

COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 12th FEBRUARY 2019

ITEM NO: 11 – Lengthsman's Tasks

To receive proposals for tasks to be undertaken by the Lengthsman during the current financial year

Introduction

Copythorne Parish Council is a member of a cluster group of Parish Councils, administered by Wellow Parish Council, employing a Lengthsman to carry out work within their parishes. Each associate parish is funded to the sum of £1000 by Hampshire County Council. This equates to approx. 250 man hours of work in total per parish,

The scheme holds a balance of £1000 for Copythorne Parish for the year 2018/19. Priorities for work for Hampshire County Council to complete were identified by the Parish Council as being work on footpath 2 and 9 and these have been notified to HCC by the Clerk.

The Lengthsman has been asked to prepare an estimate for the following work based upon extracts from Rights of Way Inspections carried out in the Autumn of 2018 as follows:

Footpath 4

"Where the footpath crosses the track in Copythorne Common and leads to a wooded area, there is a stile and both posts are rotten and could cause an accident if someone was using the stile".

1.Repair to the posts on the stile

Footpath 9

"Access along the path either side of the motorway not easily accessible without the use of secateurs and substantial shoes/ boots"

2.Clearance of shrubbery along the overgrown part

Footpath 10

"This path is effectively a metalled private road up as far as Hammond's Farm and is therefore, in excellent order.

At Hammond's Farm, the path becomes a wooded path which, while somewhat overgrown at the moment, is clearly defined by a signpost set alongside the farm yard and which runs to the Parish boundary. There is a gate at the boundary which is in good order and this gives access to the bridge and path continuation on the other side of the stream.

The farmer stated that the path is quite well used , albeit some people miss the gap in the fence off the road and try to go through the farm yard. The finger post is very obscured by branches etc. and there would be a benefit to a small clean-up of undergrowth at the entrance.

The route to the bridge (boundary of the Parish) is all downhill alongside the farmyard fence and is very wet – even after the dry weather. It would benefit from some light clearance of overhanging branches and bushes."

3.Clearance of undergrowth at the entrance by the fingerpost.

4.Light clearance of overhanging branches and bushes on the route to the bridge (boundary of the Parish

Footpath 13

“Fingerpost at Old Lyndhurst Road end damaged and currently resting against fencing. Vegetation overgrown on East side, necessitating walking in the roadway to pass”.

5. Repair damaged fingerpost

6. Clear overgrown vegetation on East side of footpath

Estimate of cost of works

The Lengthsman has estimated the cost of the works described as £300 plus the cost of the wood, cement and fixings required for the finger post repairs (estimate £40). i.e. a total cost of £408

Whilst driving around the parish to review the various sites the Lengthsman noticed that a lot of the roadside signs are quite dirty/green and could do with a clean. The cost of this additional work would be £180 + VAT i.e. £216

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Parish Council engages the Lengthsman to carry out the described works plus to clean the road signs.

Suzanne Middleton

Clerk/RFO 1/01/2019