



PC action team 2 – Facilities & infrastructure: Minutes of a meeting on 24th June 2024

Present: Barry Cooper, Chris Cullen (co-chair), Dominic Ferguson, Caroline Pilley, Duncan Robinson, Neil Ryder (co-chair), Amanda Townshend, Pete Upfold

Apologies: Jayne Collins, Dave Dawtrey, Michael Morgan, Annie Portman

1. Access to existing paths

- a. It was agreed that the paths identified by the Ramblers' "Don't Lose Your Way" campaign and those subject to complaints by local residents would be divided between the team members as shown on the attached map (appendix A).
- b. These members agreed to:
 - Check that the specific path is not shown on the WSCC i-map ([HERE](#)) – which represents the "definitive map" - as a public right of way (PROW)
 - look at the path on other maps (we suggest using the compare function [HERE](#)) to see whether it was shown as a road or public path on historic maps – to assess how strong the case looks for taking the issue further
 - visit the path to see if it is still there and available
 - identify the owners of the property it crosses / borders if possible
 - establish whether they are aware of any legal changes made to cancel the original rights of way over the path or to divert them to another nearby route
 - find out how they feel about it being a right of way.
- c. Members agreed to report back their findings to CC and NR as they complete their research, so that these can be compiled and circulated to the group for later discussion.

2. Improve pedestrian / cycling routes in the parish

- a. NR updated the team on his meeting with Kate O'Kelly about the Trotton walkway project:
 - An application should be made for a "Community Highways Scheme" (as recently done by Rogate and S Harting) via the process outlined [HERE](#).
 - Applications have to be submitted by July each year and WSCC approves or rejects them in November. We should therefore aim to submit the application in July 2025.
 - Applications need to be detailed and cover all requirements – which might need specialist help (eg with detailed plans)
- b. On Kate's request, NR had summarised the plan in writing and she agreed to arrange for the WSCC team to visit Trotton and discuss the plan.
- c. In the meantime, NR agreed to arrange for the team to:
 - Meet Trish Walker (clerk at S Harting) to hear about their experience
 - Hold a meeting with affected landowners – principally Caroline Pilley (Old Rectory & Hop Field), Geoffrey Baigent (Trotton Farm), Tim Parker (Trotton Place & Coppers), Stuart Webster (Lovehill Farm), Annie Portman (Camoys) and the new owner of Tuxleith.

3. Efforts to reduce traffic speed / noise

- a. PU summarised the recent visit by the local police speed unit. They noted a few speeding vehicles but were not equipped to measure noise. However, they did say they would try to focus more on the stretch of the A272 between Midhurst and Trotton.
- b. It was agreed that, when we have a new MP, the parish council should write to him / her about the motorbike noise problem.

4. Community hub

- a. AT had not been able to attend the previous team meeting so CC and NR summarised the findings of the recent residents survey and the high priority residents put on a more active programme of community activities – from coffee mornings to yoga and a variety of other activities – and therefore on the need for an accepted community “hub” where these could take place.
- b. AT said that she could see no realistic scope for the church to offer the facilities these would require, given the difficulties she had had with the wall paintings and her efforts to provide toilet facilities. She suggested that it might make more sense for the community to seek a cooperation agreement with one of more of the local village halls.
- c. NR pointed out that this would be a significant change of policy for the parish council which, for some years, had been trying to help develop community facilities in, and additional income sources for, the church. He felt it might also result in some loss of goodwill and income for the church if it was no longer seen as the focus of the community, but AT said this income was not significant.
- d. After some discussion, members agreed to recommend that the PC should look at the facilities available in local village halls (particularly Borden Wood) and consider a cooperation agreement with one of them to provide community facilities for the Trotton community.

5. **Next meeting:** CC agreed to provide some date options in September for the next team meeting but members agreed to report back with progress in the meantime.

APPENDIX A:

DISPUTED PATHS PROJECT

--- Ramblers' "Lost paths"
--- Locally disputed paths

- A: Chris Cullen**
- B: Dominic Ferguson**
- C: Neil Ryder**
- D: Barry Cooper**
- E: Annie Morris**

