

MORCHARD BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 31st July at 7.00pm at the Morchard Bishop Sports and Social Club

Present: Jackie Patten (P3 Co-ordinator), Sonja Andrews, Claire Proietti, Massimo Proietti, Sheila Sinclair, (Parish Councillor), John Kanefsky, David Parker (Parish Clerk)

1. **Apologies:** Neale Meade, Karen Hayman, Ros Davies (Public Rights of Way – Parish Paths Liaison Officer for Devon),
2. **The minutes** of the meeting of 12th June 2023 (and Appendix) were approved and set aside for signature by the Chairman.
3. **Matters Arising** – The footpath friends event mentioned at the last meeting would now take place at the beginning of Spring 2024.
4. **Finance:** – We have received a reimbursement of our VAT £468.54 and so funds in the P3 account stand at £2,035.82. We still await the transfer of £650 general based on mileage plus £1,000 towards the works to Fp9.
5. **Volunteer Reporting:** - Reporting as to the state of our footpaths was down. The footpaths coordinator had sent an e-mail to the Footpath Friends to encourage greater reporting.
6. **Report on Footpaths/outstanding works – see separate appendix for ongoing work.**

Fp7 – The steps in Beardown Copse on the West side have disappeared and become dangerous when wet. – Ask Jay to put in new steps.

Fp8 – Steps from Broadgate Lane need repairing – dangerous spike sticking out. Hanging post for gate needs replacing as rotted out. – Add to list for Jay.

Fp9 - Footpath behind the Forge at Frost leads to a kissing gate between two fields which continues to be muddy. Gateway to be stoned. – Jay has instructed.

Fp12 – Large gate opposite Frost onto pathway. – David is liaising with the Landowner over a new pen arrangement and pedestrian gate. The Clerk is to chase this up.

Fp13 – The farmer has created a path of sorts across the field but the top field needs further work at the Ridgeway Farm end. Massimo said that he and Neale would trim that section of the path to make it safer for walkers.

Fp14 – David had trimmed the nettles on Alpaca way shortly after the last meeting. The Clerk is still to produce some signs “For the enjoyment of everybody, You are required to keep your dogs on a lead and pick up after your dog. – Chickens are Free Range and Vulnerable.”

Fp19 - Watcombe Farm Footpath Diversion

Devon County Council remain short staffed and this is delaying this project – this project is still very much in the hands of DCC. – Ros has asked if photographs could be provided.

Fp29 – Jay is still to replace the broken stile with a self-closing gate, this is quite dangerous now as the wire is hidden by undergrowth.

BW49 – in the valley by Fp33 it is very muddy – ask Jay for a quote to stone it.

BW47 – Gollands Lane – the ground at the northern end is very unstable and stoney – ask Jay for his thoughts. Stuart Howell – DCC Public Rights of Way Warden is looking at surface drainage works to make the path less muddy.

Fp61 – Tree down in the valley where the two little gates are. Top of the field has been ploughed and planted right up to the hedge. David or Massimo will have a look at cutting up the tree.

Fp62 – The path behind the Bowling Club is overgrown – Claire and Massimo will cut it back and trim it. The Clerk will discuss with the MB Playing Fields Committee whether a permissive path could be created along the Playing Fields drive and through the gate back onto the path to avoid people and their dogs having to cross the cattle grid.

Work to do (see separate Appendix)

7. Mid Devon Walking Festival – 14th to 29th September 2024

The Parish Council had asked the P3 group if they would take the lead on this initiative. The Clerk will ask the organizer if we could be allotted the final weekend of the festival 28 and 29 September 2024 and failing that if we could have the weekend before. In any event we wouldn't want Mondays and Tuesdays as The London Inn would not be open to benefit from the additional footfall. The committee thought that we could set up other events around the festival to benefit from the additional visitors being attracted to the village during the festival. We will keep this matter on the agenda for the next year and committee members were asked to bring their ideas to future meetings.

8. Any other Business

None

Meeting closed at 7.55pm

<p>The next scheduled meeting of the P3 committee will be at 7.00pm on MONDAY 9th October 2023 at the Sports and Social Club</p>
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