

LLANTWIT MAJOR TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE FOOTPATH FORUM
HELD ON 9 JULY 2012

Present: Councillors: Mrs A Matthews
E Williams
M Marsh

Mr G Teague – Public Rights of Way Officer
Mrs H March – Friends of the Heritage Coast
Mrs B Richards – History Society
Ms B Ashong – Glamorgan Heritage Coast
Mr G Woosnam – Vale Ramblers
Mrs A James – U3A Representative

In Attendance: Mr R Parry – The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales
Mr V Matthews – Conservation Officer

Also Present: Councillor Mrs S Hanks
Councillor G Ingram

Apologies were tendered on behalf of:

Councillor Mrs P Percy
Mr M Lewis – NFU

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming Mr Parry and Mr Matthews and introducing the members of the Footpath Forum present.

Presentation – Cwm Colhuw Nature Reserve

Mr Parry outlined the responsibilities and area covered by the Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales. He then went on to highlight the Cwm Colhuw Nature Reserve and what they had planned having obtained a grant from Biffa of £50K.

The presentation was interesting and very informative and led to a number of questions at the end. Mr Parry was thanked by all members present; he left a copy of the Nature Reserves Handbook for all members of the Footpath Forum. A condensed version of the presentation will be available for members at the next meeting.

Report

Footpath Forum members had previously been circulated with a copy of the report of the meeting of the Footpath Forum which had been held on 16 April 2012. It was agreed that the report was an accurate recording of the meeting.

Rural Footpaths Grants

Mr Teague outlined, for the benefit of the new members on the Footpath Forum the project put forward by the Town Council under the Footpaths Grants scheme to establish a right of way from FP55 to join FP3.

Mr Teague updated the members with the progress to date: the Land Registry had responded to his request for details of any titles to the land in question but the response was of little help and indicated unregistered land with part owned by Mr Navidi.

Letters had gone to the two landowners with details of the outline agreement and indication of the compensation available. Mr Teague had hoped to speak with Mr Navidi on his return from holiday.

Member's Reports

Mrs March advised that the sign was missing from West Street Pool to Green Lane indicating the route of FP21 in addition FP21 to FP22 was very overgrown.

Mrs James asked if there was any update on her observations submitted on 16 April. Ms Ashong confirmed that her team had removed the vandalised stile on FP45. Mr Teague stated that an enforcement notice had been served on the occupant of the property with the offending tree on FP47 to remove the tree. He stated that the other observations would be acted upon as soon as possible and the Forum would be updated with progress. The Assistant Rights of Way officer post within the Rights of Way Dept had been vacant since December 2011 with the post only recently filled he expected to see a big improvement in the completion of the tasks identified.

Mr Woosnam asked Mr Teague why the route of FP15 when it passed Sheeplays Barn was not in accordance with the route indicated on the OS map and should it be officially diverted. Mr Teague advised that a revised Rights of Way map was being produced and when introduced the few anomalies would then be considered

Dates and Time of Next Meetings

The next meetings of the Footpath Forum would be held on 1 October 2012 at 7.30 pm in the Heritage Centre, Town Hall.