

Notes from the Kerne Bridge Canoe Launch Working Group

Wednesday 31st January, 7.30pm, Walford Village Hall

Present: Councillors Dave Berry, Heather Evans, Mark Petersen, Simeon Cole, Joanne Akers, Bridget Vine, Residents Laura Leadbetter, Sian Green, Christine & Bob Puzey, Rosemary Morgan-Watson, Grahame Morgan-Watson, Guy Smith, Sonie Woodington and several other residents.

Apologies: None received

1 Review of actions from previous meeting.

The new bus shelter having been made safe from protruding screws the signage is to go ahead directing walkers to access the permissive path through the council car park and in front of Bishopswood Village Hall in order to reach The Inn on the Wye. **(action WPC Clerk).**

Cllr Simeon Cole continues to progress with Herefordshire Council the establishment of the opening to the path opposite The Inn on the Wye. **(action SC).**

It was noted that the electrical boxes on site remained open and therefore a safety hazard. Cllrs Simeon Cole and Mark Petersen will have them locked.

2 Riverseas proposal regarding the café (To include electricity supply boxes)

Several residents spoke to express concerns over a new cabin to remain on site during the operational season of the canoe launch. The concerns included potential criminality and vandalism, rat infestation and concerns that the current operation of the mobile van exceeded the hours permitted under the planning approval. These concerns will be expressed to Riversea Holdings and a more detailed proposal is required from Riversea Holdings. Other residents expressed their support for the mobile café and the social benefits it provides both to residents and visitors. It was agreed that a proposal in principal could be considered by parish council that would lead to a detailed plan from Riversea Holdings that could be approved for a planning application.

3 Access to KBCL site (including CCTV update)

A recent occurrence of joy riders in the car park was discussed. The police had been informed but due to a missing person emergency they had been unable to attend. The meeting was advised by Cllr Berry that the contract between Herefordshire Council and Walford Parish Council includes a stipulation the entrance to the site is to remain open and accessible at all times, so a previous suggestion of a lockable gate to the site is not possible. It was agreed that the best solution was to install more bollards on site around the car park that would cause damage to any joyriders vehicle

thus making this anti-social behaviour less likely. **(action Cllrs Cole/Petersen and the Clerk).**

The clerk is continuing to investigate CCTV provision for which a budget of £500 has been agreed. **(action WPC Clerk)**

4 Footpath Signage (to include access opposite the Inn on the Wye driveway)

See agenda item 1 above.

5 Maintenance of the Railway Buttress.

Cllr Petersen advised that he has the necessary approvals now from Natural England and the Environment Agency to de-rope the Railway Buttress before considering what remedial is required.

6 Next Meeting

Subsequent to the meeting the clerk has proposed that the next meeting be held on site during March to encompass a clear up of the site before the canoe season commences. In the meantime, KBCL will continue to be a monthly agenda item at the WPC meetings.

Joanne Akers