



**Minutes of Crediton Town Council's Parish Paths Sub-Committee Meeting, held on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019, at 2.00 pm, at the Old Town Hall, Searle Street, Crediton**

**Present:** Cllrs Mr M Szabo and Mr F Letch,  
Mrs Heather Sansom, Parish Paths Volunteer  
Mrs Ros Davies, Devon County Council Public Rights of Way

**In Attendance:** Mrs Lisa Blake (Assistant Clerk)  
Mrs Clare Dalley (Town Clerk)  
1 Member of the public

**48. To receive and accept apologies**

Apologies received from Cllr Ms K Piercy (Proposed by Mrs H Sansom)

**49. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Letch declared that as a member of more than one authority, that any views or opinions expressed at this meeting would be provisional and would not prejudice any views expressed at a meeting of another authority.

**50. Public Question Time**

There were no questions.

**51. Order of Business**

There were no changes to the order of business.

**52. Chairman's and Clerk's Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**53. Parish Paths Committee Minutes** – To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Paths Committee Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018, as a correct record. Copies had been circulated with the agenda. It was **resolved** to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Paths Committee Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018, as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo)

**54. Matters Arising.**

There were no matters arising.

**55. To receive an update on the Parish Path Scheme from Mrs Ros Davies, Devon County Council.**

Mrs Davies confirmed everything is going well. The newsletter is in the process of being published and will be distributed via email imminently. Grant confirmation letters are also in the process of being sent. Mrs Davies also confirmed the start of the works on the handrail on Footpath (FP) 29 are due to commence in April.

56. **Financial Report - To receive the financial report relating to Crediton parish paths.** The Assistant Clerk advised that the current balance was £233.15 for year ending March 2019. There would also be a grant of £350.00 due for the financial year 2019-2020, creating a total of £588.15. Funds are now limited and cautious spending is required to ensure there is enough funds for any urgent or remedial works. It was noted that the funds for the works for the replacement handrail on FP29, the path scraping for FP2 and the broken gate on FP19 have already been earmarked following receipt of grant funding from DCC.
57. **To receive an update on the following and agree any actions:**
- **Installing a handrail on FP29**  
The Assistant Clerk advised that this work is scheduled to take place in April. This was confirmed by Mrs Davies.
  - **Redvers Ramble oak signs**  
The signs have now been erected and put into place and look fantastic.
  - **Barbed wire on footpaths**  
The Assistant Clerk advised that the land owner had been contacted but no response had been received. She confirmed she would follow this up.
  - **Vandalised Bench FP33**  
The Assistant Clerk reported that this bench had again been vandalised with graffiti, after only being repainted in November at a cost of £120.00. It was queried whether it could be painted in anti-graffiti paint, however it would need to be cleaned first. The Assistant Clerk agreed to research this further and obtain quotations. She would also research anti-graffiti kits.
58. **To discuss how Crediton's footpaths can be made more accessible, following the footpath surveys undertaken and agree any actions.** Councillors attention was drawn to item 36 of the previous minutes. The paths were explored with regard to accessibility for wheelchair and disabled users. Not all the footpaths are suitable i.e. steps, narrow bridges, uneven ground and raised pavements to be negotiated. The most suitable identified were FP13 where parking is available, FP12 and FP7, both of which have recently been stoned but would probably require a companion to open the gates along the routes. Mrs Davies was unable to give her personal opinion but suggested asking Crediton & District Access Group to give advice and feedback going forward.
59. **To consider quotations received to scrape the surface of FP2 and agree a course of action.** Copies of the quotations received had been issued with the agenda. It was noted that the quotations and description of works varied greatly. As there are limited funds and the footpath has passed its annual inspection, it was deemed as non-essential works. It was **resolved** not proceed with the works at this point in time. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo)
60. **To consider quotations received to repair the wooden gate on FP19.** Copies of the quotation received had been issued prior the meeting. The Assistant Clerk reported that only one quote had been received. It was suggested that a metal gate may be a better solution, as this would not

require maintenance and would last longer. Mrs Davies advised that a gate for this purpose would usually be wooden and could be purchased from Mole Valley.

It was noted that further quotes need to be obtained and there are limited funds available in the budget for the works. It was **resolved** that this item be deferred until the completion of the handrail on FP29, as it may be possible to utilise any surplus funds from the FP29 project to help pay for these works. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo).

Cllr Letch also raised concerns regarding the dumping of grass cuttings and dog poo bags at the top of FP19. It was agreed that Cllr Letch would take some photos and bring them to the next meeting.

61. **To discuss the upcoming Redvers Ramble promotional walk and agree any actions.** The date for the next walk is 29<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Cllr Szabo volunteered to carry the ramble sign this year. It was **resolved** to invite the Town Crier, Mr Henry Parker and both the new Bishop of Crediton and the new Rector of Holy Cross Church to the walk. The meeting place will be the Town Square. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)
62. **To discuss having a ramble on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019 to celebrate the summer solstice and agree a way forward.** This item had been requested by Cllr Szabo. It was suggested to hold a walk to mark the the summer solstice on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2019. It was **resolved** for the walk to start between 6.30 pm and 7.00 pm with everyone meeting at Crediton Railway Station carpark. It was suggested the Redvers Ramble walk could be completed in reverse to fully appreciate the view of the sunset. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo).
63. **To review the Boxing Day Redvers Ramble and agree any actions.** Cllr Letch reported it had been a great success, very well organised and that people would certainly return for another. There were approximately twenty participants. There did appear to be a conflict over the start time. Potentially it was thought that the walk could start earlier, as it took around two to two and half hours to complete. There was a variation in abilities from beginners to more advanced. A history stop was integrated to ensure everyone could catch up. It was **resolved** to hold another Boxing Day Redvers Ramble this year. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)
64. **To discuss signage within the Town and agree any actions.** It was **resolved** to defer this item to a future date to be advised, due to the lack of funds and it not being a current priority. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)
65. **To discuss possible promotional events and agree any actions.** This item had been requested by Mrs Sansom. It was noted that this year there will be the Redvers Ramble Procession and Solstice & Boxing Day Rambles. It was noted that due to budgetary constraints there are insufficient funds to have more walking leaflets printed, which cost approximately £300. It was **resolved** to ask full Council for £400, from the general fund, to enable more walking leaflets to be printed. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo)

It was noted the leaflets design needs to be checked before any further printing is ordered as Mrs Sansom had requested some amendments. Mrs Sansom asked about the possibility of handout packs for promotional walks, the office could print them to save costs. She also asked whether there is the possibility of having a wildlife quiz sheet designed to get children engaged. The Town

Clerk confirmed that these were held in the office and that additional leaflets could be printed on request.

CLlr Letch left the meeting at 2.54 pm

**66. To discuss the allocation of Public Rights Of Way within Crediton and agree any actions.**

The Clerk asked it it was possible to connect footpaths from new developments into existing footpaths, to ensure that everyone has access to these areas. Mrs Davies confirmed it could be done. Permission from the landowner is required. She also stressed it is important to talk to developers involved in new housing estates at an early stage. She advised that rights of way should be taken into consideration when there is a new development and that public rights of way should not just “disappear” within these developments.

**67. Close**

The meeting closed at 3.00 pm

Signed.....  
(Chairman)

Date:.....

DRAFT