



ENVIRONMENT AND RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting held on **Monday 14th December 2020** via zoom at 7pm.

Present: Councillor C Edwards
Councillor R Higginson
Councillor K Arbuthnot
Councillor G Jones
Councillor A Wilson
Councillor Y Brunger

In attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)

E2020/031 Welcome

The Chairman, Councillor Edwards, welcomed Members to the meeting of the Environment & Rights of Way Committee.

E2020/032 Apologies for absence

Cllr I Pryce Leave of Absence Agreed

E2020/033 Declarations of Interest

None

E2020/034 Minutes of the meeting held on 27th July 2020

It was proposed by Councillor Brunger and seconded by Councillor Jones, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 27th July 2020 be signed as a true record.

E2020/035 Recreational Facilities in Edgmond

MUGA – Edgmond’s Multi Use Games Area

The Clerk reported that the area is inspected weekly, for safety issues, by Idverde on behalf of TWC. However, TWC have agreed to jet-wash the area in order to remove the moss. There may be a charge for this, which the Parish Council will be asked to pay.

Children’s Play Area

TWC is to undertake a community consultation regarding their Play Strategy in 2020. The outcome of this will aid the Parish Council in making any decisions regarding the future management and maintenance.

The Pavilion & Field

The Parish Council has approached TWC for details of the maintenance programme for the Pavilion and we have forwarded the photographs of concerns.

With regards to the leaves, there is little that can be done, however, as Idverde will be visiting the MUGA, they will blow away the leaves under the hedge.

Other matters

The Clerk will contact the Football Club to enquire about the white posts left on the field and around the Pavilion, if they are no longer needed or useful, the Parish Council will

offer to dispose of them.

Noticeboard

The noticeboard was provided by TWC Rights of Way and is to promote the routes in the Parish. However, TWC has allowed the Parish Council to use the noticeboard and the additional space has been provided for village notices. The roof is warped and it would benefit from minor repairs.

E2020/036

Rights of Way

Obstructions

It is important to remember that any obstructed rights of way should be reported at the earliest opportunity to the Rights Of Officer at TWC preferably using the My Telford facility on the website. However, local issues can be reported to the Parish Council who can approach the landowner to seek a solution.

Connors Lane Kissing Gate

There is a problem with the installation and site of the kissing gate in Connors Lane. A photo is available and a solution is needed.

Routes and Paths

The OS map is available showing rights of way and bridle path routes, this will be available via a link on the website.

E2020/037

Parish Environmental Maintenance

TWC has produced a proposal for PTCs to buy-in to additional services. This would be to provide additional maintenance over and above the core contract. However, until the detail of the contract is available and can be seen, Members were not in a position to consider including funding in the budget to enhance the provision.

TWC has produced a break down of three areas where enhanced provision is possible, however at a cost of £70,000 this is not an option for the Parish Council, although it could be considered if all the rural parishes joined together. Further consideration would be required as the amount of time available to each parish during a week would be limited.

It is still possible for the Parish Council to consider employing a local contractor for one-off maintenance jobs that are required.

E2020/038

Flower Bed Maintenance

Thanks, as always, are extended to Mr J Spears for his help in Robin Lane and Chetwynd Road and to HAU for their support.

Members considered setting up a Gardening Group of volunteers. This would require volunteer contracts and the provision of hi-viz jackets and cones etc. for when working on the highway. This would enable the volunteers to be covered by the Parish Council insurance.

RECOMMENDED that a Gardening Group of volunteers be established, with volunteer contracts to undertake the maintenance of the flower beds around the Parish, on behalf of the Parish Council. The Parish Council insurance will be amended as required.

Members were keen to consider the offer of a flower bed / verge being adopted by a local group or organization.

Members agreed that the informal wild flower beds would benefit from low hazel or willow fencing to identify the location. Cllr Brunger offered to create this for one of the beds in Shrewsbury Road so that it can be seen before the other areas are completed. It is important that the fence allows access for wildlife.

E2020/039 Floral Planters

Thanks were recorded to HAU for their continued support in the supply and maintenance of plants for the floral planters on the B5062 and at Robin Lane.

Thanks were also extended to Mrs Brunger for the provision of solar christmas lights on the planter in Robin Lane.

E2020/040 Climate Change

Councillor A Wilson gave a short presentation on work in the County and TW as a Member of the Climate Change Partnership. Councillor Edwards is also a Member of the TW CC Partnership.

RECOMMENDED that Edgmond Parish Council recognises and acknowledges the future effects and therefore seeks to declare a Climate Emergency, which will mean that all decisions will take this into account. The Chairman will provide regular updates.

E2020/041 Any Other Business

Thanks were extended to TWC for their work to remove the moss from the pavement near to the bungalows in Robin Lane.

The village still suffers from irresponsible dog walkers who do not pick up after their dogs in areas around the village. Free dog poo bags are available from Edgmond Stores (with thanks to Paul and Pam). Litter and dog waste bins are situated around the Parish and residents / visitors are reminded that they should use these or take their litter /dog poo bag home. There is a £1000 fine for owners if found to be allowing their pet to foul in public places – this includes rights of way.

The Parish is suffering from fly-tipping, especially on the outskirts of the parish boundary – this can be reported direct to TWC via My Telford. However, they cannot collect from private land, this is the responsibility of the landowners.

E2020/042 Date of the next meeting

To be arranged.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.00pm.

SignedDate