

## **FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 at 7.00pm in the Town Hall (Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Committee)**

**Present:** Cllr Earth - Chairman  
Cllrs Connolly, Hale, Adams & Anstey

**In attendance:** Mrs H Richards, Town Clerk  
1 Member of the Public  
Katy Griffin, Salisbury Journal  
Cllrs Fulford & Paton

**1. To receive any apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr White

**2. To receive any Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made.

**3. To consider the proposed diversion of Footpath No. 8a Primrose Cottage,  
Midgham**

Members heard from the applicant that the proposed diversion was to move a short section of the footpath from the property's driveway to an adjacent strip of land. The property has previously been used as holiday accommodation with limited vehicular traffic, however the property is now in residential use with increased traffic using the driveway and the applicants consider that it would be safer to move the right of way. Also included in the application is the proposal to replace the existing stile, which provides access from this section of the path into adjacent farmland (route of footpath), with a kissing gate. Consultation has taken place with various interested parties, including Ringwood & Fordingbridge Footpath Society.

Cllr Fulford, speaking from the public gallery, stated that she would generally oppose diversions "for landowners benefit" however on this occasion the proposed route running parallel to the existing is the same length and access to the field would be improved. Cllr Fulford raised concern regarding the surface of the proposed route (grassed as opposed to gravel of the existing route) and whether this would become unusable in the winter months.

Cllr Hale proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Connolly and therefore **RESOLVED:** to support the application to divert a section of Footpath No. 8a at Primrose Cottage, Midgham as detailed on the plan provided by HCC.

Town Clerk to write to Countryside Access Team supporting the proposal but also raise the concern of Cllr Fulford regarding surface of the proposed route.

The meeting closed at 7.08pm