

## **DC Report 20220511**

### **MacTaggart and Mickel footpath**

I have been in touch with OCC and Arthur McEwan-James about this and was disappointed that there was little they felt they could do to put pressure on M+M. I wrote to the Herald and Oxford Mail about it – no response so complained to the M+M Glasgow office and they said they would open it by end of April – which they did. However, its still a mess – unfinished surface, bad step from the new to the old path, overgrown grass and obstructing trees. They have said that they would address these points before they complete and leave within a month and I will be seeing the site manager again about this today (Wed) and will feed back to Vanessa.

### **Crest Nicholson footpath**

Crest were required to start the work on completing the footpath by May 9<sup>th</sup> and finish by June 10<sup>th</sup> otherwise the bond would be called in. The work did start on time but why they couldn't just finish it the next day beats me. Its another example of the niggling issues that we have had with them. I will mail Crest about this.

### **Speeding**

I haven't yet applied for the 20mph through the village but will do so. Elan City SIDs are popping up everywhere and depending on our funds I feel that we should invest in two of these.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

I have pestered Jeremy about a few minor issues connected with this to get it completed. He has been very busy with other work but did reply last night with comments on some minor questions that I had. I can complete these by Monday and he will then prepare a basic conditions statement and we will then submit.

### **HOSC**

Major issues discussed yesterday included GP access which was not really resolved. They are trying to improve telephony with more lines but more phone lines needs more people to answer the calls! Staff shortage and retention amongst GPs and technical positions is a major issue and international recruitment is underway! This is primarily a national problem.

Staff shortage is the main reason for the continuing closure of the Wantage maternity unit. We will be updated on the situation in 2-3 weeks.

### **Nature Recovery Forum**

I chaired an online Forum for Nature Recovery and Biodiversity last night to give parish councils some ideas of what they might do in "their own back yards". Speakers included Richard Benwell, Roselle Chapman (Wild Oxfordshire) and Jeremy Biggs (Fresh Water Habitats Trust). There will be a follow-up meeting June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Countryside Records footpaths**

I have listed the additional footpath leading from Marsh Lane to Challow Marsh Farm. I have no idea of the time-line for approval. I am in the process of doing this for other local parishes.

Cllr Dr Paul Barrow

May 11 2022