

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE 4C's

Castlemorton Parish Hall, Wednesday 18th May 2011.

Present: Lionel Bartlett, Anthony Bunn, Andrea Calvesbert(Chair), Richard Dawe, Roger Gillard, Angus Golightly, Lynn Hartman, Sue Windle, Christopher Rouse, Barbara Wilkes.

Apologies from Med Snookes, Richard Chamings

In attendance: Ian Rowat (Director), Rob Havard (Conservation Officer) and one member of the public.

1. To receive the report of the meeting held on 2nd December 2010

2. Matters Arising

Telephone boxes were brought up and both parish councils said they had voted not to take on the boxes.

Footpath Sign at Chandler's Cross had been moved to the edge of the common.

3. Swinyard Car Park

The car park was constructed in 2004 to reduce anti social behaviour at the Gullet. Parking on the road was a safety issue brought to the attention of the committee by the Parish council. The car park brings in £8000 revenue for the Malvern Hills Conservators that helps to offset the work and wardening of the common. Those present were in favour of the option of allowing the warden to use his/ her discretion in opening the overflow car park at busy times. The situation will be monitored as excessive loss of revenue would impact on the ability to finance work on the common.

The committee offered suggestions such as a sign on the barrier indicating that the overflow car park would close at a set time, also reminding people not to drop litter.

4. Consultation on Anti-social Behaviour

The Conservation Officer outlined the problems regarding groups of people partying on the common around Poplar cottage and other areas. The Committee were generally not in favour of ditching the common as it prevented lawful enjoyment of the commons and was inconvenient to commoners tending to sick animals. It also made it difficult for those with mobility problems to access the common. The suggestion of a community neighbour initiative was thought to be a good idea. The police offered to support this. The actions of Mr Dermot Weaver in removing campers were praised as good community action.

5. Illegal Parking on the Common

The issue of parking on the common was raised and it was suggested that those doing this should be made aware by a written request on their windscreen. The Director said this was a widespread activity not just confined to Castlemorton. The wardens do have a word with those parking on the common and from time to time have delivered a notice. The committee decided the best approach was an article in the Parish magazine explaining the issues surrounding the problem.

6. Mill Pond

The issue of silting up of the Mill Pond was raised and that it should be cleared out. Before any work was proposed there would need to be surveys on the effect on wildlife and an assessment of exactly what was required and how it was to be carried out.

7. Clearer Signs at the Gullet

The signs at the Gullet warning the public of the danger of swimming were thought not to be in a prominent position. The Danger sign which was put up when the road was open will be repositioned.

8. Report from representative bodies

A discussion took place around the Big Chill.

The following events were planned for the common.

Malvern Joggers June 15th

Orienteering June 30th

Shindig July 16th

9. Date of next meeting.

November 24th at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

