

FEERING PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the MEETING of the PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY
(byways, bridleways & footpaths) and cycleways COMMITTEE
held on Thursday 16 June 2016 at 8pm

Present:

Katherine Evans (secretary & FP Councillor)

Robert Ward (farmer), Hugh Crayston for Robert Crayston (farmer), John Bellman

Present part of the time: Noel Brown, Roger Pitt

		ACTION
01/2016	Apologies: Mike Bonner (FP Councillor, Chairman), Maggie Eddolls (FPC) Lorraine Clifford (horserider) – emailed report, Paul Bentley	
02/2016	Agreement of the Minutes of the previous meeting: The Minutes of the meeting of Monday 13 October 2014 were AGREED & adopted as a true record.	
03/2016	Public Question Time: No public present.	
04/2016	<p>Matters arising from the previous meeting not dealt with elsewhere</p> <p>20/2014 i. Grass verge on Coggeshall Road (Feering) between FP8 (Frame Farm corner) & FP4 (Old Mill Lane) KE unsure of outcome re asking ECC what could be done to improve this highway verge to make it more walker friendly (there are gulleys). KE will re-activate and contact Jim Bartley, ECC northern PRow highways engineer / Nik Leeson ECC PRow Inspector for Feering</p> <p>21/2014: Working Party: FP16, Feering Hill-Rye Mill Lane Agreed date of 15 November to scrape back mud-weeds to expose the tarmac edges was cancelled as health & safety matters had to be complied with. New date was Thursday 16 April – JohnB, KE and spouse PE were available. We discovered how long it took and that too much earth is generated to dispose of in weely bins. Methodology needs a re-think.</p> <p>22/2014: Permissive paths: Action still needed to put a map showing permissive paths on Feering Parish Council website</p> <p>i. Permissive Link south towards road to Skye Green – has been waymarked</p> <p>ii. Possible Link from Hannover Square north to PRowS 19 & 10 Robert Ward, the landowner, still awaiting feedback re this possible permissive path. RW and RC have sent Statutory Declarations recording all admitted PRowS on their land.to ECC legal. They are in the queue.</p> <p>iii. Possible circular path around the new cricket field and adjacent field to the west, west of Rye Mill Lane It is believed that the cricket club only lease the land. The owner may be Sara Impey or the Crown Estate. The field to the west is now owned by the Crown Estate. RC farms it for them. FP Clerk contacted the Crown Estate in 2012/13 when the possibility of permissive route from Rye Mill Lane west to Lady Meadow was being explored. KE / MB to liaise with Clerk and re-activate.</p> <p>iv. back of John Raven Court – Worlds End Lane, ProW 14 No actions / progress on the possibility of claiming this route under the 20 year usage rule - possibly 20 years before 2004 / when the bar was put in place (RC who farms the land for Bookers has previously advised that there is no interest in making this a permissive path)</p>	<p>KE</p> <p>KE/MB/ Clerk</p> <p>RW</p> <p>KE/MB/ Clerk</p> <p>NB/JB/ RP</p>

