

## Rodington Pathways Group Meeting 13.7.2022

**Present** Tom Currie (chair)

Nicky Stallard, Andrew Careless (T&W Senior RoW Officer)

Nick West, John Seales, Robin Haseley, Eileen Greenaway, David and Sue Brown,

### **Apologies**

Brian Gaskin (secretary) Duncan Maidens, Steve Lowe

Denise Davies, Gemma Crossley (Telford and Wrekin Council)

### **1. Notes and actions**

1.1 **Route R3/ R6 Diversion**; following a site visit by Nicky and Gemma on behalf of Telford and Wrekin Council, there has been a slight modification in order to capture the two junctions into the adjoining field. This therefore requires two separate orders. A formal notice will be installed on site and any objectors need to respond within the statutory 50-day period. Nick confirmed he's happy with this.

Robin raised an issue of how this would be recorded and whether previous versions remain accessible. Andrew confirmed all previous map versions are in the public domain.

**Action:** Nicky will process the application and issue public notices (once confirmed by Legal Section)

1.2 **Longwood – L1, L2** Both Nicky and Gemma visited the site and encountered a number of obstructions including cropping, Motocross and lack of signage. Owner of Longwood did not appear to be aware of their responsibilities in relation to ROWs. Andrew stated, all good enforcement procedure should incorporate negotiation at an early stage. In this case, those efforts have been sought.

**Action:** and TWC will issue a warning letter, and proceed to prosecution in the event there is no positive response.

1.3 **R 16**. No action has been taken, but is planned.

Discussion centred around the proposal made by the landowner, Phil Davies, noting his generous offer to install a hardcore path (x2mtr wide) from the right-angled hedgerow to The Plantation. Previously TWC Environmental Services (Roads/Paths) had insisted there should be a tarmacadamed footpath along the grass verge. This was unanimously rejected as unnecessary given that the verge is regularly cut (under contract by TWC) and provides 3- 4 metre width of safe curtilage. Andrew agreed, on the basis that the verge remains accessible that this was a viable route.

**Actions:** Andrew will arrange to meet with Phil Davies (Tues 19<sup>th</sup> July) will confirm the route and engage with user groups. The process will then involve issuing of the order and seeking to address any objections that might arise. Nb. The most likely objection will probably relate to forcing the right of way through The Old Smithy – most likely from a particular resident who continually makes this point. At the end of the

day, if this is an isolated view it will be recorded but dispensed with, unless required as a back-up.

1.4 **Rodenhurst** – Tom confirmed that planning had been granted for the installation of a biomass boiler and associated works, including the installation of a farm access track (TWC/2021/1079) which provides for the diversion of R4b right of way. Andrew had been unaware of this recent decision, he confirmed that Sandy Walker would need to submit an application for ROW modification.

**Action:** Andrew will contact Sandy Walker to confirm, then will issue the order and publicise the notice.

David raised the issue of the barriers in use at both ends, and sought clarification that the ROW would not be impeded. It is evident that space has been made at the side of the barriers thus maintaining the ROW.

## **2. Review of Finance**

Andrew confirmed he'd sent the invoice for the hire of the Village Hall for previous meetings to Sue Overton, Finance Officer.

**Action:** Tom will obtain all outstanding invoices for payment and send to Andrew for payment.

The monies spent to date (see invoices No. 471 and 479). The breakdown explained by Andrew is as follows:

The cost for the kissing gates is  $6 \times £750.00 = £4,500.00$

The cost for the signposts is  $2 \times £100.00 = £200.00$

The remainder of the  $£6,500.00 = £1,800.00$

Whilst not present at this meeting, Brian Gaskin had earlier raised the agreement Andrew had confirmed in 2021 that two kissing gates installed on R3/R6 last year were purchased separate to the Partnership Agreement which only came into effect on the 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

Andrew stated the costs contributed by T&WC to the partnership this financial year (2022-3) thus far is £6.5k, the tools were purchased last financial year (2021). He confirmed he is happy to remove the cost of the two kissing gates above from any consideration of contributory funding.

It may also be worth noting that the Council will also cover the advertising costs of any Public Path Orders that are published this financial year.

Tom made the point that the invoices had been very slow coming through and this had prevented the Parish Council from making its contribution in full for the 2021 period.

Discussion was centred on the proposal for a public information board, containing both the Definitive Map and relevant pictures/ information and important links. This would need to be fully costed, including printing but is agreed in principle.

### **3. Future Priorities**

It was acknowledged that the majority of our stated priorities have been achieved, or are in progress. However, there are still signposts/ gates to be considered and planned for in the coming year, in particular R11, L1/2 and R16.

### **4. AOB**

John raised the issue of crop management over established ROW, in particular on R3 and R7 which prevent normal access.

Andrew confirmed the procedure is to write to the relevant landowner inviting reinstatement of the ROW. Allowing 2 weeks under normal circumstances before referring the matter to ROW for enforcement.

### **5. Next Meeting**

7:30pm Tuesday, 28th September 2022 at Rodington Village Hall