

**MINUTES OF TARPORLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, TARPORLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON MONDAY 11th March 2019**

Parish Council

Chairman – Cllr Gordon Pearson

Cllr. Toni Burke

Cllr Gill Clough

Cllr Bill Mather

Cllr John Millington

Cllr Jeremy Mills

Cllr Mark Ravenscroft

Cllr Peter Tavernor

Cllr Nigel Taylor

Cllr Andrew Wallace

Clerk Delia Cox

Deputy Clerk (Maternity Cover) – Ann Wright (minute taker)

Other

Public 10

CW&C Councillor Eveleigh Moore Dutton

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr. Elaine Chapman – family commitment.

Cllr. Richard Statham – ill health.

2. Declaration of Interests

Councillors Millington, Pearson and Tavernor noted their dispensations in relation to Brook Road. Councillor Mather noted that he knew the applicant for application 19/00441/FUL, 18 Torr Rise.

3. Public Participation

TarpFest2019

The Chairman read a letter from Debbie Jowett, stating following discussions with a number of people she was willing to coordinate a community steering committee to run TarpFest this year following the success of the event in 2018 and was seeking the Council's support. She confirmed she was looking for volunteers to join the committee, to start the process she was arranging a meeting on Tuesday 19th March at 6pm inviting local groups and anyone willing to give up their time to attend.

Statement from CW&C Councillor Eveleigh Moore Dutton

The Chairman read a statement from CW&C Councillor Moore Dutton who was unable to attend the meeting due to another meeting which stated she would like the Neighbourhood Plan Review to consider designating the Oathills Lea site so that its current use is protected, as a community home for older residents in need of independent homes with communal areas and services, near to the village centre and to the medical centres, hospitals, shops and churches. She stated the site is highly valued and will continue to be needed for the foreseeable future. She acknowledged there may be a need to develop and improve some, at least, of the accommodation but the village and the Oathills residents and their families would never forgive us if we allowed the site to be built on for another purpose.

The statement confirmed she continued to support the addition of any proposals to improve parking in the village identified as part of the review of the neighbourhood plan.

Best Kept Village (BKV)

Lisa Miller BKV coordinator confirmed works are progressing tidying Tarporley ready for the Best

Kept Village Competition and a number of matters had already been discussed with the Clerks. She reminded all if they wanted to get involved to contact the Deputy Clerk or follow the Facebook page. The Council thanked Lisa and the volunteers for all their hard work which was already having a huge impact.

Tarporley Businesses

A representative of an informal group of Tarporley Businesses raised a number of points which the businesses would like the Council to consider:

- 1) Attractive Boards – attractive signage at each end of the village highlighting the historic village, independent shops, bars, eateries etc.
- 2) One-Way System – possible one-way system on the High Street from Forest Road to The Avenue.
- 3) 3 hour parking – to replace current 2 hour limit to allow more time for shoppers etc.
- 4) Parking Bays marked – to stop inconsiderate parking preventing the maximum use of bays. It was noted that parking bays are a regulated size and as such this would reduce the number of cars that can park in each bay.
- 5) Traffic Wardens – are too keen giving out tickets, ticketing delivery vans and those dropping items off to shops.
- 6) High School Parking – ask High School to allocate parking for 6th formers to stop them taking up spaces on surrounding roads and car parks.

It was noted the business group will be meeting in Little Tap at 6pm, on Thursday 14th March.

It was agreed a meeting would be organised between the group's representatives and the Parish Council to discuss these matters.

Pavements

A resident who had recently broken her ankle reported the very poor condition of the pavement on the High Street particularly from the Lychgate area to The Swan where the pavement is uneven, unstable and also subject to steep inclines. It was noted it is easier to walk in the road than on the pavement when you have limited mobility.

TarpFest

It was noted that last year's organisers Emma and Victoria support Debbie in taking on TarpFest, they confirmed The Swan is supporting the project and that work is already underway to schedule buskers for the High Street.

Clamped Vehicle

It was noted a vehicle has been wheel clamped on the High Street, it was noted this has not been done by the police or CW&C and is understood to be a civil matter.

