



**9) Footpath closures – to consider joint local approach for better management by WSCC to prevent path closures due to lack of landowner maintenance**

From Trotton PC

*We received a report from a local resident (and keen horse-rider/walker) about a local bridal path which has been closed for two periods of 21 days and which WSCC are now proposing to close for 6 months. This bridal path is the responsibility of the CC but they have been unable to get the landowner whose land it crosses to cut the undergrowth which has now made it totally impassable. They say they do not have the budget to clear the path themselves and therefore propose to close it. By our understanding, that it a total dereliction of their legal responsibility although we all understand the budget pressures they face. Our resident has written to Kate O'Kelly and Gillian Keegan to no avail (so far). At our meeting we then heard complaints about 5 other pedestrian / bridal paths (all PROW) which are currently impassable or dangerous. We will, anyway, put some pressure on local landowners to live up to their own legal duties but we also agreed that I should consult all of you to see if you share our view that we need to put pressure on the CC to reconsider their decision to close paths that they cannot clear. If necessary, we will organise work parties to clear some of this undergrowth but we are reluctant to set yet another precedent of taking on CC responsibilities (as we have done with litter picking).*

**10) Garbett's Steps** – email circulated – Rev Edward Doyle has been working with parents and a contractor to clear and repair the steps the school side so they can again use the forest school. English Woodland have repaired their side and cut back the undergrowth so the woods are accessible. They are asking for cost of 18 sleepers @ £14+ vat each (total £302.40) plus a post (we should be able to reclaim the VAT). Other costs (concrete and contractor) will be met from other grants.

**11) Rake Recreation Ground** – email circulated – to consider request from Steve Williamson for wildflower planting at a cost of £305.98 with volunteers for planting and ongoing care. As we own the land it is permission for planting and agreement for us to purchase the plants.

**12) Speed limit application updates**

- a) **Fyning 20mph TRO** – passed first assessment but failed second because they are aware of somebody in opposition (against the 'people' criteria). Clerk has asked if it passed on the other criteria (safety, access, costs and environment) and awaits a response. We were aware a 20mph was possible a starting point - do we want to make another application for a 30mph?
- b) **Hillbrow 30mph TRO** – passed first and second assessment so will proceed to next stage to arrange and assess speed data.
- c) **Rogate village CHS** – update not expected for months but note further damage to the church wall after being hit by a lorry. Changes to this section of the road are not included in the TRO and it is unlikely the lorry was travelling at more than 20mph.