



Minutes of Credition Town Council's Parish Paths Committee Meeting, held on Tuesday, 13th October 2015, at 5.30 pm, at the Council Chamber, Market Street, Credition

Present: Cllrs Mr F Letch, Mr M Szabo and Mrs H Sansom

In Attendance: Miss E Lucas, Assistant to the Town Clerk & Mayor
Mr G Chudley, Parish Paths Volunteer
Mrs R Davies, Devon County Council (part meeting)

Absent: Cllr Mr J Downes

1. **To elect the Committee Chairman for 2015-2016**
It was **resolved** for Cllr Letch to be Committee Chairman for 2015-2016. (Proposed by Cllr Szabo)
2. **To elect the Committee Deputy Chairman for 2015-2016**
It was **resolved** for Cllr Szabo to be Committee Deputy Chairman for 2015-2016. (Proposed by Cllr Sansom)
3. **To receive and accept apologies**
No apologies were received.
4. **Declarations of Interest**
None declared
5. **Public Question Time**
There were no questions.
6. **Order of Business**
As Mrs Ros Davies, Devon County Council, had not arrived at the meeting. It was **resolved** to delay item 8 of the agenda 'To receive an update on the Parish Path Scheme from Mrs Ros Davies, Devon County Council' until Mrs Davies arrived. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)
7. **Chairman's and Clerk's Announcements**
There were no announcements.
8. **Financial Report – To receive the financial report relating to Credition Parish Paths.**
The Assistant advised members that there is currently £1,212 in the P3 Parish Paths fund. An additional £3,000 is also being held for a specific future project on Creedy Bridge.

Mrs Davies arrived.

9. **To receive an update on the Parish Path Scheme from Mrs Ros Davies, Devon County Council.**
Mrs Ros Davies provided members with an update on the Parish Path Scheme. Mrs Davies provided maps of the footpaths in Credition, along with a map to show the current annual cutting program that takes place in June and September each year.

Initials

It was explained that the annual cutting program is undertaken by Sam Jeffcoat, Path Warden for Crediton Parish. Mrs Davies advised members that additional cuts can be arranged at a cost.

10. **To discuss the condition of Crediton parish paths and agree any works that may be required.**
The footpaths report, which had been issued with the agenda, was discussed by members in detail. It was **resolved** to undertake numerous actions, these are detailed on the report, which is attached as Appendix One. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)

Mr Chudley raised concerns regarding pedestrian access along Commonmarsh Lane. Cllr Sansom confirmed that she believed there to be a hand gate to enable pedestrian access and would double check this matter.

Cllr Sansom questioned the duplication of numbers on the footpath map. Mrs Davies cleared up this matter, explaining where the boundary changed between Crediton Parish and Crediton Hamlets.

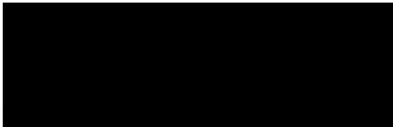
Mrs Davies left the meeting at 6.23 pm.




11. **To consider the future management and development of Crediton's parish paths, including:**

- **the scheduling of parish path surveying**
It was **resolved** for the surveying of parish paths to take place on an ad hoc basis, with members keeping each other informed of scheduled surveying via email. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)
- **the scheduling of annual works**
Members agreed that the two cuts a year carried out by DCC sufficiently maintained the paths. It was **resolved** for the Clerk, in liaison with the Committee Chair and Deputy Chair, to have delegated responsibility to spend up to £500 per year as and when works are required. (Proposed by Cllr Letch)
- **future projects**
Members agreed that the work regarding Creedy Bridge would be a project to look at in 2016.



12. **To discuss the frequency and timing of future meetings.**
Members agreed for the next meeting to be scheduled for Spring 2016. Members also agreed for the Parish Paths Committee to meet 3 times a year, before winter, in the spring and in the summer.