Defibrillators

It was asked if the location of all the defibrillators in Tarporley could be advertised as a standing item in Tarporley Talk and whether notices could be included on the notice boards.

Public Rights of Way (PROW)

David Press the Parish Council's footpath officer highlighted the recommendations contained in his report (page 639 of the minutes). The Council thanked Mr Press for all his hard work monitoring the footpaths and producing the report.

4. Minutes

Resolved 19/602– That the Chairman signs the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 11th February 2019 as a true and proper record.

5. PROW / Footpath Report

1) PROW / Footpath Report

Councillors noted the footpath report, pages 633 to 639 of the minutes. It was agreed that a working group including David Press and Councillors Wallace, Tavernor and Ravenscroft be formed to review the recommendations.

Resolved 19/603– That the council agree a budget of £500 towards the recommendations and that authority be delegated to the Deputy Clerk in consultation with the working group to approve payment for the gravel to improve the surface of FP12.

2) Footpath works Forest Road to Oswald's Way

The Parish Council agreed this path was not a priority, it was also noted that the landowner is planning some works in the area which could improve the surface.

6. Oathills Lea Complex

Councillors noted the letter from Weaver Vale Housing Trust (WVHT) which included the following: The Trust had met with residents and their families on 26th February.

They had explained they were awaiting the results of the Housing Needs Survey.

They had given the residents the results of the independent stock condition survey of the site which concluded that the volume of work needed to refurbish the site and bring it up to modern living standards is not an available option.

That major works required could not be accomplished without significant disruption for tenants.

That it was becoming increasingly difficult to let the properties which had been under occupied for some time.

The letter stressed that there are no immediate plans to close Oathills Lea and service will continue as normal.

WVHT confirmed they would be meeting with residents again in a month and had offered to meet with them individually.

The letter concluded that that once the results of the Housing Needs Survey were completed WVHT would meet with the Parish Council and other parties for 'meaningful engagement' on the future options.

It was agreed that the Council should write to WVHT to request that as far as possible residents remain on site while works are undertaken and that the residents are guaranteed places in the refurbished development should they want them.

It was agreed a meeting was needed with WVHT as soon as possible once the Housing Needs Survey has been published.

7.Actions List

The Council noted the action list as circulated.

8. Minutes of Working Groups and Other Meetings

That the Council approve the minutes of the working groups and other meetings, page 614 to 625 of the minutes book.

Meeting with High School

It was reported that Councillors Millington, Taylor and Pearson had met with the Headmaster of Tarporley High School, Mr Lowe, as well as the head of Art and the head of the sixth form. It was noted that the meeting had been very positive, and that the art department have agreed to display students' art in the area used for the memorial walk, it is hoped the display will run from May to the end of September.

Discussions had also taken place regarding parking and it was noted there are now 150 spaces on the High School grounds for staff and sixth formers to use, it was noted that some do not use the spaces as they cannot get off site quickly at the end of the day. Discussions had also taken place about using school parking outside school hours, it was noted this raised issues about safe guarding of students and also insurance.

It was planned the meeting would be repeated at least once a term in the future.

9. Planning

1) Planning Register

The Council confirmed the planning register pages 66 to 68 as circulated and note that application 18/04031/FUL, alterations to The Swan has been withdrawn despite the LBC application being approved.

2) Planning Applications

19/00466/FUL – Single storey front extension

9 Orchard Cottages, Eaton Road, Tarporley, CW6 0BP.

Resolved 19/604 - That the Council submits the following observation:

No objection.

19/00441/FUL – New garage to front elevation, extension to rear elevation & internal alterations

18 Torr Rise, Tarporley, CW6 0UE.

Resolved 19/605 - That the Council submits the following observation:

No objection.

3) Care Home & Car Park Proposal

It was noted the application had not yet been submitted and that work was continuing on the plans to soften the landscaping and appearance of the development to try to meet the requirements of the CW&C heritage and conservation officers.

10. Forest Road Development

It was noted the Council has still had no response from either doctor's surgery regarding a meeting to discuss this proposal and that this meeting was crucial to get an understanding of their position on the proposed development and the likelihood of them moving.

