

Footpath Officer's Report 6th March 2016

Reports from the Public

Report received from a member of the public that public footpath running from U71235 (the Doward 'ring road') up behind 'The Beeches' was blocked by rubbish. The report was accompanied by maps indicating the footpath. After some investigation it was determined that the footpath indicated on the maps provided is not a designated right of way. The parishioner was informed that this was the case and no further action was taken.

The storms that we experienced over the last couple of months did quite a lot of damage and a number of trees were brought down. Local residents spent considerable time and effort ensuring these trees were removed and that the roads and footpaths in the parish remained passable. In particular WC26 (Tump Lane) experienced 3 fallen trees and the landowner removed them within 24 hours. WC43 was also blocked by a fallen ash tree and this was swiftly removed.

Ongoing issues

Work on WC1 has commenced and the section from the Goodrich road to the Church has been cleared. In particular the section behind Lowther's and the nursery has received a lot of attention and is now much more presentable. The section from the leisure park past the Paddocks to Ye Old Ferrie Inn has had a little work done to it but much more remains to be done. This section more closely resembles an inner city industrial wasteland than a picturesque rural riverside landscape. Now that the Indian Balsam which infests this area has died back all that is left is a plethora of rubbish. In short, what could be a beautiful tourist attraction is a disgrace to the village.

WC87. This footpath runs from the C1257 at the top of The Paddocks drive, across the flood meadow to meet with WC1. There is no finger post at the junction with the C1257, and no way marker post at the junction with WC87. In fact there is no sign of WC87 at all. It seems to have disappeared.

Missing or damaged signage.

No way marker post at junction of WC26 (Tump Lane) and WC34.
No way marker post at junction of WC34 and WC35.
No way marker post at junction of WC35 and WC49.
No way marker post at junction of WC35 and WC52.
No fingerpost at junction of U71235 (Doward ring road) and WC35.
No way marker post at junction of WC34 and WC37.
No fingerpost at junction of U71235 (Doward ring road) and WC73.
No way marker post at junction of WC73 and WC74.
No way marker post at junction of WC74 and WC79.
No way marker post at junction of WC74 and WC62 (Meeks Well Lane).
Wonky way marker post at junction of WC62 (Meeks Well Lane) and WC72.
No way marker post at junction of WC72 and WC61 (Ashes Lane).
No way marker post at junction of WC61 (Ashes Lane) and WC72A (Pritchard's Lane).
Almost illegible way marker post at junction of WC61 (Ashes Lane) and WC70 (Coffin Slide)
No way marker post at junction of WC61 (Ashes Lane) and WC73.
No fingerpost at junction of U71235 (Doward ring road) and WC40 (Sawpitts Lane).
No way marker post at junction of WC35 and WC36.
No way marker post at junction of WC27 (Leaping Stocks) and WC28.
No way marker post at junction of WC26 (Tump Lane) and WC27 (Leaping Stocks).
No fingerpost at junction of U71235 (Doward ring road) and BOAT WC26 (Green Lane).

The fingerpost at the junction of U71235 (Doward ring road) and WC22 (by Doward campsite) is obscured by overgrown hedgerow.

The way marker post at the junction of WC27 (Leaping Stocks) and WC37 is broken.

The fingerpost at the junction of WC27 (Leaping Stocks) and U71235 (Doward ring road) needs replacing.

No way marker post at junction of WC49 and WC53.

No way marker post at junction of WC35 and WC53.

No fingerpost at junction of U71235 (Doward ring road) and BOAT WC19.

No way marker post at junction of WC19 and WC18.

Way marker post at junction of WC19, WC9 and WC9A needs repairing (arrows missing)

The way marker post at the junction of WC20 and WC37 is broken.

Lengthsman Report

Report received on work done on WC1.

Status of paths

14 paths require maintenance work and 8 are known to be blocked.

The blocked paths are as follows:

WC47 - Blocked at Rockleech

WC54 - Blocked from junction with WC57 down to Sandiway Lane

WC55 - Blocked from Sandiway Lane by wooden / wire fence and 6ft hedge.

WC72A – Closed for repair.

WC87 – has 'disappeared' and needs to be reinstated.

WC95 - Blocked by hedgerow at junction with lane opposite Tuck Mill.

WC96 - Blocked by domestic fence

WC101. Blocked near Daf-y-Nant House.

The paths which are passable but which require some maintenance work are:

GN1 - Fence falling across path and encroaching undergrowth by Kennel Cottage

GN5 - Partially blocked by fallen tree near junction with lane near Sellarsbrook Park

GN9 - Stile needs repairing/replacing

WC1 - Overgrown between Leisure Park and Ferrie Inn

WC34 – Overgrown and impassible for much of its length.

WC37 - The 'dog leg' that runs down the side of Greston to U71235 (Doward ring road) needs clearing as well as south from WC36.

WC38 - Needs trimming between WC37 and WC34

WC46 - Electric fence across stile

WC50 - Badly eroded in places

WC68 - In places the wooden steps have broken and need to be replaced

WC70 - Tree across path

WC89 - Finger Post needs fixing

WC102 - From the U71230 road access footbridge the first stock fence has no stile.