13. **Close**
The meeting closed at 6.32 pm

Signed  Date: 22/3/16
(Chairman)



Path	Location	Update	Picture	Resolved actions from Parish Paths Committee Meeting, held on Tuesday, 13 th October 2015 – Minute no. 10
2		Throughout the winter it will be ankle deep in mud.	Taken 18/9/15 	Monitor over the Winter. In the meantime, obtain quotations to remove the top layer of soil and lay scalplings.
2	at Dog Leg	Nut is missing from bracket holding lower frame of gate. Also a nut is loose on fixing latch. Looks to be very recent because of shiny area where bolt used to be! Gate functions OK at the moment.	 	Mr Chudley to purchase the necessary fixings and install, with the cost of goods being met by the Council.



2	Junction of 2/3/8	<p>The nut and washer are missing on the bolt holding top hinge. It must have disappeared recently because the area under washer has not yet become green, and I didn't notice it was missing a couple of weeks ago. Gate functioning OK at moment.</p>		<p>Mr Chudley to purchase the necessary fixings and install, with the cost of goods being met by the Council.</p>
10	At junction with path 2	<p>This is a trip hazard Manhole Cover. It is set in mud without a surround. No identifying marks. Don't know if it is actually in use because 10 yards away is an identical one set in the new tarmac on Footpath 10. If it has no purpose, it would be best removed. If it has a purpose, perhaps a proper surround should be put in place</p>		<p>Path Warden to organise the installation of posts around manhole cover.</p>
12	Exit to Barnfield Close	<p>About 5/6 rails missing around gate and approach.</p> <p>It has been evident for a very long time that people have seldom used the gate in favour of walking around it. This is because the approach rails are almost non-existent, so it is simply easier to walk around the closed gate rather than spend time opening it!</p>	 <p>Bottom rail missing.</p> <p>Approach rails missing hence walkway avoiding gate.</p> <p>PTO for picture.</p>	<p>Path Warden to organise complete removal.</p>

				
15	Hunnivar's Lane near housing estate	<p>Hedges all in good order.</p> <p>Actual path needs weed killer on both outer edges for most of its length, and weed killer between paving slabs over just a small area before the roots of the grass are strong enough to lift the slabs.</p> <p>Generally cosmetic rather than causing difficulty to users.</p>		<p>Urban & Rural Tree Services Ltd provided quote.</p> <p>Weedkiller is not permitted. Work cannot be funded by the P3 Parish Paths budget.</p>
18		There is a log blocking the entire path, 12" diameter, two feet above the ground.		Path Warden to organise removal.
19	Going East	Looks like new surface finished today, all hedges clear.		No action required.

19	North/ south	Just stray briars here and there not a problem, but one short area north of Lower Parks Farm needs attention to path and hedges.	 <p data-bbox="1086 486 1433 517">North of Lower Parks Farm</p>	<p data-bbox="1455 114 2057 145">Urban & Rural Tree Services Ltd provided quote.</p> <p data-bbox="1455 189 2063 294">This area may have been picked up by the second cut in September, if not the cutting area will be extended to cover this section.</p>
19	19/28 junction	Gate is difficult to manoeuvre because the lower bracket is not holding the frame of the gate securely, thereby allowing the gate to drop.		<p data-bbox="1455 564 1858 595">Path Warden to organise repair.</p>
19	Going north, part of stretch between Lower Park Farm and Town	<p data-bbox="429 980 1057 1246">Photograph is typical - problem for walkers is that the path is 7/8 feet wide, with three tracks on which to walk. It is divided because of two permanent lines of weeds. The centre track is barely wide enough to walk on, the two outer ones mean brushing head and shoulders with the hedges, and in both cases, walkers get wet legs up to the knees because of the height of the weeds.</p> <p data-bbox="429 1285 1057 1411">This does not deter hardened walkers. But if you have received a complaint, or it is just cosmetic, it appears the only thing to do is to top the lines of weeds as low as possible.</p>	<p data-bbox="1101 980 1420 1042">Footpath 19 northbound above Lower Park Farm</p> 	<p data-bbox="1455 980 2057 1011">Urban & Rural Tree Services Ltd provided quote.</p> <p data-bbox="1455 1050 2023 1081">As above. Will be covered by cutting program.</p>

19

19		Catches are missing on both gates used to cross the railway.		Gate is self-close so no issue. Landowner's responsibility.
22	Downshead Lane	Downshead Lane 01/10/15 - 100 yards east of junction with footpath 23.		No action required.