It was noted Councillors Clough and Pearson had met with the landowner, notes page 624 of the minutes book, it was noted that the proposal includes a number of infrastructure benefits which are identified in the neighbourhood plan and also includes an additional 100 houses.

Resolved 19/606 - That the Parish Council recognises that the Forest Road proposal has the potential to provide significant community benefits for the residents and businesses of Tarporley, including new sites for the Health Centre, Dentists, TWMH and other medical and wellbeing facilities, new retail and commercial facilities and significant High St employee car parking. The proposal also includes the provision of housing. Relocation of medical facilities and additional car parking and employment facilities are supported by the Neighbourhood Plan policies and as such the Parish Council supports a public consultation on the scope and design of the proposals for Forest Road.

11. Former RBL Site

It was reported that following the Council's objection to the planning application at the last meeting many of these objections are being addressed.

It was agreed the noticeboard should be located in the Allotments site and that the existing noticeboard in the roadside hedge should be removed.

It was agreed car park signage is required to highlight the different car parks including the former RBL car park and that these should be considered along with village signage in general.

12. CW&C Parking Strategy

It was noted that the Mott MacDonald queries regarding the Parish Councils survey and results had now been received and that Cllrs Pearson and Taylor were working on a response.

13. Brook Road Sports Field

1) Update

It was noted that a meeting had taken place with John Seiler from CW&C, pages 622 and 623 of the Minutes book and that to start works on site this year there was a very tight window of opportunity due to the ecological requirements.

2) Appointment of Project Manager

Resolved 19/607- That the Council suspend financial regulation 11.1 H (page 15 of the Financial Regulations) to allow the Council to consider 1 quote to project manage Brook Road, in accordance with regulation 18.2 (page 18 of the Financial Regulations).

For the following reasons: the supplier has a proven track record in delivering similar projects and due to the need to take actions during a limited take frame.

Resolved 19/608 - That the Council agree the following recommendation that John Seiler's team (CW&C Total Environment) should be tasked with delivery of the project. Terms and conditions would be agreed between Tarporley Parish Council and CW&C Council in parallel with initial urgent activities, which will be agreed by email confirmation.

Resolved 19/609 - That the Council delegate authority to the Clerk in consultation with the Brook Road working group to agree quotes for supply and installation of new fencing as required in the permission.

14. Play Area inc Youth Shelter

Due to the time it was agreed to defer this item to the Council's May Agenda noting that the play area inspection included only low or very low risks on the equipment.

15. Tarporley Community Centre (TCC) Street Light

It was noted due to a request to improve the lighting at the access to TCC off the footway a price had been provided by CW&C for the installation of a solar heritage style lantern which would match the street lights in the village but not require underground services, the cost was estimated £1250 plus vat. It was noted that CW&C had no budget to provide additional lighting.

It was agreed that Councillors would review the entrance and the matter be discussed again in the future and that possible an illuminated sign might be a better option.

16. Grants 2018-2019

Resolved 19/610 - That the Council award the following grants to be paid in the new financial year.

St Helen's Church, Tarporley	£1000
Tarporley Baptist & Methodist Chapel	£750
Tarporley & District Community Centre	£2000
Tarporley War Memorial Hospital	£2000

17. Red Fox Traffic Lights & Speed Limit Change

It was noted that the changes to the layout of the Red Fox traffic lights was now underway.

Resolved 19/611 - That the Council provide £500 towards the cost of the speed limit change to Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall Parish Council.

18. Accounts & Payments

1) Accounts & Payments

It was noted that Councillor Taylor had sight of the bank statement and signed the bank reconciliation as correct.

