

Footpaths Working Party Zoom Meeting 24/03/22

Present:

Cllr P Cole (PC) Cllr Allsop (MA) Cllr Hacker (CH) Cllr Hill-Wheeler (SHW)
T Jones (Clerk - TJ)

Meeting Notes

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Members RECEIVED apologies from Councillor Selwood

2. **Response to Confidential Letter**

WP Members discussed the content of the letter, a number of options were considered, it was agreed to take to Council, due to the confidentiality request to Council to Exclude the Public and Press. The registration of the Village Green is to be actioned after this issue has been addressed. PC to erect way markers on Lydiard Green to identify the footpath.

Councillor Hacker joined the meeting

3. **Area Board Grant**

Grant content agreed at the 3rd March Parish meeting. WP Members agreed that TJ will complete the online application form, deadline is April for submission.

4. **Milestones and Timelines**

1. Meet with Purton and other Groups – PC has made contact with Purton Parish Clerk and received information.

2. Review Parish Walks from May 2022. Map of the footpaths around the Parish, put in a noticeboard, which then refer to the 'Eight Walks Around Lydiard Millicent Booklet although this does not include LMIL footpath numbers (a noticeboard company has been approached and the cost for an aluminum 1330 wide x 1080 high with plexichoc glazing is £683 (ex VAT) and powder coated is £904 (ex VAT) Thought was given to updated the booklet with the footpath numbers. WP Members were unsure if there were two separate walk booklets, or if the one booklet had been revised and re-issued. Permission should be asked of the people who originally wrote the booklet. It was agreed to contact the writers.

WP Members thought that a gauge on the interest should be sought before the booklet was updated/reissued. Maybe linked with the Jubilee, and holding a walk in mid-late summer. The first walk that took place was over the Millennium and there are markers in place.

5 **Footpath Working Group – Volunteer Request for Notice**

The aim for the volunteer working group would be similar to that of the Purton footpath group which has around 16 members and is totally autonomous to the Parish Council. The suggested wording for inclusion in the Lydiard Magazine and the Council website and Facebook was agreed (subject to Council approval) for the initial appeal to residents for volunteers to clear footpaths, mend stiles etc.

Did you know that there are fifty footpaths in your parish of Lydiard Millicent, through fifteen miles of beautiful countryside? These paths crisscross the whole parish, and LMPC will soon be putting up a notice board at the Jubilee Clubhouse showing a map of the whole network so that parishioners can plan their walks.

However, to ensure these paths are kept clear of vegetation, and any stiles in good repair, volunteers are needed who can spare some time during the spring summer and autumn months for this essential work for the benefit of the whole community.

Do you think you could help?

If so, please contact patrick.cole@lydiardmillicent-pc.gov.uk to express an interest

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A request to Council to for approval to hold a meeting of interested parties, once there was a sufficient level of interest.

PC to ask a member of the Purton Footpaths Group if they would be able to attend for Q's and A's. Once wording has been approved to appear in the Lydiard magazine and on the Parish Council website.

PC agreed to provide a Ways of Working document for volunteers based on the information already obtained from Purton for the next steps, which is to explain to any potential volunteers who come forward exactly what will be required of them. To be approved at the May meeting.

8. **Creation of New Footpath**

It has been mentioned at Parish Meetings for consideration to be given to a footpath on the Council side of the wall on the land next to the Parish Hall. It was thought that this would provide a safer option to walking by the chicane. From the gateway opposite the Church car parking area, coming out by the Parish Hall. As a first step, Councillor Allsop and Cole met with an Engineer from Wiltshire Councils Highways Department. The Engineer has no objection to the suggestion, regarding the rights of access, he suggested the Council asked for permissive access from the landowners. WP Members, considered if this should be taken forward, as no decision has yet been made on the possible use of the entire piece of land, and the intricacies of the provision of a footpath. It was decided to park unless the use of the land had been considered.

9. **Agreed Actions:**

- PC to erect way markers
- Agenda Item with Exclusion of Public and Press to discuss land issues
- MA to check the boundary should be not where the new fence is.
- TJ Draft letters to be prepared, confidential report PC/TJ
- TJ to complete Area Board Grant application
- PC to ask a member of the Purton Footpaths Group to attend a initial meeting of the LM Footpaths Group
- PC to provide a draft Ways of Working document

Meeting Closed at 20.30hrs