

Members are requested to NOTE this report and CONSIDER the way forward

Background

During public question at the 7th October meeting, the Chairman of the Parish Hall asked if the Council could confirm the ownership of the lane alongside the Parish Hall leading to the Cemetery and other properties as its condition has deteriorated. The Interim Clerk advised enquires had recently been made and would be followed up.

Initial Action Taken

Contact made with Wiltshire Council's Department for Neighbourhood & Planning to establish ownership, it was confirmed that it was a Wiltshire Council Right of Way (RoW) numbered **LMIL60** for the whole length shown in purple line on the map below.

Contact made with Stephen Leonard, Wiltshire Council - Countryside Access Officer

His reply is as follows:

The landowner (field) and the users of the Cemetery and Village Hall would have improved the surface for their needs over the years, to a much higher standard than a footpath, i.e. vehicle use etc...

The Highway Authority has a duty to make sure that the legal users of the footpath ie pedestrians are safe. Therefore, we would not repair it to the same standards as the users of the Village Hall and Cemetery would require.

Perhaps the Parish Council would fund the repairs as well as the other Users?

Question regarding Standard of Repair

Stephen Leonard added that he would require is a specification, to enable him to approve or advise on. If it is just a tarmac repair (filling in) like for like, we could just carry on

Way Forward

Members to CONSIDER the next steps they wish to make: decide to make good or resurface, obtain quotes for both options, seek financial assistance from other users, etc.

