

Rodington Parish Pathways Meeting 30/11/2022

1. Present

Tom Currie (Chair) Brian Gaskin (Secretary)

John Seales

David and Sue Brown

Apologies

Andrew Careless (T&W Senior RoW Officer)

Gemma Crossley (Telford and Wrekin Council)

Nicky Stallard (Telford and Wrekin Council)

2. Notes and actions

- This meeting was held by Zoom to avoid the necessity of travel on a cold and foggy night. It was agreed by all that this should continue during the Winter months.
- Tom Currie said he had contacted Shropshire County Council regarding the rotten stile at the beginning of the right of way in Walcott Road going to Withington and requested it be replaced with a new stile or kissing gate. This will also require a way-marker.
- At present, it is impractical to do much on the rights of way because of the excessive rain and muddy fields, but Tom Currie and John Seales have already done some maintenance in October and November.
- Andrew Careless confirmed the DMMO to R3/R6 on the spinney has gone through without opposition and confirmation will be published shortly.
- He has now received responses from both Sandy Walker and Denise Davies regarding the draft orders that he submitted to them. He has redrafted the orders and descriptions in line with feedback, and submitted these to Legal Services for publication. *Tom Currie will seek clarification if this includes the extinction of R8 and the DMMO on R3 on Graham Davies' land leading to Rodenhurst Lane.*
- The order for the Old Smithy has been drafted and Andrew will send this shortly to the landowner for approval before forwarding to Legal Services. *Tom Currie will seek evidence from local residents of historical use of the route through The Old Smithy in order to seek a simultaneous enforcement order in case the DMMO fails.*
- Work on clearing the canal continues apace with volunteers on Wednesday mornings and needs to be concluded by March to avoid nesting birds.

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- Andrew Careless reports Nikki and Gemma are regularly checking Land Registry for any update on the ownership of the path at Longwood in preparation for any enforcement procedure.

Future Priorities for action

- It was agreed that a noticeboard showing rights of way should be situated at Rodington Village Hall to allow parking for people starting walks. Brian Gaskin said he had already had discussions with Bernie from the Canal Trust about the siting of a copy of the definitive map on the rear of their existing board on the B5063 at Longdon. As this was to be plasticized, and therefore immutable, it had been decided to leave this until all current DMMO's had been completed.
- Brian Gaskin said that our next priority might be to check L3, L4 and L5 to give some balance to the work in the 2 villages.

- Other way-markers needed:

L1 and L2 and possibly a kissing gate required between fields.

R4 at both ends.

R9 at the western end of Shop Lane and at its Western end.

R19 Northern end. This could make a series of circular walks possible.

- R17 could be signposted and a permissive field edge right of way requested from Ian Griffiths, leading to the Shropshire Way.

Wikiloc

Brian Gaskin explained how the Wikiloc free app allows photos and locations to be instantly uploaded and text commentary added later to provide a map of a walk that can be viewed offline, also showing where you are situated on that walk. His son had created the following example: <https://www.wikiloc.com/walking-trails/the-bull-run-115207008> . It was seen as an excellent tool for developing various walks. It can be downloaded in printed form as well. It was agreed we would try it out.

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Volunteer Work Programme

- Work on the canal is progressing well with assistance from members of the Canal Trust. Anyone interested in helping is welcome – every alternate Wednesday mornings at 10.00 (the next will be 14/12/22). Ownership of the land the canal is situated on needs verification since the presumed owner, Ian Griffiths believes it is not part of his land. The other alternative is that it went over to the RCT (River and Canal Trust) in which case it could be formally passed over to the SNCT.
- Other working parties tba. later due to unfavourable conditions at present.

Date of future meetings – 7.30pm 25/1/23, via Zoom