

FP Officers Report Mar 25

A brief report from me this month.

Herefordshire Council recently requested agenda points for the forthcoming Parish Council Summit. I have suggested, via our Clerk, that they include an agenda item under the heading 'Communication'. Should it be thought appropriate I would like to attend the Summit, in April, as a representative the PC.

Since the last meeting I have not been in touch with the Council's PROW team at all. Nor have I received any correspondence from them despite having several ongoing issues outstanding.

However, I have engaged with them on various issues since becoming the FPO, not least of which was trying to spend our grant on PROW furniture. A couple of weeks ago five gates were delivered. There being no direct consultation with me beforehand, as to what type/style of gates I required, sadly, what turned up, was unsuitable for our needs.

In my opinion, the large 'flat' gates provided would be more use on well-made wide paths suitable for wheelchairs, mobility scooters, prams or similar. We have no paths of that nature so therefore I cannot see a direct use for them here. As it has taken an age to get what turned out to be the 'wrong' gates delivered, the option of obtaining the grant funding directly, and the PC purchasing gates elsewhere, will be explored by our Ward Councillor.

On a different note, with the disappointment of the February FPO walk being washed out by bad weather, I was pleased that the March walk was attended by 13 parishioners and three dogs! The five-mile walk, in perfect weather conditions, included the circumnavigation of Oaker Wood. As always, parish councillors have a standing invite to join us at any time!