**20th October 2026**

**Item 12 - Footpath / Bridleway CMV/1/1 Resurfacing Update**

Following recent enquiries regarding resurfacing improvements for public footpath/bridleway CMV/1/1, between Alfriston footbridge and Spring Dick, East Sussex Rights of Way has provided helpful guidance on procedural requirements. While a decision on our Wealden District Council CLIF grant application remains pending, this advice gives us a clear path forward for the scheme.

In addition, discussions with the South Downs National Park Authority's South Downs Way Officer indicate that SDNPA grant funding may be accessible in the 2027/2028 financial year, provided Cuckmere Valley Parish Council acts as the lead authority. Due to periodic flooding along this section of the valley, the Officer recommends an open-grade tarmac surface, utilising the existing broken-up tarmac as a sub-base. To support future funding bids, the Parish Council needs to establish the full scope of the scheme and obtain formal contractor quotes, with recommended contractor lists available from both the SDNPA and ESCC.

To strengthen the project's viability, it is recommended that we consult and partner with Alfriston Parish Council, given that this is a key shared route between our communities. Teaming up will not only support a stronger collaborative bid but also enable both councils to jointly request match-funding from District Councillor David Greaves via his discretionary WDC Member Grant allocation.

Members are asked to note these updates, authorise the Clerk to contact Alfriston Parish Council to agree a joint approach, approve obtaining formal quotes based on the open-grade tarmac specification, and agree to approach Councillor Greaves for grant support once quotes are established.