

LOCAL AMENITIES WORKING GROUP REPORT FOR OCTOBER 11TH OCTOBER 2021

FOOTPATH OFFICERS

The group has established that we have three Footpath Officers for the parish. Christine Peat for Whitchurch, Sarah Dewe for Wootton Fitzpaine, and Andrew Carey for Stanton St Gabriel. They are also known as Rights of Way Liaison Officers. (ROLOs) At our recent working party meeting Cllr Hansford explained her role in relation to footpaths and that a Rights of Way survey was underway. She is willing to talk to all the ROLOs about their role and give them any necessary training. Cllr Hansford will also be writing an article for the Char Chat re footpaths encouraging all parishioners to add their voice if there is a problem and explain how to go about doing that using the maintenance section of Dorset Council website.

A suggestion has been made that we invite all the Footpath Officers to our November meeting so that Tara can talk to them in general about their role within the CVPC.

APPOINTMENT OF TREE OFFICER

This position will be vacant when Cllr Peck leaves CVPC. It is thought that one has to be a councillor to fill the post.

The retiring Tree Officer is concerned about the countless ash trees that are dying alongside roads through the county posing a potential danger along the A35. Cllr Peck suggests that the CVPC presses the Dorset Council into some urgent action to manage this increasing problem.

GRIT BINS

Five new ones have been bought and will shortly be installed. A survey was done in January and February this year to ascertain the condition of each bin, A further survey will be done in the next week to see whether any of the bins need topping up or filling.

NOTICEBOARDS

At the recent LAWG meeting it was agreed that 2 new noticeboards should be purchased. One for the main road in Morcombelake, and the other one in Wootton. It is understood that the present Wootton noticeboard will be discussed at Monday's meeting. The cost of one or both new noticeboards to be ratified at the meeting.

FINGER POSTS

The roundel from the finger post in Monkton Wyld has fallen off. The Lengthsman will be asked to secure it to the post with more screws to avoid the situation recurring.

BENCHES

We have a brand new bench made by Alex Brooks from Wootton which was originally going to be positioned on Goodens Hill in Whitchurch. This is now not possible. One suggestion put forward was to place it on Hardown Hill, but this would mean discussion and agreement with the National Trust. Another suggestion was to put in on the green area where three roads meet at Tizzards Knapp near the James Hargreaves Village Hall in Morcombelake. The siting of this bench is now of some urgency.

One of the four benches at Wootton Fitzpaine is derelict. It has been suggested that this be replaced by one that was made by a previous CVPC chairman, Ken Mansbridge, which is at present in the Whitchurch Playground.

WHITCHURCH PLAYGROUND

We have been advised that the Playground Inspector has advocated treatment of the wooden play equipment using Blackfriar Wood Preservative. It is important the all H&S specifications are adhered to when applying this preservative. It was suggested that Dale Wright, the playground caretaker, be asked to do the job in the very near future before the onset of very bad weather. The cost of the preservative to be ratified at the meeting on 11th October.

SYLVIA CREED-CASTLE 6.10.21