Resolved 19/612 – That the Council approve the accounts and payments and bank reconciliation as listed on page 71 of the cash book including:

A. Wright	Reimbursement – Xmas sweets	30.00
A. Wright	Reimbursement – litter picking equipment	27.85
D. Cox	Reimbursement - Postage	1.83
G. Latham	Gritting (18 visits in January)	1296.00
Hunter Williams Media	Tarporley News – PC Edition	236.00
R. Johnson	Lengthsman duties	383.25
Talkabout publishing	Tarporley Talk	144.00
Tarporley Community Centre	Room Hire	78.59
HMRC	NI/PAYE	144.17
D. Cox	Salary	805.33
A. Webb	Salary/Maternity Pay	578.38
A. Wright	Salary	444.32
Nest	Pension x2	20.29

Resolved 19/613 – That the Council approve payment of the following invoices received since the publication of the agenda. It was noted that an invoice expected from G Latham for contractual car park gritting services would be paid before the end of the financial year after circulation to Councillors

A. Wright	Reimbursement – land registry	6.00
Shires	Payroll services	25.50
Gaskell's	Cemetery Bin	68.60
J. Stewart	Grave marking	15.00

Resolved 19/614 – That the Council sets a budget of up to £500 to carry out ground maintenance including the removal of part of the Burton Square laurel hedge.

2) Internal Auditor

Resolved 19/615– That the Council appoint UHY Hacker Young to undertake the internal audit for 2018-2019.

19. Risk Assessment

Resolved 19/616 – That the Council approve the risk assessment as circulated.

It was agreed that the Finance Committee would review the risk assessment in particular looking at the chestnut tree and risk to reputation in relation to delivery of the Brook Road site.

20. Asset Register

Resolved 19/617 – That the Council approve the asset register as circulated noting valuations are for audit purposes and that the playground car springer would be held in store for possible future use.

21. Christmas Event 2019

It was reported that a meeting had taken place with Northwich Town Council to look at additional lighting where the reindeers will be sited in the former memorial walk and future exhibition area behind the war memorial as well as erecting a tree on the Chestnut Tree mound and lighting the trees set back from the High Street opposite the Fire Station Chocolate Shop.

It was noted that the Christmas Lights event will be on Saturday 30th November.

22. Neighbourhood Plan

It was agreed to form a working group to review the Neighbourhood Plan and produce a report to take back to the Parish Council for consideration. It was noted that the plan had included a policy to review it after 3 years, there was a need to update the document to remove obsolete items including information about the former Royal British Legion site. The importance of not undermining or weakening the plan was noted.

Councillors Burke, Clough, Millington, Pearson, Tavernor and Taylor agreed to form the working group, it was also agreed to contact the chairman of the neighbourhood plan committee to ask if he would like to be involved in the review.

23. A49 Roundabout

The Deputy Clerk reported that she had contacted Kieran Collins head of Highways with regard to the A49 roundabout and the Cobblers Cross Lane but was still awaiting possible dates to meet and discuss these areas.

Meeting closed: 9.20pm

Signed:

Dated:

Ann Wright
12-03-19

Next Scheduled Parish Council Meeting:

Monday 8th April 2019, 7pm.

The Committee Room, Tarporley Community Centre.

TARPORLEY FOOTPATHS IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2019

REPORT BY DAVID PRESS, PARISH COUNCIL FOOTPATH WARDEN

INTRODUCTION

In January and February this year I have walked all the Tarporley paths to audit the condition of our rights of way and identify changes since my last audit in January/February 2018.

This report:

- summarises the overall condition of paths and notes developments since my last annual report in January/February 2018
- records my findings for each path
- Makes recommendations for decisions and actions

SUMMARY OF OVERALL CONDITION AND ACTION DURING THE LAST YEAR

Most of our paths are signposted. However, the path from Cobblers Cross past Garden Cottage towards the Macdonalds Hotel needs a sign. Several signs are rotting, leaning and overgrown and would benefit from renewal.

In the past year one more of the Parish Council gates has been installed, meaning that nine of the ten metal gates and the one wooden kissing gate which the Parish Council purchased have now been accounted for. There are two redundant kissing gates which are available for re-use. Therefore we have the opportunity to install three more kissing gates. This is in addition to the two we hope to relocate from FP17.

Last year the Parish Council agreed to ask the landowner's permission to divert footpath 17 onto the route most people use to skirt the area that gets regularly flooded. He has agreed and CWAC has been asked to consider a diversion in the public interest. The Parish may wish to write formally requesting that this is expedited and may wish to offer some financial support.

