

CLERKS REPORT FOR JANUARY 2011 MEETING

1. **Proposed BMX Track** – As requested at the last meeting the Clerk of Pensford and Publow has been contacted to discuss their cycle track, but to date am awaiting response. In the meantime, Rob Brooke from Parks and Green Spaces to ask his advice. He responded as follows:

Once we have a design for the BMX Track he would suggest we seek advice from Planning to ensure we have gone through a procedure. Rob would also like to see the plans for interest and to advise on anything which may assist us. We would have to distinguish between Skate and BMX as Skate is usually hard surface (ie. Concrete bowl or metal ramps) and BMX is usually on a landscaped banking with at least one berm on the end with a start and finish, topped with a compact dust surface of granite or limestone which would need rolling and watering. Maintenance would be done via inspections, with the BMX having to be checked for stones and dips/erosion on a regular basis and topped up with the dust, a more detailed spec can be supplied when needed.

Inspections can be done by BANES or in a similarly to how we inspect the play areas and can be included in the inspection process. He would also be happy to check over when the track has been completed.

We will need to ensure anything we do is not very close to other play equipment or sports facility, or the run off does not affect a footway or close to any facility or fence line/path etc. We also need to ensure banking is not too steep so that erosion takes place and there is little possibility of grass growth. The track under the dust needs to be of a tough clay a dug type that will consolidate well. We need to ensure there are no bye laws affecting this site.

And finally, ensure that local users and a couple of local residents are very involved in the planning process and the needs of the local enthusiasts so that they get what they visualise, including meetings with contractors/suppliers and parish meetings.

2. **MEETINGS** - We need to agree on dates for the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council where Parishioners are invited to attend last year it was on 6 May, however, because of Local Elections I suggest this is held in Second or Third week of April. The AGM will then be held in May (depending on the Election Date). I have however, contacted Vernon Hitchman's office at BANES to ask what the procedure is, if we have any vacancies in May.

