

SOUTH WILTS GROUP RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION

Footpath committee Meeting 29th March 2010

Present - N Cowen, P Dashwood, U Milner-White, J Rolt, G Read, N Martin

Apologies - N Dunnell, M Callow, J Hawkins

VOLUNTEER WORKING PARTIES

Heavy - Feb	Landford FP 26 - Bridge 6.5 metre installed over River Blackwater. Gate replacing stile installed	21 hours
March	Fovant -FP 1 300 metre clearance - FP 2 Two stiles replaced by K/Gates	26 hours
Light - Feb	Mere 28 and West Knoyle 12 - All stiles cleared	9 hours
March	Broad Chalke 20 1 kilometre cleared East Knoyle 29 50 metres cleared	15 hours 1 hour

1. MATTERS ARISING

Re 3.3 last meeting. Traffic regulation (prohibition of driving) order -Stonehenge World Heritage Site. The position re walking on the closed part of the A344 to reach Amesbury byway 12 was enquired about. The reply from the Senior Traffic Order Technician states ' I can confirm that the Traffic Regulation Order is specific to motorised vehicles only, therefore you will be able to walk on the lengths in question.'

Dinton FP 14- Nick has completed the work to extend the drainage pipe and hopes that this will improve the situation. The Highways department are now doing more work in the area, Nick has had a site meeting with them and is assured that their work will not affect the new drainage pipe.

2. AGENDA ITEMS

2.1 Footpath Reports - 1004 - 1011

1004	11/02/2010	West Knoyle	FP 12	850 312 - 853 316	P Dashwood	Broken Stile and obstruction
1005	11/02/2010	Mere	FP 28	850 311	P Dashwood	Path obstructed + broken stile
1006	10/02/2010	Pitton and Farley	FP 15	220 297-224 299	P Dashwood	Path blocked and ploughed up
1007	20/03/2010	Ansty	BW 3	960 260	R Walker	Waymarks needed and obstructed x 2
1008	20/03/2010	Swallowcliffe	FP 11	967 253	R Walker	Waymarking required
1009	20/03/2010	Ebbesbourne Wake	FP 14	989 241	R Walker	Waymarks needed
1010	20/03/2010	Bowerchalke	FP 25	999 216	R Walker	Crop ?tall corn no way round field
1011	09/03/2010	Whiteparish	FP 11	237 228 + 237 2275	N Martin	Fingerpost broken + dangerous stile

3. CORRESPONDENCE AND AGREED RESPONSES

3.1 WC 22/01 and 05/03 Application to modify Definitive map at Firsdow (Roman Road) this has been turned down and no appeal has been made. Therefore case closed.

3.2 WC 29/01 Proposed Diversion of Tisbury 65 and 69. This application to divert these paths has been withdrawn.

3.3 WC 04/02 Diversion of Wylde 1 and 9 (parts of) Order made to divert these paths.

3.4 The Planning Inspectorate. 26/02 Modification order Broad Chalke 43 (the Cut). Hearing set for August 4th 2010 in Broad Chalke to determine order.

3.5 WC 04/03 Application to add path at Middle Woodford from church to river (to draw water!). Comments by 16th April.

3.6 WC 23/03 Diversion of West Tisbury 12 (part) Order made 25/03. Nick reported in November that the new line was

preferable as it avoided a very wet area and gave a better surface to walk on.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nick reported that:

1. the Landford Walking Group had expressed their thanks for the new bridge and stile on FP26 (see Feb heavy gang above). **Post meeting Note** - Nick has received a letter of thanks from a member of Fovant Parish Council thanking him and us for the work the heavy gang did at Fovant in March.
2. he has been spending money left in the budget at this time of year on several resurfacing projects including bridleways at Laverstock and Swallowcliffe. The work on Dinton 14 (see matters arising) was also funded by this money.
3. Pitton and Farley Parish Council have surveyed the paths in the parish and have sent reports on them to Wiltshire Council and Nick.
4. an ongoing reorganisation of the Highways Department within Wiltshire Council may have an affect on the workings of the Rights of Way team.

Following discussions between Richard Broadhead ROW Manager and Alan Roberts Ramblers Area Footpath Secretary, regarding action on crop blocking this year, members are encouraged to continue to report occurrences especially when there is no obvious alternative route. The ROW team have been asked to respond to these particular problems as quickly as possible.

Patricia reported that she has had two phone calls from potential new members of the light gang. She also reported that on a long walk she recently completed from Shaftesbury to Salisbury via the Ebble Valley she had found no real problems on the rights of way she used.

Graham will try to arrange to go out with members who have reported way-marking problems and correct the omissions. The issue of getting more durable and usable access signs still has to be resolved.

The footpath committee were sad to hear of the illness of Gordon Norris, former footpath secretary and member of the heavy gang. A get well card was signed by members and will be sent to Gordon.

6. NEXT MEETINGS Dates for the next two meeting were confirmed

Monday May 10th and Monday July 26th both at 2.00 PM in the Wilton Depot Meeting Room.