	(Minutes 16 June 2016 – continued p2)	ACTION
05/2016	<p>Network Rail: intention to extinguish /change non-vehicular railway crossings Network Rail A4 proposals maps were tabled.</p> <p>FPC had received & Network Rail have publicised details of the non-vehicular railway crossings that NR intend to close. The local crossings are (a) – (c) above. Committee members had been advised by email. KE attended the NR public event at Witham in the afternoon (Thursday 16 June) and collected A4 maps produced by NR showing their intentions for each crossing. These maps are now also on NRs website.</p> <p>Crossing closures were discussed at the last Committee meeting on 13 October 2014 – agenda item 23/2014.</p> <p>(a) Feering FP 7/ E21 Hill House 1: FP7 runs from near Poplar Hall on Little Tey Road across the railway to Hill House Farm Road/London Road (grid ref 885,212). NR's proposal is to close the crossing using Byway/bridleway 5 & Hill House 2 crossing instead. The Committee confirmed their previous decision.. <i>OK to close FP7 on the south side of the railway line through Hill House farm provided that there is a link on the north side of the railway line between FP7 & Byway5 (not on the closure list).</i> HughC confirmed that RobertC was not in favour (Robert C owns the field). The full closure of FP7 was discussed but Byway5 gets very overgrown and is further along Little Tey Road.</p> <p>(b) Feering FP3 / E22 Great Domsey: FP3 runs from Elm Lane, near Poppas, across the railway to the A12 (grid ref 891,215)</p> <p>NR's proposal is to close the crossing using byway/bridleway 5 & Hill House 2 crossing instead. This is longer & requires road walking at both ends. Walking along the A12 cycleway at the southern end for a considerable distance was not considered to be acceptable.</p> <p>Although at present FP3 ends on the A12, there is hope that there will be some foot-/cycleway bridges over the A12 when it gets widened to 3 lanes. FP3 is also near the western end of the proposed West Tey Garden village and possibly near a new A12 junction. To the NE there is a brick bridge over the railway for the private road Domsey Chase whose southern end is also the A12. HughC said that neither RobertC nor Mr Cocks had been contacted by NR about a possible diversion along the north side of the railway line to this bridge. It was agreed that Hugh Crayston would contact Mr Robert Cocks & Mr Robert Crayston as the current/ possible route for FP3 passed over their land. Also to contact Ms Irene Roberts, owner of the private Domsey Chase, to discuss alternatives.</p> <p>(c) Kelvedon Bridleway 34 / E20 Snivellers (Lane) grid ref 846, 176</p> <p>NR's proposal is to close the crossing and use Crane's Lane & Crabb's Lane & the brick bridge (Hamiltons bridge) over the railway instead. This route is already available. It was felt that not all trains travelled at 100 mph, but that the up line towards Church Road crossing was at 80mph. Snivellers Lane continues as a vehicular road to the A12. Kelvedon FP27 through Hole Farm & Kelvedon FP32 through Durwards Hall (now Kelvedon Park the Police Fire & Rescue HQ) are approx. opposite on the other side of the A12. 5 years ago before the crash barriers were made continuous, it was perfectly possible to walk across the A12 to make the FP connections. Flying Flowers, the previous occupant, had a travel plan that featured public transport. Buses no longer stop at the bus stops due to the danger of pulling out onto the A12. Again there is hope that there will be some foot-/cycleway bridges over the A12 when it gets widened to 3 lanes especially with the employment site – the A12 may be on a different alignment altogether due to Rivenhall End. Cllr Minns, the Kelvedon PC with the FP portfolio, is NOT in favour of closure of Kelvedon 34. After some discussion, a majority of the committee agreed to object to this closure.</p>	<p>Ref 23/2014</p> <p>HC/RC/RCocks / IRoberts KE</p>

	(Minutes 16 June 2016 – continued p3)	ACTION
05/2016	Network Rail: intention to extinguish /change non-vehicular railway crossings Network Rail A4 proposals maps were tabled - continued	
	(c) Rivenhall FP43 / E19 Potters grid ref 839,170 KE mentioned this as she liked the proposed new “blue route” diversion around Hoo Hall. KE encountered the Rivenhall Parish Clerk at the NR event at Witham and he also liked it. NoelB reported that local people might be less enthused. The landowner is Henry Siggers of Leapingwells, Kelvedon.	
06/2016	PROW (walking & riding) and Cycling	
	(a) A120 new route options Braintree- Marks Tey forum meetings A12 widening – Chelmsford / Boreham – Marks Tey Feering Parish Council attend the forum meetings as both the A120 new route and the A12 widening are likely to affect Feering. The A120 new route consultation is being driven by ECC with the aim of presenting a “ready-to-go” proposal to Highways England for inclusion in the 2020-2025 investment programme. The over 50 route options are being whittled down to about five for public consultation in January 2017. Jacobs are also the consultants on the A12 widening & upgrading to upgrading to “expressway” standard. The letters sent out by Highways England about an environmental survey caused alarm as it was not made clear that such a survey covers a very wide area.	
	(b) BDC Local Plan including the designation of Feering as a Strategic Growth Location with 1000 homes, etc. - see http://www.essexinfo.net/feeringparishcouncil/noticeboard and minutes It came as quite a shock to find that Feering had gone from nothing to a “growth location”. Feering Parish Council had a special meeting 2 days ago on 14 June to agree on the Parish Council representation to BDC.	
	(c) P3 scheme & ECC matters including the cutting programme ECC Highways have a statutory duty to maintain public rights of way in terms of the surface and upgrowth and any bridges (side growth & stiles/gates are the landowners / householders responsibility). The Parish Council get a small annual payment from ECC Highways for a once a year cut on footpath 16 (Feering Hill-Rye Mill Lane- school), footpath 17 (by the river Blackwater, partially rafted), the narrow part of footpath 13 (Feering Hill – back of John Raven Court), part of footpath 18 around Threshelfords – in lieu of ECC doing this. FPC actually cut footpath 16 & 17 more often – the extra being paid for by the Parish Council. Paths cut by ECC Highways are shown on the cutting programme – only about 1/3 rd of paths are cut.	
	(d) Headland management scheme – paths cut for ECC Highways by local farmers again for a small annual payment. NO report as Robert Crayston not present. Feering footpaths 8, 10, 11 and 19 were covered under this scheme in the past.	
07/2016	Individual Footpath Reports: - see attached table Cycleways: the cycleway along the A12 is not finished. It has been left very rough (NoelB).	
08/2016	Date of next meeting: Wednesday 12 October 2016 at 7.30pm	

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Minutes confirmed as a true record of the meeting.

Signed

Dated