**Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14th March 2017 at 7.00pm in Church Tower room**

1. **Present**: Cllr P Bradnum, Chair (**PB)**, Cllr D Walford, Vice Chairman **(DW),** Cllr J Christie (**JC)**, Cllr S Christie **(SC)** Cllr S Smith (**SS)**, Cllr P Metcalf (**PM)**, Cllr B Froggatt **(BF)** Mrs E Brooks (Clerk to the Council) & 4 residents
2. **Apologies for absence** – Cllr C Adams **(CA)**
3. **Declarations of interest**  - None
4. **Footpath No.4**
* Further to the instructions at the last PC meeting, Pam Bradnum and David Walford arranged & attended a meeting at County Hall to discuss Footpath Number 4.  They met with two ERYC officers, including Mr Mark Drydale
* The meeting was cordial & constructive, but no real conclusion was achieved.  It was made clear that the PC was neutral on this matter, but did seek a permanent resolution, satisfactory to all parties.
* They outlined their knowledge of the history of the route of this path, & presented OS maps covering four dates from 1852 to 1947.  Although there are several theories as to why the path was moved at some time in the latter part of the twentieth century, then subsequently had a 20-30 metres section removed, none could be equivocally confirmed as the true record.
* They also highlighted their knowledge of the public highway around the north & east side of the village hall, the ‘Private’ signs that were creating comments & the ownership boundaries, as per the Land Registry office documents.
* The officers confirmed that they were very keen to seek a satisfactory solution, as they were receiving considerable correspondence over this matter from several other parties.
* At this stage BPC do not see how they can facilitate further progress,
* A formal application has been send to ERYC to reinstate the footpath by Mr Michael Jackson (Ramblers Association), the application is currently at number 16 on the Councils priority list of Schedule 14 applications to be processed and is therefore deemed to be decided in the next 18-24 months.
* If the application is rejected, or no solution found then the Ramblers Association will pursue the issue further.
* ERYC have a budget for assisting with sign posts, gates and fences and will support land owners if a solution can be found.

Cllr Steve Smith proposed that Bainton Parish Council have assisted with this issue as much as possible at this time and that we should now leave this to the parties directly involved. Proposed **SS** Seconded **SC**

1. **Any other business from elected members or members of the public**
* **From elected members** – None
* **From members of the public** – Jackie Timson highlighted the work that the RA & their legal team will undertake to resolve this matter, but also complained why the council had not complained about the ‘Private’ signs erected on the public highway, east of the Village Hall.

**Meeting closed**