

LLANTWIT MAJOR TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE FOOTPATH FORUM
HELD ON 6 OCTOBER 2015

Present: Councillors: Mrs PA Lancaster
M Marsh
E Williams
D Foster
Mr G Teague – Public Rights of Way Officer VOGC
Mr M Lewis – NFU
Mr G Roberts - History Society
Mr P Lock - Glamorgan Heritage Coast
Mrs A James - U3A Representative
Mr K Kennet - U3A Representative (Designate)

Apologies: Mrs H March – Friends of the Heritage Coast

Councillor Tricia Lancaster opened the meeting by welcoming Mr Paul Lock and Mr Keith Kennet as members on the Footpath Forum.

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 7 July 2015. It was agreed that the report was a reasonably accurate account of the meeting.

Rural Footpaths Grants

Mr Teague confirmed that the consultative document outlining the proposed Creation Order had been distributed to the known parties that could be affected. The Vale Legal Department have considered all the relevant documents available and they are of the opinion that compensation will be limited to Mr Navidi who has clear title. Mr Navidi was given a quote for compensation which he has responded to with a revised figure. This will be considered by the Planning Committee (Rights of Way Sub-Committee) by mid-November.

Member's Reports

Mr Teague distributed the updated Maintenance Report to all present. He summarised the report in advising that since March 2011, 149 issues had been resolved/part resolved with 21 unresolved. He advised that a letter had been sent to the Town Council (received 5 October) outlining the Vale of Glamorgan's responsibility to signpost public rights of way where they leave surfaced roads. The Council need not, however, erect a signpost where it is agreed that one is not necessary with the relevant Town Council. The request is that the Town Council considers 5 locations which the Vale of Glamorgan do not believe a waymark post is needed and report back. This letter will be considered by the Footpath Forum at their next meeting which is being held on 5 January 2016 with comments being forwarded to the Town Council for consideration and decision at their meeting on 28 January 2016.

Mr Lock outlined changes in the way the Heritage Coast Rangers are operating where they are now being tasked to do rights of way work. During the winter months they will be working on the local footpaths.

Mrs James reported that the catch on the kissing gate on FP9 was broken and tied up with string also could a sign be placed on FP7 topside looking down to the beach. There are 2 stiles that require checking one on FP3 and the other on FP5.

Mr Roberts made the observation that the handrail of the bridge over the stream on FP47 near Rosedew House is missing and the bridge itself is unsafe and requires maintenance.

Mr Lewis commented that the 1, 5 and 10km run was a great success for Llantwit Major and had there been any complaints/suggestions that would improve the event in future years. He suggested that certain areas around Boverton were heavily overrun with Stingers (Stinging Nettles – *Urtica Dioica*) which hampered access.

Councillor Tricia Lancaster closed the meeting by wishing all present a very Happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

The date of the next meetings is 5 January 2016 at 6.30pm in the Heritage Centre.