

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL

FOOTPATHS AND AMENITIES GROUP

MINUTES of meeting of the above group held on Monday, 18th January, 2010..

Present: Peter Hetherington (in the chair), Di Eaton, Jan Gooders, Paul Rooksby, Jean Trotman and Brenda Wilson.

1. **Apologies:**

2. **Minutes of previous meeting** held on 29th June, 2009, were approved and signed.

3. **Matters arising:** covered by agenda items.

4. **Tree Maintenance Work and Planting**

a) Shrubs on Driftway – More work has been approved by the Parish Council, which should be carried out before the end of February. It was noted some hardcore/soil has been dumped on the Driftway.

b) Church Lane Spinney, Update, Naming of the area, Seat and Publicity – Re a name, it was agreed not to give this area a specific name. Seat – Peter Hetherington is still pursuing this. Re Publicity, Peter has put an article in the Parish Notes about Church Lane, etc.

c) Re other tree work in 2010, it was agreed there is nothing urgent at this time.

5. **Church Lane surface and ditches**

Problems with sewage in Kingston Blount seem to have been solved at this time.

The Parish Council has written to landowners in the Parish reminding them of their responsibilities regarding the maintenance of ditches; also of their responsibility for the maintenance of surfaces of footpaths and bridleways.

6. **Maintenance of Ditches and Grips throughout the Parish**

Peter explained it was the job of O.C.C. to cut grips to get water off the road into ditches. The Parish Council has budgeted for work on ditches.

7. **Treatment of Knotweed**

A company has treated knotweed in the churchyard and along Lower Icknield Way.

8. **Planting**

Wild flowers on verge at the Cattle Pen

Peter Hetherington stated the Parish Council would prefer to get someone in to plant wild flowers at this site. Jean Trotman will look up names. DEFRA is to be consulted and Peter will follow up O.C.C.

Spring bulbs – daffodils (500) have been planted at the entrances to Kingston Blount and Aston Rowant; also on the green triangle at Kingston Blount.

9. **Footpath concerns and Parish Walk Dates**

The installation of a dog hygiene bin on the B4009 near Alan Hill's Farm has been completed. Paul is to follow up the missing sign on the bridleway to Copcourt on the Sydenham to Postcombe road.

Peter will organise the annual cut of The Lanes by O.C.C.

The footpath near Blenheim Farm gets very 'nettly' and a stile is overgrown.

Peter reported a proof of the reprint of the Walks Book is in the post.

Ways of attracting people to join our group were discussed.

It was noted some trees along Kingston Hill are covered with ivy.

Parish Walks Dates – 9th May from Russell's Water; 12th September from the Leathern Bottel.

10. Dog mess

Peter Hetherington reported PCSOs will look out for dog fouling and have authority to issue fixed penalties.

11. Any other business –

Paul Rooksby thought the provision of salt/grit at the junction of Sydenham to Postcombe Road and the A40 would be beneficial. He is to ask O.C.C. about this.

12. Date of next meeting – Monday, 27th September, 2010, at 8pm at Nethercote, Chinnor Road, Aston Rowant.