

NWPC RIGHTS OF WAY AND LENGTHSMAN – JUL 23

Footpath Officer Work:

I have continued to work through the reported problems currently sitting on the HCC Rights of Way website map for the Parish, and successfully closed a further four. Sadly there is an individual (probably the same person) who is adopting a “scattergun” approach to registering problems/complaints, and has added a further half dozen or so this month. This is extremely unhelpful, as some are extremely pedantic, and others incorrect, and it takes some effort to have them removed.

I have established a dialogue with the OWPC RoW officer (the first time I have ever managed to do this in over twenty years), which bodes well for the management of issues on our paths north of the A343. In particular we have liaised over the planned repair of a broken stile on FP 23.

I have trimmed/cleared the following (about 8 hours):

FP2 – Parish Boundary – School Lane
FP 3/4 (Dene – School Lane)
FP 17 (Church Hill – Aylwards Way)
FP19 – Ducks Lane – Five Bells Lane
FP 20 (Bent Street – Five Bells Lane) Southern end
FP 21 (A343 – Bent Street)

Cleared fallen branches that had fallen after a thunder storm and that were blocking FP 17

With HCC approval I removed an old FP fingerboard on Bent Street that was deemed to be a hazard due to its location and being head/eye height, and replaced with waymarker discs.

Reported a significant fly tip of garden waste on RB39 (near Kestrels Farm) to TVBC, which has cleared it away.

Lengthsman Tasks carried out in Jun

The Lengthsman completed 10 hours of work in June. I refocused his work from the original list, with priority given to clearing sight lines on the worst of our junctions, especially on the B3084, A30 and A343.

Some further time was given to strimming the eastern end of RB 37, the “Spring Pond” Drove.

Lengthsman Tasks Set for Jul

Given the amount of work that has been done in May and June, and mindful both that the HCC Contractor cut is scheduled in August, and to maintain some budget going into the autumn flood alleviation, I have given him only one hour of work in July, which is to carry out a “new growth” strim along FP 4 (Dene – Police House)

Lengthsman Budget and Forward Look

Including the June work invoice, we have £441.75 left in the budget. The single hour in July will bring this down to £419.75. This gives us headroom to do some autumn work, depending on weather, and then clear drains/grips in the later autumn when the water table is still low in advance of the winter.

In August, I intend to have a look some of the myriad of waymarking issues currently sitting on the HCC Problems list.

Iain James