The only paths currently overgrown are FP 8 and FP23 – not so as they are impassable, but it may deter someone uncertain of the route. Yet again, during the year FP3 had a crop without any reinstatement. The route from the A51/A49 roundabout following RB9/Delamere Loop/RB20 to Forest Road is often overgrown each year. It is on the CWAC maintenance programme, but work is normally carried out so late in the year that it spends most of the summer overgrown. Once again I suggest that CWAC be asked to carry out maintenance early.

The PROW Officer and I repeated our efforts to improve drainage on FP18 and it does appear to have maintained the improvement, although it would probably benefit from another effort this spring. It may be more efficient to use a trenching hoe and the Parish Council may wish to consider having one.

Two years ago the Parish Council resolved to distinguish between paths that lead out to the countryside and paths that link between different parts of the village with the aim of maintaining the surface of the latter to be less muddy. On that basis, FP11 has been improved this year. Once the DWH development is complete, then FP1 will become a path

needing surface improvement. Once the Jones Homes development on Daffodil field is complete then the parallel length of FP4 from High Street to the Silver band hut may also be considered more “urban”.

Last year the Parish Council resolved to write to the landowner to ask her to allow a route through the A49 underpass. I am unaware of what, if anything, happened, but I suggest keeping this request on the agenda.

This report highlights several issues which have remained unresolved since my report last year. The Parish Council might like to consider discussing with CWAC how the PC could directly manage that proportion of the footpath maintenance budget which relates to Tarporley. The PC could then directly employ it's contractors to erect signs and gates and maintain undergrowth.

During the year CWAC commissioned a project whereby a team (not the PROW team) identified PROW assets accessible from the highway and which were in a state of disrepair and replaced them. I have identified three examples where money has been wasted installing stiles/gates which would have been better left alone (identified in my report below).

Recently I created more walking routes on my Tarporley Walks Facebook page. The Parish Council website might be a good place to offer these walks, or at the very least offer a link to the Facebook page. Ideally, I could probably benefit from more expertise in how to manage the page so that the routes are listed and presented in a better way.

REPORT ON EACH PATH

FP 1 from Captains Walk to junction with Tiverton FP21 (south of Birch Heath and west of by-pass)

This path is in reasonably good order from Nantwich Road to the David Wilson Homes site, but the diversion continues and at times the diverted route has been blocked and/or inadequately signed. The PROW Officer at CWAC has spoken to DWH representatives on a number of occasions to try and achieve compliance.

On the far side of the by-pass the path continues in good order.

I suggested in the last two year's reports that David Wilson Homes could be asked to surface the path from the new development into the village before they finish the development. As the development draws toward a conclusion it would be timely to formally approach them to make this request.

FP 2 from St Helen's churchyard to Birch Heath Road/Redhill (between Redhill cottages and Redhill farm)

The path is in good condition. The finger post on the wooden sign beside the lych gate has entirely rotted away.

As reported for the last two years at the junction with Redhill the sign is badly leaning.

The landowner of most of this route remains unpersuaded to replace stiles with gates. The ivy has been cut back from where it was overgrowing the double stile where the route heads toward Birch Heath and drops down from the hill with the telephone mast.

The landowner of the route from the Churchyard to the second stile headed away from the village has agreed to replace the stiles with gates (see comments on FP17).

FP 3 from car park behind Rising Sun to west of the Sandstone trail and junction with Iddinshall FP1/FP2

Most of the path is in good condition.

We now have kissing gates on nearly the entire route. The stile on the far side of Moss Lane has been replaced with a gate. Stiles remain either side of the by-pass and there are two stiles on the last 20 metres to the Iddenshall boundary.

As always, the section of the path to the east of the Sandstone Trail was extremely wet and muddy across the gateway used by cattle in January.

As is frequently the case, during the year the path headed north west beyond the Sandstone Trail toward Iddinshall was planted without any reinstatement, but in January the crop was long harvested and ground perfectly ok to walk, although indistinct on the ground

FP 4 from High Street next to The Close to the junction with the branch of restricted bridleway 5 which loops around cottages on Back Lanes west of by pass.

This path is in good condition and the short length on the west of the bypass seems to have been kept clear of vegetation once again this year.

