

Date: 4th October 2018

Title: Report Item 4 – Business in Progress

By: K Larkin (Parish Clerk)

Purpose: To provide an update on progress since the August meeting

Recommendations: To note the progress report

The following are matters of report arising from the August council meeting:

- **Camper van sign** – WDC estimate the cost of a new wooden sign at the main car park gate at £1,000 including installation. This looks very costly. A resident has in fact complained at the proposal to crack down on use of the car park by camper vans during the day time, when retired and often elderly or disabled people who are on holiday would like to visit the village. It would then be inconvenient and potentially dangerous for them to park in the road.
- **Improved accessibility to FP24** – the ESCC Rights of Way Team has advised that although ESCC supports improving accessibility as a general principle, this path would not be eligible for funding. It would not score highly enough on the priority scoring system. However, if the parish council would like to agree a specification of works with the landowner, that can be submitted to ESCC for approval on the basis that the parish pays for the work to be done by its contractor. At the same time, the accessibility of the whole path should be considered: the main obstacle is in the fact the squeeze gate which would need to be widened to British Standard width for full accessibility. The need for this and the other two gates should be reviewed, if they are no longer required for stock control.
- **Easement for soakaway** – a hole opened up over the soakaway site during the dry summer. The Estate was informed, and arranged for the highways contractor to make good on 6th September. It was intended that the new soakaway should be linked up at same time, but it is not clear whether this has happened yet. The documentation seems to be held up at ESCC.
- **Play area fence** – there has been no further response from DJ Utilities, and enquiries are being made of Southern Gas Networks.
- **The Drove** – research is ongoing into the possibility of demonstrating that The Drove is a historic right of way. No evidence has yet been found, but a fuller report will be brought to the November parish council meeting.
- **Emergency Plan** – the Chair has acquired a digital safe, as agreed. It is to be stored in the Small Hall by permission of the Hall Trustees.
- **NHS health clinic** – the Hall manager has advised that Tuesday 6th November or Tuesday 27th November would be suitable days to set aside for the NHS to set up its clinic in the Small Hall. There would be a charge for the hire. Please can the council confirm its willingness to pay for the hall, and agree to one of the suggested dates?
- **Post office** – the store owner is currently waiting for Post Office technicians to come and connect new equipment. He is hopeful that other problems have now been solved.
- **Website** – the new parish council website is now live and the Chair, Lead Member for communications and the Clerk have all received training in how to upload information.

- **Additional litter bin** – the extra bin at the East Dean bus stop (north side) has been installed and Wealden have confirmed it has been added to the collection schedule.

27/09/2018