

Wetheral Parish Council
Minutes of the Rights of Way Committee
Held on Wednesday 31st January 2018, at 7:30pm, at Wetheral Village Community Hall

Present: Cllr. B.Earp, Chairman

Cllr. G.Round (sub for Cllr. Bainbridge), Cllr. R Nemeth, Cllr. J Melrose-Woodman, Cllr. J Searle

ROW/63 Apologies – Resolved to receive and accept apologies Cllr. Bainbridge.

ROW/64 Declarations of Interest – None.

ROW/65 Minutes of the meeting held on 24th October 2017

- (i) **Resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 24th October 2017.

ROW/66 General issues from the villages

a. Wetheral

- (i) Flight of Fancy – Needs a wider concrete base for stability. **Resolved** Askins & Little to be chased up to look at it and provide a quote.
- (ii) Damaged directional post, Wetheral Pasture – **Resolved** Cllr Earp requested that a letter be sent to the County Council, due to the long delay (well over a year) in rectifying this matter.
- (iii) Noticeboards - The Skelton Court signs have now been removed, revealing damage consisting of 10-12 large holes in each noticeboard, also a large amount of adhesive left behind, and further damage to the surfaces caused by numerous large staples. The Assistant Clerk has spoken to Citadel and emailed the photos to them. Awaiting response.

b. Scotby

- (i) Pavilion - If the covenant remains in place it may be possible to site the car park close to the access road.
- (ii) Christmas tree – **Resolved** It is not considered that a new tree is required at this time. Residents seemed happy with this year's solution of lighting the lower section of the existing tree. A new one would involve additional costs of new wiring/sockets.

c. Great Corby

- (i) Village green improvements – Concerns were raised about the bench around the weeping willow, in case of difficulties in grass cutting underneath. Cllr Nemeth stated she did not believe this would be a problem. **Resolved** Great Corby Councillors to discuss and confirm whether the Council should proceed with ordering the seat, or what alternative would be beneficial.
- (ii) Play area - Cllr Nemeth confirmed that the gateway is fine and no longer excessively muddy.
- (iii) Old School sign – Councillors preferred that the red triangle be re-created so the sign can be fully restored to its original form. **Resolved** To ask the restorer to proceed with this, when he returns from holiday.
- (iv) Parking at The Beeches – Cllr Nemeth confirmed that there is a problem with people parking and driving on the grass, causing damage, and that the adjacent garages are mostly unused. **Resolved** Assistant Clerk to contact Riverside to find out who owns the central grass area.

d. Aglionby

(i) Play area – The next step is for residents to form a management committee to help with fundraising for equipment. Residents have been informed. The Parish Council will then look to acquire some land. The area opposite the new McKnight build was suggested.

e. Warwick-on-Eden

- (i) Parking problems at The Queens – Cllr Searle confirmed that the pub had previously had signs up, asking people not to park on the pavement, and that the car park is seldom full. It was also noted that there is no footpath past the pub car park. **Resolved** The Parish Council will write to the pub landlord to ask if signs could be placed to make it clear there is plenty of parking behind the pub.
- (ii) St Leonard's Church – **Resolved** Cllr Searle to speak to the village hall committee to ask if the memorial can be relocated to the hall. It was noted that church permission can take six months or more.

f. Cumwhinton

- (i) Cocklakes sign – Cllr Earp confirmed the sign is still not in place. **Resolved** Assistant Clerk to contact County Council again.
- (ii) Ditch opposite Lowther Arms – The pipe is too small, resulting in stagnant water in the ditch. The pipe behind the nearby houses is higher than the ditch and the pipe gets clogged. Cllr Round reported that one resident has a ditch in her garden which drains adequately, but it then backs up when it meets the ditch on the green. To add a culvert pipe would mean digging up gardens. **Resolved** Cllr Earp requested that a letter be sent to Keith Little at the County Council to request a meeting between the Parish Council and the City and County Councils.

g. Cotehill

- (i) Church plaques – Still in storage, awaiting the faculty so the plaques can be sited. **Resolved** Assistant Clerk to chase.

h. Warwick Bridge

- (i) Downagate – Reopening has been delayed.

i. Durranhill

- (i) Noticeboard – **Resolved** Cllr Earp to discuss the best location with Cllr Routledge.

