

Burton Bradstock Parish council – Rights of way and access issues

Brief: A review of access issues on the frequently used footpaths within the village. Initially included in the PC agenda following concerns regarding the footpath adjacent to Larkfield discussed in a previous PC meeting.

Footpath adjacent to Larkfield Caravan Park – Stone steps at the northern end of the path are damaged and uneven. The public generally walk to the western edge of the stone stile and the gap is narrow (pic 1) This area needs improvement as a trip or fall on these steps is very likely.



The footpath surface between the stone stiles gets extremely muddy in winter months as this is a very well used footpath that would benefit from a covering of chipped wood/bark or alike (pic2)



The access at the southern end onto common lane also has considerable trip hazards caused by the uneven surface and tree roots in the gap adjacent to the stone stile. The small trees/bushes need cutting back and the roots removed (pic 3)



Footpath at Hive Beach – on Cliff

The first gate from the field east of Hive Beach cafe onto the cliff path has a broken closer (pic 4)



Footpath Hive Beach to Garage

In general the footpath from the car park behind Barton Oliver is well used and extremely muddy. It would benefit from chipped wood/bark covering. The has a footpath sign by the middle gate is broken and dangerous (pic 5)



The access behind Burton Bradstock Cars is extremely hazardous and a gulley has formed causing a serious trip hazard (pic 6)



The stile is secure but a large loose stone required to cross needs securing (pic 7)



The area between it and the stone stile is eroded and fills with water so could be improved.

Footpath Southover to Barr Lane

The area through the gate in the middle of the field has eroded and exposed large stones that are a trip hazard (pic 8)



Both ends of the bridge across the river are also eroded and contain trip hazards (pics 9 & 10)



Metal access gates on both ends of the path as it crosses at the end of Manor Farm show signs of wear and contain trip hazards (pics 11 & 12)



Footpath at 'The Drain'

There is a footpath sign missing at the lower end and the remaining section of barrier that was considered to be supporting the wall is a hazard in the dark and I feel not supporting the wall. (pics 13 & 14)



Footpath from Grove Road to Bredy Lane

There is a damaged sign at the east end of Grove Road and the sign post at the Arch Bridge end needs some attention (pics 15 & 16)



The accesses across the ditches at both the Arch Bridge end and onto Bredy Road are narrow and slippery in the winter months. These also get very overgrown in the summer months (pics 17 & 18)



Footpath at Norburton

The stone stile at the top of the path as it enters Shipton Lane is an obvious obstruction for buggies etc, but there is little that can be done. However this is a blind access onto a fairly busy lane and some signage may benefit users (pic 19)



SUMMARY

This report looks at access on foot on the footpaths and NOT the full accessibility for wheelchairs and buggies etc. There is considerable concern at the levels of deterioration that have created trip hazards and I suggest we pass the report to both the Village Volunteers and Dorset Council to see what improvements and repairs can be made.

Cllr. Darren Batten - Jan 21