

Footpath and Rights of Way Report for March 2019

General

1. Due to the continuing generally dry weather the footpaths and rights of way are in a reasonable condition.

Major Issues

2. Rickety Bridge (officially known as Bicton Bridge)
 - a. Following correspondence noted last month the Parish Council wrote a follow up letter to Devon County Council strongly suggesting that it would be safer and more advantageous for the existing bridge to be temporarily reopened. No reply has been received.
 - b. The Parish Council also requested that the closure notices be updated. Some of the notices have now been replaced advising that the replacement will be "Summer 2019". A closure of some 18 months.
3. Strategy for replacing finger posts
 - a. The Parish Council Chairman has ordered the two finger posts in most need of replacement.
 - b. EDDC have agreed to offer a grant to Otterton and Woodbury Parish Councils of £3,289 from the Parishes Together Fund to further our signage replacement project. The monies must be spent by 30th September.

Minor Issues

4. Park Lane
 - a. A length of damaged fencing close to Clamour Bridge has been replaced.
 - b. A second length some 300m further north has been left, but this section is less of concern.
5. River side footpath 1
 - a. The East Budleigh viaduct that has a partial collapse as it goes under footpath 1 (riverside) is to be repaired in the summer by CDE.
 - b. There have been complaints about cyclists using the footpath. I have placed new no cycling signs up.
 - c. There has been some clearing of overhanging trees/vegetation etc. – presumably by CDE.
6. Coastal path
 - a. I have cleared the soil debris under the kissing gate leading to South Farm (footpaths #2 and #10).
 - b. However, the support post is leaning and is probably rotten at the base. It is covered in vegetation which is probably holding it up.
 - c. Minor bits of vegetation across the path blown by the strong winds have been cleared.
7. Sewage works – I cleared some vegetation to make signs more obvious. A new footpath disc sign was placed.
8. Footpath 14 below Anchoring Hill
 - a. CDE have placed advisory signs to try and get owners to stop dogs from worrying livestock.
 - b. I replaced a footpath disc sign to make the "official" path route more obvious.

Tree Report

9. The role of Tree Warden is being shared by Phillip Greenhough and myself.
10. The Parish Council needs a policy regarding tree management for trees they are responsible for. The first step is to identify the limits of the Stantway ownership.

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30nd March 2019