

**Draft Minutes of QCPC NPWG meeting Wednesday 6 March 2024 held at England's Side, BA22 7NN at 7pm**

Present David Lowe, Philip Hall and Rosemary Heath-Coleman. John Brendon in attendance as minute taker. Apologies Terri Plummer and Bryan Norman.

**03/01** Introduction

**03/02** The minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2024 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**03/03** JB had no developments to report on the planning application for the 43 houses behind West Camel Road. SC to be asked about the status of the application.

**03/04** JB reported that 8 submissions had been received to install the new play area. These will be reviewed by the Tender Board on 14 March. The Tender Board will also make recommendations to the PC on youth shelter, picnic area, fencing and car parking to complement the play area. Green Lane maintenance and playing field equipment storage were deferred and will need to be dealt with as separate projects by the PC (JB/ March PC Meeting).

**03/05** Disappointment was noted on the SC highways response to the letter sent to them after the last WG meeting. This letter will be referred to the PC to decide on further action (March PC Meeting).

**03/06** DL reported on this survey of the footpaths in the south of the village (copy attached). He is to update his report to cover which stiles are essential for repair, ie form part of a fence to keep cattle in fields, versus those that are only nice to be repaired and show this pictorially on a largescale map (Action DL).

The bridge issue at Grace Martin's Lane to be referred to SC bridges team (DL to draft letter for JB).

Philip Hall gave a report (attached) on his review of all footpaths in the northern half of the parish; the main issue is linking the path that comes from Camel Hill Farm to the new A 303 access road --- National Highways to be contacted (PH to action). It was noted that actions in the longer term included better marking of footpaths with yellow markers & the footpath registration process (Action DL).

**03/07** It was reported that DL & Terri Plummer are looking into the possibility of a cycle path to West Camel and TP will have discussions with landowners in March. It was noted that West Camel PC should be engaged in this proposal (DL to action in late April). More to be reported at the next meeting.

**03/08** Status of Heritage Assets is ongoing (PH)

**03/09** Deferred projects:

- a) Lighting
- b) Bridleways
- c) Church Bus Stop
- d) Yellow Parking Lines Sparkford Hill
- e) Drop Kerbs

**0310** AOB:

- a) The unsatisfactory state of the Old Medical Centre was noted. Henry Hobhouse to be consulted on where SC planning enforcement have got to on this problem (March PC Meeting)
  
- b) There was a discussion on whether the village should employ a handy man for maintenance job. It was thought it might be better to have a register of tradesmen who could do small maintenance jobs for the PC which could be authorised without the need for a full range of quotes.

Next meeting: 8 May 2024 at 7pm at England's Side.

Distribution: minutes + 2 attachments to those present at meeting, TP, BN & Parish Clerk