

# **Rodington Parish Pathways Meeting 25/01/2023**

## **Present**

Tom Currie (Chair) Brian Gaskin (Secretary)  
Andrew Careless (T&W Senior RoW Officer)  
Gemma Crossley & Nicky Stallard (Telford and Wrekin Council)  
Denise Davies      Sandy Walker      Steve Lowe  
John Seales      David and Sue Brown

## **Apologies**

Robin Haseley      Eileen Greenaway      Nick West      Duncan Maidens

## **1. Notes and actions**

- This meeting was held by Zoom to avoid the necessity of travel in Winter condition
- Andrew Careless confirmed the DMMO to R3/R6 on the spinney is now complete.
- There are now 4 sealed modification orders:

i)The diversion around the Rodenhurst units and

ii) the adoption of Rodenhurst Lane allowing R6 to partially follow that route. Notices will be placed at key points in the lane to facilitate consultation on these.

iii)The diversion of R6 from the spinney to Rodenhurst Lane. Both landowners have already agreed this route.

iv)The DMMO for the Old Smithy.

***Action: Tom Currie will contact the residents of The Old Smithy to keep them in the loop and reassure them that we are trying to find a solution that is acceptable to all.***

- The extinction of R8 and the DMMO of R7 on Graham Davies' land next to Rodenhurst Lane are to follow when the above have been completed.
- There followed a discussion of the unfortunate incident which led to John Seales being abused by a dog walker on R3 who was following the field edge and not the right of way. Brian Gaskin pointed out that it is normal practice for walkers to follow the field edge where they may otherwise damage crops and that he would be expecting Denise Davies would clear the route in due course as she clears the new route of R6 on her land. Denise stated that she had given permission to friends to walk the field edge (but not to the walkers in this incident). She would prefer walkers to walk the field edge to avoid damage to crops. It was agreed that way-markers would be installed to show the route more clearly and Denise would prepare the path along the route. There was also a discussion of dog fouling and it was agreed to put notices showing the country code on way-markers.

***Action: Brian Gaskin is to research the possibility of the NFU providing free plastic notices for walkers.***

Denise Davies also raised the issue of a ditch blocking equestrian access to the Northern leg of the R4 bridleway and *Sandy Walker agreed to look into this.*

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

### **3. The Canal Project**

Tom provided an outline of the work done and intended subject to the consent of the landowners of Rodington Canal Embankment, documents attached. The hope is that the canal towpath will become a permissive route, and the Shrewsbury and Newport Canals Trust seek to restore part of the canal structure, and its lift bridge. All members expressed support and realism that whilst projects like this were feasible and desirable for communities, the idea of cutting through arable land to restore the entire canal network was unrealistic and impracticable. Nb. That is not the stated aim or ambition of SNCT.

### **4. 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.
- We need to start walking all the existing routes in the Spring to check their condition. The list of allocation of routes was requested. The following text comes from the meeting in June 2020:  
*The group agreed to assume individual responsibility for given routes: D&SB for R9; JH for R5,R1 and R4; BG for R6, 7 and 8, TC for R15 and R16.*  
This clearly needs updating at our next meeting, but, meanwhile, you might consider which routes you wish to check and even make a start.
- Tom Currie will suggest dates for working parties and circulate these.

**Next meeting: Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March in Rodington Village Hall at 19.30**