

## Rights of Way Report June 2025

The PPLO has provided a very comprehensive report which is copied below.

It is depressing that the Newt has not actioned any of the issues raised with it over the last 2 months.

### PPLO Report June 2025

The rather depressing news is that none of the items listed below in May have been addressed.

*The bridges WN19/95 WN19/72 WN19/32 WN27/8 have still not been repaired, but the landowner (Perry's Recycling) has agreed access and Mervyn the contractor has submitted quotes, which have been accepted by SC and landowners, but still no date when he will do the work. No further progress on the ground.*

*WN19/105 (Ridgeway Lane) is still in a very bad state requiring substantial surface and drainage works. The major impediment is the colony of badgers in the banks along each side. Eve Wynne is contacting the Ecology department to assess whether and when works can proceed. There is urgency required as weather is causing the surface to further deteriorate.*

The Newt as a large landowner and presence in the Parish need to be asked to do what they are required to do. The following paths, WN 19/ 44, 53, 54, 55, 56 are the paths referred to below.

*Complaints have been received for several years about the lack of cutting out of paths through crops at North Town, North Cadbury. The land is owned by The Newt. Despite assurances from Zoe Young, their Community Liaison Officer, that the issues would be resolved, it is still on going. The tenant farmer is under a lot of pressure and needs help from the Newt to do this work. It is the landowner who is responsible, NOT the tenant.*

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I have received an e mail (as below) from the Monarch's Way describing a complete lack of cross crop compliance and therefore paths are impassable. I have asked Becky Carter to write to Rory Montgomery as he has a legal responsibility to keep Rights of Way open. WN19/71.

*I have today reported the section from ST 63007 26818 to ST 63065 26526 to Somerset Rights of Way as its completely impassable due to Oil Seed Rape Crop. This is the section where the landowner wanted to divert the path down towards the stream.*

*I suspect the result would have been the same if we had accepted the change. No path clearance.*

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Walkers are encouraged to walk with secateurs to cut upgrowth where possible. This is a great help.

WN19/54 this path emerges onto Sandbrook Lane. The stile had become very overgrown and was reported and was cleared by local walkers. Such generous help should be commended and I am very grateful.