

LLANTWIT MAJOR TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE FOOTPATH FORUM
HELD ON 10 JANUARY 2017

Present: Councillors: Mrs S Hanks
E Williams
M Marsh

Mr G Teague – Public Rights of Way Officer VOGC
Mr G Roberts - History Society
Mr K Kennet - U3A Representative
Mrs H March – Friends of the Heritage Coast
Mr P Lock – Glamorgan Heritage Coast

Guest Speaker: Rebecca Brough – Ramblers Cymru

Apologies: Councillor Foster
Mr P Lane – Vale of Glamorgan Ramblers
Mr M Lewis – NFU

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 4 October 2016.

Rebecca Brough from Ramblers Cymru. ‘Paths for People’ scheme.

Mrs Brough presented the committee with the ‘Paths for People’ brochure and explained how local council can play a key role in safeguarding our local paths. Mrs Brought went on to say that no other authority can know the local paths as well as a local council can, and the voice of the local council will command the attention of the authority when action is called for. The Ramblers have volunteers in the area that are keen and ready to help if and when needed, for example, by clearing paths.

Mrs Brough informed the committee of the Pathwatch app which can be downloaded to smartphones. With the Pathwatch app you can report positive and negative path features, send photos or share discoveries via social media with the press of a few buttons. The aim of the campaign is to get all rights of way pathways well maintained by 2020 with the help of the people using them.

Update from Rights of Way Officer including Coastal Path update.

Mr Teague gave the committee a copy of the Llantwit Major Footpath Maintenance Report which included a map of logged problems. All of which had their own priority colour code (see attached). It was suggested that it would be useful if the next issue includes Marcross so it would cover Dimhole and St.Donats.

It was reported that the Dimhole project is now complete and there has been a great deal of positive feedback. This includes the path leading from Llantwit Major beach to Dimhole which has been improved greatly. Mr Roberts commented on how much the Dimhole has improved but felt it looks unfinished where the earth that was dug up has been discarded at the side of the path. Mr Lock agreed to look into this.

Mrs March raised concern that FP10 leading to Dimhole from the style is very muddy and hazardous. Mr Lock explained this is a difficult path which has been discussed previously but still looking for an answer. Mr Teague suggested a handrail might help the problem and will look into this option.

Mr Teague updated members that there are two projects that are currently with legal team –

- 1) Gileston – in discussion with the two landowners regarding a Creation Agreement. Once confirmed the project to create a coastal path (with waymarks) closer to coast will begin.

- 2) Old Mill Lane (FP55 to FP3) – still bouncing back and forth. Mr Teague will keep the committee updated with any progress made.

Councillor Mrs S Hanks reported that she has had many complaints from parents of children who attend the primary schools on Ham Lane. They are strongly encouraged to walk to school but FP44 is very muddy and difficult to walk with small children. Mr Teague confirmed this project is on the horizon and hoping to be complete by the new financial year.

Members Report

No questions or comments from members.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

The date for the next meeting is 4 April 2017 at 6.30pm in the Heritage Centre.