

Rights of Way report June 2022

Maintenance

The good news is that independent contractor George Montague completed his 2 days' work and as a result a good number of faults on footpaths in the parish have been remedied, as shown below. Priority was given to those on paths that form parts of the circular walks. The cost for two days' work and materials was £500 + VAT.



WN19/77 Gate post repaired so that gate now closes; steps and handrail repaired



WN19/24 Stile at Hearn Lane Galhampton repaired.



WN19/74 Gate mechanism at Arkle opens easily.



WN19/103 Signpost now standing

I have copied below George's list of completed tasks and explanations for why some of them have not been undertaken.

Not on his list, but still requiring attention are the broken stile on WN19/85 (just off Woolston Road) where it joins 19/84 and 19/86, the stile on WN 19/25 By March Cottages, Galhampton, and the broken handrail on the bridge at the junction of WN19/44 and WN19/55 at Higher North Town.



Other outstanding issues include:

- the closure by barbed wire of access to WN19/1 from Smallway Lane East (reported in March RoW report). This constitutes the loss of a RoW and is a concern to Galhampton residents.
- the unofficial diversion of WN19/91 where it exits to Woolston Road

Circular Walks

It has become necessary to replace leaflets that have been taken from the folders so we need to consider the question of ongoing funding for this. The parish office can print one double-sided, colour A4 leaflet for 27p.

Susan Fone has printed some but this is a temporary, emergency solution. She asks whether the PC would consider refunding the cost of paper and printer ink) at 20p per double-sided copy: a total of

£10.80 for 54 copies.

I have undertaken to add QR codes to the files containing the leaflets so that walkers can get the instructions on a smart phone rather than use a paper copy.

Bob in the shop has offered to collect any donations that are offered but this is an uncertain amount and would probably involve Becky in accounting.(?)

One possibility is to go back to the original grant body – Somerset Community Fund and ask if they would consider a further grant – though this will be finite.

Meanwhile I would like to ask the PC formally to approve allocating the approx. £85 VAT refund from the original project expenditure to be used to cover current printing costs.

We would also like funding to provide neon signs for every footpath. The cost of these was £4 each – it may be more now. One idea was to ask residents to sponsor a sign. I assume this would need PC approval and to be administered by Parish Clerk. Other ideas for funding would be welcomed.

Strimming

Unfortunately not a lot has taken place because our volunteer injured his hand and has been unable to do any manual work.

Paths not cut in

PPLO is to liaise with tenant at North town concerning this and also with Paul Longman to ask his tenant to cut the path across WN19/108 (starts opposite The Grange and crosses Pear Tree Field to meet with WN19/105) which has been reported by a resident to be *'pretty much impassable. The field beans are waist high and will not be harvested for a couple of months. The gate to the field is difficult to open because of all the growth around it.'*

WN19/105

The Parish Clerk has circulated the letter she received from Peter Hobley concerning the remedial work but I have included below the parts that actually refer to doing some work below.

Unfortunately there is no date set for the work and also no indication of whether the landowners will be required to meet or contribute to what will be substantial costs.

Dear Becky

Apologies that we haven't been able to attend to the remedial works sooner for this route.

We have always been committed to reinstating the surface/ditch on this route once the bollards had been installed and enough of a period of time had passed to provide assurance that the bollards were sufficient deterrent to repeat vehicular damage. I think that time has passed and now is a good time of year to effect the remedial works. As soon as the staff resource returns/ frees up to commission the work, we will ensure it is done, subject to contractor availability.

I'm afraid I cannot provide any definite timescales at this stage but it is still very much on our radar. By way of this e-mail I ask Eve/Rob to notify you as and when there is an expected date for the works.

Regards

Pete Hobley

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Bridges

We still have no date for the repairs to the bridges 2740 on WN 27/8, 2743 on WN 19/95, 2851 on WN 27/3, 2745 on WN 19/95 and 2849 on WN 19/72 that were mentioned in the April RoW report.

List of Repairs carried out by George Montague

From: George Montague [mailto:montaguecountryside@gmail.com]

Sent: 27 May 2022 10:03

To: Susan Fone; Eve Wynn

Subject: Re: North Cadbury works

5991- Cleared and stile fixed WN 19/24

21597- I took to be the asset number rather than a fault number. only barbed was wrapped around a post, so barbes flattened.WN 19/24

WN 19/2-fingerposts installed on the last round of works (approx 4 months ago), cropped so not for me to clear, arable field so stiles not needed. should a barrier be required I know SCC policy is to install gates.

61607- cross field stile, not fixed as no landowner consent for access WN 19/100

66803-fingerpost installed on last round of works, stile redundant as gate open and available. WN 19/54

67345-Replaced WN 19/58

67342- second handrail added, stile step fixed WN 19/54

66143- Gate fixed, step face added, posts added to handrail WN 19/77

67350-stiff fieldgate fixed WN 19/74

56867-for the area warden to resolve WN 19/91

67346- no landowner consent for access.WN 19/80