. Members agreed to take out the annual maintenance for one year. Mr Lane will advise Prestige accordingly.

14 KCC Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan consultation

Mrs McCluskey has responded to this.

15 Parking in Shorne Country Park

At the previous meeting, Mrs Lindley reported that she would contact Shorne Country Park for their parking policy regarding their proposal to install ANPR cameras. In the absence of Mrs Lindley, no further report.

16 Update on Overgrown Vegetation at Michael Gardens Play Area.

At the previous meeting, Mr Hardy reported that the area by the notice board in

Michael Gardens Play area was very overgrown with vegetation due to the hedges. He will contact the horticultural services at GBC to report this. Mrs McCluskey spoke to GBC workers who came to cut the grass in the play area and asked when the hedges were due to be cut back and was informed that it would be the end of September, early October. Mrs McCluskey reported that the contractors came on the 5th September, but it was raining; so only cut the area next to the noticeboard. They returned later and again today (6th September) and continued with the cut of the hedges.

17 Any Other Business

- (a) Mr Lane reported that the quarterly report showed that the slide at the Mill Hill Play Area, is damaged. Mr Lane will check on this.
- (b) Miss Clifton reported that at the See Ho, there is still a sign on the entrance to the footpath. Miss Clifton will check as to who has erected the new sign.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm