

## **Laddenbrook - Safer & Stronger Community Group (SSCG)**

### **Minutes**

A meeting was held for the above group on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2009, commencing at 7.30pm.

The Meeting was held at Wickwar Town Hall.

*The Safer and Stronger Community Group is a partnership between a number of organisations driven by South Gloucestershire Council and Avon and Somerset Police regarding community and police issues. It provides an opportunity for the community to ask questions and raise issues of concern to them. All issues will be noted and 3 priorities identified for action.*

#### **Attended:**

Mr T Proffitt (Acting Chairman)

Mrs Jacqui Ward – Community Safety Support Officer (Rural & Parishes)

Sergeant C Ogborne – Avon & Somerset Police

WPC L Bainbridge – Avon & Somerset Police

Nicola Chidley- Senior Rights of Way Officer SGC

Mrs K Stimpson – Wickwar Resident

Mr R Stimpson – Wickwar Parish Council

Mrs K Stimpson- Wickwar Resident

Mr E Briggs – Rangeworthy NHW

Mr D Howard – Castle Bridleway Group

Janet Burman- Resident

Charmaine Rundle- Resident

Jill Mcfarland- Resident

Angela Coombs- Resident

Philip Revall- NHW

## **1. Chairman's Welcome**

Acting Chairman Mr T Proffitt welcomed all those attending and opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

## **2. Nicola Chidley- Senior Rights of Way Officer (SGC)**

Nicola introduced herself and explained she was happy to discuss any matters regarding footpaths and bridleways that the meeting would like to raise, the following points were discussed.

### **Getting Rights of Way Recognised**

1. Establish who the landowner is, Contact the landowner to find out if they are prepared to allow horse riding access along the route - Permissive Bridleway
2. If the landowner is happy for the route to become public bridleway, a Path Creation agreement under Section 25 Highways Act 1980. The path then becomes maintainable at public expense.
3. If the landowner is not happy to offer a creation agreement then a path creation order can be made where it can be shown that there is a need for a public right of way that would add to the convenience or enjoyment of a substantial section of the public or to the persons resident in the area. Compensation is payable and the path becomes maintainable at public expense.
4. If there is documentary evidence and or evidence of public use of a route then an application may be made under S53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. If it can be reasonably alleged that a public right of way exists then an order may be made to modify the legal record to add it to the map.

### **Opening up Routes**

There was a discussion as to which routes could be opened up to avoid the current problem of Bridleways ending on the main road or in dead ends such as the one around Hill House Farm. This includes the rides that crosses Wickwar forcing riders to use the main road.

### **Signage**

The installation of extra signage to warn other road users of riders on the road was also discussed and this possibility of lower speed limits. JW to investigate with Highways and Streecare

### **Other**

The surface of the footpath from Lower Woods to Ladywood was mentioned as being in very poor condition. Problems were also reported regarding certain gates on the bridleways and it was requested that problems of this nature be reported to the Public Rights of Way Team on [rightsofway@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:rightsofway@southglos.gov.uk)  
01454 863646  
Contact for Castle Bridleways Group  
David Howard- david.howard7@virgin.net

### **3. Minutes of the last meeting**

Minutes of the last SSCG meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 2009, were accepted as a fair representation of that meeting.

### **4. Matters Arising from the meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 2009.**

- **Rangeworthy Village Hall-**  
The police have made extra patrols in the area and there have been no more reported problems.  
This was felt to be a successful outcome and the police thanked for their efforts.
- **Wickwar Heavy Lorries–**  
This is still an ongoing problem and the Police and trading standards will monitor the situation and do random checks. During Operation Relentless on the 14<sup>th</sup> May- 4 lorries were stopped with 1 found to be over the limit. The joint operation between Trading Standards and the Police during early July resulted in 2 lorries being given advice on the appropriate routes to use to their destination.
- **Fly Tipping –** This is an ongoing issue to be monitored by the Police, residents and South Glos Council, 2 incidents had been passed to Dave Cole, SGC
- **Solvent Abuse**  
The Police have spoken to one individual after requests from the parents. Visits have also been made to the Youth Club, local shops and those in Charfield.

### **5. Discussion on Local Community Issues**

- **Recreation Ground**  
Cans and litter have been reported on the ground.
- **Signage in Wickwar**  
The matter of signage on the bend at the end of Wickwar High Street was raised and the meeting would like an update from Highways as to the current status of the situation. The national speed limit sign signs have disappeared as you leave the village.

- **Gypsy & Travellers Site – Hall End –**  
This site has been given planning permission. The meeting asked for it to be noted that they felt public opinion was not taken into account and they also felt there was an inconsistency of policy within the Council.
  
- **Community Speedwatch**  
The local Speedwatch requested better feedback of information from their monitoring. The police are scheduled to assist the group for 2hrs each month.
  
- **Safer Stronger Review meeting**  
The group requested feedback from the recent review. One of the major outcomes was felt the there was a need for greater publicity for group.
  
- **The following were suggested as methods to increase awareness:**
  - Parish Newsletter
  - Leaflet drops
  - Posters
  - Wickwar website
  - Police website
  - SGC website
  - South Gloucestershire News
  - Gazette
  - Village Groups

## **6. Priorities at this meeting**

1. Horse rider safety and bridleway improvement - Wickwar.
2. Weight restrictions - Wickwar.
3. Traffic issues - Signage - The Downs - Wickwar.

The next SSCG meeting will take place at Rangeworthy Village Hall on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009, commencing at 7.30pm.