ROW/67 Footpaths

- (i) Cllr Hughes is assisting with walking the footpaths in Scotby, beginning with the route between Tesco and Wheelbarrow Hall.
- (ii) Cllr Melrose-Woodman has been working on some documents which could be used to update the existing footpath checklists. These would make it easier for volunteers or Councillors to identify a footpath and then check for/record any problems. **Resolved** Assistant Clerk to type up the proposed inspection sheets so they can be trialled.
- (iii) Cllr Earp reported that the Eden Brows footpath (138008) has been closed for an extremely long time, with no information on when it might re-open. **Resolved** Assistant Clerk to contact County Council again.

ROW/68 Interpretation Panels

- (i) The committee reviewed Cllr Nemeth's proposed wording for the panel and discussed potential images. **Resolved** To ask the local history group to make a final check before work begins on the panel.

ROW/69 Play Areas

- (i) Play area checklists – **Resolved** Assistant Clerk to forward the checklists to the councillors, who will pass to the playground committees to review the lists of equipment and ensure they're current.
- (ii) ROSPA Reports – The reports were distributed. The play area committees should be inspecting the play areas annually and letting the Parish Council know if any action is required. **Resolved** ROW Committee members to inform their local play area committee.

ROW/70 Clerk Report

- (i) The Great British Spring Clean – 2-4 March. Interested parties should contact Cllr Higgs to arrange litter picks in their wards.

ROW/71 Councillor Matters

Items not on this agenda but raised by councillors for further investigation.

- (i) Wetheral - Cllr Melrose-Woodman reported tree damage on the riverbank near St Cuthbert's Well.
- (ii) Scotby - Cllr Earp reported that the village green footpath to the village hall has two potholes which are a trip hazard, and that weeds are starting to regrow along the path. Contractor to be asked for a quote for the footpath, and the Groundsman asked to attend to the weeds.
- (iii) Cumwhinton - The phone box is still in place, though BT were supposed to have removed it since it is no longer used. Assistant Clerk to contact BT to chase.
- (iv) There have been a high number of pothole complaints throughout the parish. It was noted that it is very difficult to pin down an exact location on rural roads. Cllr Earp suggested a letter be sent to Keith Little regarding the number of potholes in the Parish, which he believes is due to poor maintenance going back many years.
- (v) Drainage at Cotehill – The County Council are attending to inspect/resolve this. At this time of year, damage caused by farm equipment can cause verges to subside, blocking ditches. Cllr Earp requested that Councillors check gulleys and ditches etc. as they are going around the parish, and report any blockages.
- (vi) Scotby – The hedge at 49 Broomfallen Road is growing over the footpath and is obstructing traffic. Assistant Clerk will write to the buyer of the property, to request that the hedge is cut back.
- (vi) Scotby – The 'road closed' signs either side of Broomfallen Road have been left up. Cllr Earp has taken the signs down and reported them.
- (vii) Wetheral – Cllr Melrose-Woodman received complaints from a resident about the removal of five lime trees from outside 74 Greenacres, which was done by contractors. The resident has asked if the Parish Council will replace the trees. There were no TPOs on the trees and they were not within the conservation area. Cllrs Earp and Melrose-Woodman to check the location.
- (viii) Wetheral – The wall which collapsed at Ferry Hill and was reported has still not been rebuilt. The fallen stones have been stacked up and cars are having to go around them. Assistant Clerk to investigate.
- (ix) Wetheral – The railings on the way up to the church are falling down and are not safe. Cllr Melrose-Woodman will speak to the church to find out if they have responsibility.
- (x) Warwick-on-Eden – Cllr Searle reported that the water stop taps on the green near Buffs Croft and Graham Croft are overgrown. Cllr Earp confirmed these are the responsibility of the residents and suggested they form a committee to deal with it.
- (xi) Cumwhinton - Cllr Round reported an incident at Thornedge where an ambulance was called but took 20 minutes to find the address. Cllr Round will speak to the developer and investigate whether better signage is needed.
- (xii) Cotehill - Cllr Round reported that there is a problem with people allowing dogs into the churchyard. It was confirmed that the land is owned by the PCC. Cllr Round will speak to the PCC to suggest the placement of 'No dogs' signs.

ROW/ 72 Correspondence

- (i) Cllr Earp received a report from a resident who fell over a bench on Scotby Green, resulting in injury. The resident asked if the benches could be painted a lighter colour. Cllr Earp put forward a suggestion that benches are galvanised as they are replaced, since this cuts down on maintenance.
- (ii) The National Trust sign from Wetheral Woods, which was washed away two years ago in the floods has been found at Rockcliffe Marsh. The sign has been left at the Parish Council office and the National Trust will collect it and put it back in place.

ROW/73 Future meeting date 17th April 2018.

DRAFT