The wooden sign by The Close was badly rotten and has now been replaced with a standard metal finger post at the edge of the road on the north west side of the bypass.

Now that Jones Homes are developing the Daffodil field, I suggest the Parish Council formally ask them to look at how they can create access from the field onto the footpath and also upgrade the surface of the path from the Silver band hut to High Street.

RB 5 Moss Lane from south east of roundabout on A51/A49 on SE side of by-pass to North of Moss Cottage and junction with FP3 (and also semi-circular loop of Back lanes NW side of by-pass)

This restricted bridleway has two routes: one directly from the roundabout to Moss Cottage and the other following back lanes and looping around Cromwell cottage on the north west side of the by-pass.

The 5 bar metal gate leading from Moss Lane to cross the bypass has been off its hinges most of the year as it was the previous year. Otherwise the route is good.

Ironically, where the route crosses the bypass just south of the roundabout a new gate has been installed where it could more happily been left as a gap. This is another example of the project to identify assets in disrepair and replace them.

FP 6 A51 opposite Rode Street Farm following the Sandstone Trail route south to junction with Tiverton FP 13 (a few fields north of Crib Lane/Pudding Lane junction)

The route is generally in good condition.

Over a year ago I obtained permission from the landowner, and asked CWAC, to put a litter bin beside the track near the A51. It has not yet been done

There has been no progress since I reported last year that only three of the four stiles between the A51 and FP18 have been replaced with Parish Council kissing gates and that the fourth (also a Parish Council gate) was awaiting the return of the contractors to complete the work. It has still not been done.

The PROW Officer had proposed removing the redundant gate where the path emerges from the edge of the wood a hundred metres north of FP3 and using it elsewhere on our network. This remains to be done.

FP 7 from A51 next to Rode Street Farm following the Sandstone Trail route north to junction with Utkinton FP11

The route is in good order.

FP 8 from A51 NW of roundabout to Utkinton Road between bridge over By-pass and Heath Green

I am pleased to report that once again the path was reinstated after planting earlier this year, but the current low growing grass which has been planted has left the route indistinct.

At the A51/Rode Street the hedge has been cut back to provide adequate access to the path.

RB 9 From SE of roundabout on A51 following south side of By-pass to Utkinton Road

The path is currently in good order and has been maintained in terms of vegetation during the year. As reported last year, the sign at the A51 is leaning over.

FP 10 from Utkinton Road between Rose Mount Farm and Newlands to Oswalds way, junction with FP 11 and on to Heath Green

Some maintenance has taken place on the hedge on the section of path from The Blythings to Utkinton Road, but it is still very narrow. Last year I recommended removal of the redundant concrete posts, but this has not happened. If the landowner was asked last year but has not taken action, then I suggest that the Parish Council uses its contractor to remove the posts.

FP 11 from Forest Road opposite Woodlands Way to junction with FP 10 at north east end of Oswalds Way

The laying of stone this year at Parish Council expense has considerably improved the path.

FP 12 from Forest Road (south of Forest House) to Park Road

In winter this gets quite muddy and it's a little while since its grit surface was renewed. If the Parish Council were to follow its policy on paths linking through the village then it's time to improve the surface.

FP13 from Park Road to Cobblers Cross

This is a very well used path and in good order, although it gets very muddy after rain.

FP 14 from High Street beside entrance to British Legion to Oathills Close and then following roads (Oathill Drive/Churchill Drive) to Eaton Road

This path is OK, but in summer it gets very narrow in several places and the hedges on either side need regular early season trimming.

FP 15 from Tilstone Lane (the lane between Eaton Road and the A51) to Wettenhall brook where it becomes a Tilstone Fearnal path

Although muddy the path is distinct and unobstructed.

FP 16 from Birch Heath by Birch Heath Farm north to FP2

The route is very muddy near the farm yard.

FP 17 from junction with FP 2 behind St Helens to junction with FP 3/RB5 N of Moss Cottage

I have secured the landowner's permission to divert the route so that it follows the line most people currently use and avoids the area that floods most winters. He has agreed that we can then use the gates to replace the first couple of stiles on FP2 walking away from the Church.

