

CLEE HILL PARTNERSHIP

MONDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2015 7.30pm CLEE HILL VILLAGE HALL

MINUTES

Present:

Henry Chance	Bitterley Parish Council Chairman (& Clee Hill Partnership Chairman)
Peter Cuthbert	Hopton Wafers Parish Council
George Cummings	Friends of Clee Hill Village Forum Chairman
Phil Holden	Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership Manager
George Williams	Caynham Parish Council

1. Welcome and apologies

The following apologies had been received:

Cllr Richard Huffer	Shropshire Council
Ian Loman-Brown	Caynham Parish Council
Garth Ridgers	Friends of Clee Hill Village Forum
Chris Woodward	Landowner, Hopton Court

2. Minutes of last meeting 17 August 2015 and matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as an accurate record (date of previous meeting subsequently corrected to 23 Sept 2014).

George Cummings and others updated on the issue of speeding. Local people were working with West Mercia Safer Roads Partnership. Data needed gathering for consideration in the spring. The Community Speedwatch programme involved training a minimum of six people from each location participating. They could then operate portable equipment and record information, acting as a deterrent to speeding, though not linked directly to legal enforcement. If monitoring data showed speeding to be excessive however, the community approach was not allowed.

George also updated on the proposed sign for visitors on Dhustone Lane. He had held a site meeting with Nigel McDonald (AONB Partnership), who had provided advice and recommendations on sign location and content. £600 had been secured, and prices discussed with Glyn Shaw from Shropshire Council Highways. The agent for Downton Hall estate had indicated general support. Further comments and input was awaited from various parties, and George would continue to progress matters.

3. Updates from partners on current activity

a. Clee Hill Community Wildlife Group

No-one present.

b. Litter group

George reported that around 7-8 people attended every month. Some fly tipping in the old stables was discussed. A name and address had been found on papers within the waste and the landowner's agent was writing to the person.

c. Clee Hill Wardens

The wardens were still going. The value of recording the volunteer time worked was noted.

d. Clee Hill Commoners Association

No reps present. The management of the informal parking area at the top of the hill was discussed, including whether potholes could be filled in. It was felt that although this was

not an official parking area and people did not have clear legal rights to drive there, it would be difficult in practice to discourage its use.

e. Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership

Phil reported on the proposed new national project on upland commons, which was involving the Shropshire Hills. The Foundation for Common Land were leading a project bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). Following discussions, the Clee Hill Commoners Association were not keen to be closely involved in the project, though it was hoped that there could be opportunities and benefits for the common if the project went ahead. Phil also mentioned an idea to develop a Clee Hill web page on the AONB website as a place for information to help people enjoy the area, while helping to address some of the management issues. He would draft something and consult the Partnership – **ACTION Phil.**

f. Titterstone Clee Heritage Trust

No-one present.

g. Hopton Parish Council

Peter reported that the Council was actively looking at the speeding issue. They had contacted Coreley PC but heard nothing back.

h. Coreley Parish Council

George Cummings reported that the PC had wanted a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

i. Caynham Parish Council

No news.

j. Bitterley Parish Council

No news.

k. Shropshire Council

No-one present.

4. Any other Business

Henry mentioned that anecdotal information on grouse on the hill would be welcomed by Leo Smith for the book, Birds of Shropshire. They were last known in 1959-60.

5. Date of next meeting – Monday 21st March 2016.