22		<p>The hook has broken off the gate on field boundary 50 yards before mobile phone aerial.</p>		<p>Path Warden to organise repair.</p>
24		<p>Briars need cutting back</p> <p>(Change of boundary and footpath numbering between the date of the old map and the new map which arrived recently. This affects only the bridge at River Creedy and the leat just Crediton side of river.)</p>	<p>Footpath 24 Briars</p> 	<p>Briars have now been very satisfactorily cut back. No further action required.</p>

25




Penton
Lynch




Top safety rails missing half dozen places, also lower ones missing here and there. Temporary ones elsewhere (red/white plastic) out of place, I have picked one off ground.








Urban footpath maintained by Neighbourhood Highway Officer, Stephen Tucker.

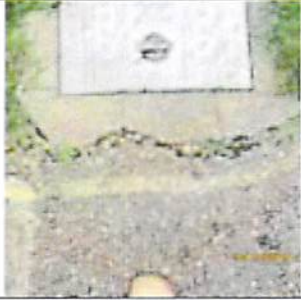

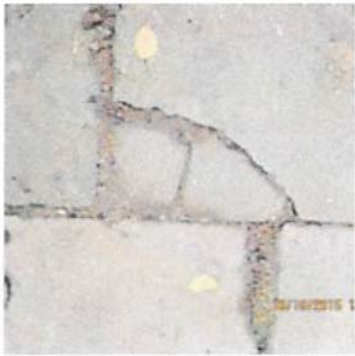
Office to contact Stephen Tucker.

26		Just couple of shrubs (lilac etc) overhanging steps not terribly inconvenient.		Urban & Rural Tree Services Ltd provided quote. DCC currently cut back as much as necessary. No further action is required.
28		Two metal gates (about 50 yards apart) in very good order but evidence of not being used very much because it is simpler to duck under the single strand of barbed wire than to open the gate and walk around it. Needs replacement of few rows of barbed wire each side of each gate, condition of posts unknown.	<p>Track under single wire</p>   <p>(PTO for additional picture)</p>	Landowners responsibility.

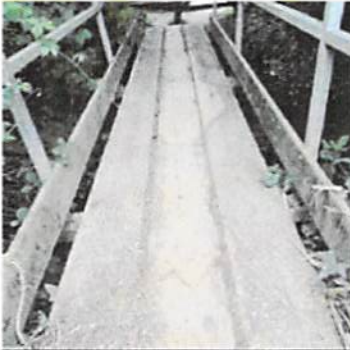


				
28		Two gates on diverted length of path have been dealt with as you know.		No action required.
29		St Saviours Steps, only the lowest third is in need of attention.	<p>Lower part of 29 as it is today</p>  	<p>Urban & Rural Tree Services Ltd provided quote.</p> <p>Already under cutting program. Picked up by second cut.</p>

33		<p>125 steps - I have done this one couple of times a week for 10 years and it is probably the most used footpath in town. Always a lot of litter, but seems to be cleaned up sometimes. The seat situated half-way has awful graffiti type paint on it. Loads of food/drink containers, but no bin by the seat. Just around the lower corner is a popular meeting place for youngsters.</p>		<p>Office to contact David Whyte Cleaning Services.</p>
33		<p>There are weeds covering the risers on one part, which could become a slip hazard underfoot.</p>	<p>From the seat going upwards southerly direction</p> 	<p>Urban & Rural Tree Services Ltd provided quote.</p> <p>Urban footpath - Office to contact Stephen Tucker.</p>