At the kissing gate next to Moss Cottage a permissive path sign has mysteriously appeared and I am trying to find out how it got there. The PROW Officer was unable to enlighten me.

FP 18 from RB5 on Back Lane at west of By-pass to FP6 (Sandstone Trail)

The path is in good condition after the PROW Officer and I did some more drainage work earlier this year. This probably needs repeating this spring and may be much easier and more effective with a trenching hoe.

Just beyond Cromwell Cottage is an example of the project to identify assets in disrepair and replace them. In this case a fence boundary which is not part of the right of way but looked like a dilapidated stile has been replaced with a new stile and misleads people into using a non-existent route.

FP 19 from FP3 behind the Rising Sun to FP4 behind the Silver Band

This path is in good order.

Footway Utkinton Road to Heath Green

This is signposted for the Delamere loop but its status is as part of the highway rather than a right of way.

It is in good condition but it would benefit from early season maintenance to prevent it getting overgrown.

RB 20/Utkinton RB 10 from Heath Green to top of Forest Road /A49

In good order, but would benefit from early season maintenance to prevent it getting overgrown.

FP 21/ Rushton 30/32 from north end of Cobblers Cross through Portal Golf to Eaton Lane

The path is in good order. Whilst the Greenkeeper had granted permission to replace the stile by Eaton Lane with a gate, the PROW Officer and I agreed to leave it in its state of disrepair since it barely created a barrier, thus making the path more accessible. However, it has been replaced, without the involvement of the PROW team, by with a new stile.

FP 22/Rushton FP31 from Cobblers Cross west of the hotel to the golf course and across the course past the 18th hole and then to Saplings Lane

A sign needs to be installed on Cobblers cross indicating the route up the track up to Garden cottage.

As previously reported the path that everyone uses across the golf course is not actually the right of way. For the time being, I've given up trying to get the hotel to regularise the situation.

The path we all use is in good order.

The route is now signposted from Saplings Lane (not actually within our Parish boundary).

FP 23 & Tiverton FP14 from junction of FP1 (south of Birch Heath)/Tiverton FP24/26 to Nantwich Road south of the By-pass and north of Tiresford Farm

This route crosses two fields: one alongside the bypass (Tiverton FP14) and with a pond in its northerly corner; the second (Tarporley FP 23) beyond the pond up to the junction with FP1. In the second field, it's clear from the ground that most people walk around the perimeter of the field, whilst the right of way crosses the field. The right of way has been overplanted without reinstatement.

One of the Parish Council gates has been installed alongside the stile to the north of the pond at the boundary of the second field.

We should not forget our long term aspiration to gain the landowner's permission to allow a route from Nantwich road around the bottom of the DWH development and under the bypass.

FP 26 Tiverton from Birch Heath toward FP1 to Captains Walk.

The path has been well maintained.

I have made no progress on claiming the rights of way linking this route with Birch Heath road.

Utkinton FP9 A49 Luddington Hill onto golf course.

In good order and now signed from the A49

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Parish Council:

1. Ask CWAC to rectify all the missing, leaning and rotten signs as detailed in this report.
2. Write to the landowner reminding her to consider dedicating a route through the underpass at the south of the DWH development.
3. Formally approach David Wilson Homes asking them to surface Captain's Walk on completion of that part of the development which links with the footpath.
4. Formally ask Jones Homes to help improve the surface of FP4 alongside The Close and Silver band hut and consider access from the Daffodil field to the path.
5. Improve the surface of FP12.
6. Ask the landowner to remove the leaning concrete post on FP10 where the path enters the narrow section between hedges leading to Utkinton Road or use the Parish Council's contractor to remove them.
7. Ask CWAC to undertake early season maintenance on the route from the A51/A49 roundabout to the top of Forest Road.
8. Write to CWAC formally requesting diversion of FP17 and also consider offering to contribute to the costs.
9. Investigate the possibility of directly managing the CWAC footpath maintenance budget for Tarporley.
10. Consider buying a trenching hoe if the Parish does not already own one.
11. Incorporate the Tarporley Walks Facebook page routes onto the Parish Council website.

David Press, Tarporley Parish Council Footpath Warden, February 2019