33		<p>There is a short flat paved length, with short grass around almost every slab.</p>	<p>Level section</p> 	<p>Urban & Rural Tree Services Ltd provided quote.</p> <p>Urban footpath - Office to contact Stephen Tucker.</p>
33	<p>Update as of 1/10/15</p>	<p>Weed killer has been applied recently at the southern end, exit to Barnfield.</p> <p>I have discovered that the current method used to lessen the hazard of tripping where there are overhanging projections is to create a slope made of mud containing grass and weeds which have been treated with week killer. So therefore, one just has to hope that the weed-free mud will stay perfectly in place long enough for fresh grass and weeds to grow in it to keep it in place.</p> <p>There are two areas with yellow marks, presumably for attention, which are:- the surround of a manhole cover, and an overhanging projection trip hazard.</p> <p>There are probably ten similar trip hazards, plus half-dozen that have been addressed by using the "mud method". Perhaps this is a case for a good overhaul?</p>	<p>Mud repair method</p>  <p>Yellow marks – PTO for additional picture</p> 	<p>Urban footpath - Office to contact Stephen Tucker.</p>

				Urban footpath - Office to contact Stephen Tucker.
33		A clearer view of the Mud Method used to repair the path.		Urban footpath - Office to contact Stephen Tucker.
33		"Mud Repair" job on a broken slab.		Urban footpath - Office to contact Stephen Tucker.

✓

57	Junction 24/57	The bridge over stream before the river has lost most of its non-slip wire mesh covering over the footboards.	<p>Footpath Junction 57 Bridge over Leat/Stream</p> 	Path Warden to look at laying new wire.
57		The upper left safety rail on the approach to the bridge is hanging on baler twine – anyone tripping over the lower rail, which is held in place by wire, would have a steep muddy slide into the R.Creedy. This might be Shobrooke P.C but the dodgy bit is our side of the river.	<p>Footpath 57 Bridge over River Creedy</p> 	<p>£3,000 budgeted for project. 2016 project that will be looked at next year.</p> <p>Continue to monitor in the meantime.</p>
57		I have today checked Footpath 57 at Creedy Bridge and find the recent repair has made the situation much more dangerous than before! Attached is a photo of child walking under the safety rail and onto the muddy slide into the river.		As above.

57

Creedy Bridge- 9th October 2015

Top rail still hanging on baler twine.

The bottom rail has been moved up to the centre, leaving nothing at the bottom so a child can walk under.

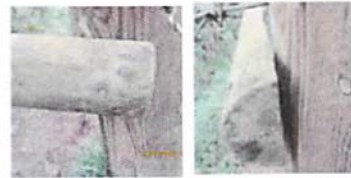
Only one new nail holding centre rail because the bent rusty one had not been removed, leaving gap between rail and post, so a second new nail does not go through rail at all.

Child walked under centre rail as I approached. Her mother soon followed and gave permission for the child to do it again for my photo.

Picture showing short distance from rail to water.

A curious new bracket doing nothing - possibly a vague attempt to secure top rail to the wire mesh - to add to the strength of the baler twine!!

The wooden planks are now wet and very slippery



As above.

R

57	Bridge over Leat Eastern End	<p>The mud is appearing here now (9th October) and throughout the winter it is quite deep and has to be negotiated carefully.</p> <p>One rail is missing.</p>	 <p>The top photograph shows a wooden gate with a missing rail, set in a muddy area. The bottom photograph shows a close-up of a wooden fence rail that is broken and lying on the ground in a muddy area.</p>	<p>No action required at present.</p> <p>Monitor.</p>
57	Creedy Bridge	FP directional sign broken – very recently.	 <p>The photograph shows a wooden post with a green directional sign attached to it. The sign is broken and hanging off the post. There are yellow tape repairs on the post above the sign.</p>	<p>Mrs Davies to send new sign to Mr Chudley. Mr Chudley to install.</p>