

SOUTH WILTS GROUP RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION

Footpath committee Meeting 14th September 2009

Present - N Cowen, G Read, M Callow, N Martin

Apologies - N Dunnell, J Rolt, P Dashwood, U Milner-White, J Hawkins

VOLUNTEER WORKING PARTIES

Heavy -July	Winterbourne FP 7- 2 Kissing Gates installed	20 hours
August	Landford FP 23- 7 metre bridge installed	30 hours
Light - July	Woodford 5. - 100m cleared	14 hours
August	Downton 62. - 100m cleared	14 hours

1. MATTERS ARISING

WC 19/06/09 A resident of Firsdown has applied to have the definitive map modified to make the byway Firsdown 5 known as the 'roman road' re-designated as a footpath. This application is accompanied by a large amount of paperwork. John Hawkins who is familiar with the area and the on going issues involved will read the claim and advise the committee whether any action is needed. In the absence of John, those present discussed this again and agreed that no comment would be made.

2. AGENDA ITEMS

2.1 Footpath Reports - 9028 - 9032

9028	24/07/2009	Alvediston	FP 1	967 254	P Dashwood	Dangerous stile
9029	28/07/2009	Bishopstone	FP	070 243	M Hayter	Broken Stiles
9030	28/07/2009	Wilsford cum Lake	FP 7	132 387	V Sparrow	Stile Broken
9031	12/08/2009	Tollard Royal	FP 18	941 178 - 928 175	M Callow	Diversion not way marked
9032	28/08/2009	Fovant	BR 8	002 282	G Norris	Fingerpost obscured

3. CORRESPONDENCE AND AGREED RESPONSES

3.1 WC 06/07/09 Newton Toney - Order made to add footpath 13 to Definitive map.

3.2 WC 08/07/09 Amesbury BR 29 (part) Order confirmed following public hearing.

3.3 WC 20/07/09 Temporary closure of Downton 18 for building to take place.

3.4 + 3.5 WC 28/07/09 Proposed Diversion of Donhead St Mary FP 30 (2 sections) These have been discussed with the farmer by Nicky and Martin. No objection will be raised.

3.6 WC 13/08/09 Claimed BR at Winterbourne Dauncey - This was turned down but following appeal S of S have instructed WC to make an order objections can be made up to 02/10. No comment will be made.

3.7 WC 19/08/09 Proposed diversion of BRs 1 and 9 Wylve comment by 25/09. The proposal would move the bridleway from the middle of the field to round the edge of the field. While no objection was thought necessary, the point was made that often a field edge path becomes poorly maintained. It was agreed that a comment would be made to ask Wiltshire Council to impress on the land owner the need for regular trimming of hedges and cutting of vegetation.

3.8 WC 21/08/09 Proposed diversion of Redlynch FP 17 - Owner has discussed this with Norman and has agreed to maintain path. The diversion would remove 2 stiles and does not adversely affect walk. No objection made.

3.9 WC 25/08/09 Proposed diversion of BR 19 Whiteparish - This is a proposal that would reopen a bridleway which has been blocked for sometime. Comments by 02/10. Discussion took place regarding this path the true line of which has been un-walkable for years. The proposed diversion is currently being used by walkers and horse riders and while it may not be so visually pleasant it does avoid a very steep climb up a bank (muddy in winter) so taking all aspects into

consideration this was thought to be the best solution to a long standing problem. It was noted that if this diversion is confirmed the bridleway will move into the adjoining parish, West Dean.

3.10 WC 10/09/09 Proposed Diversion of West Tisbury FP 12 - comments by 09/10. This proposal moves the path away from the house and stables and the new line avoids a very wet boggy area and is in every way a better route so no objection will be made.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Graham has raised the need for better quality Access signs with Alan Roberts who has said that he will raise this with Richard Broadhead when they next meet.

Nick reported that work was progressing at Semley. He has purchased some gates to replace some stiles and David Lacey had been helping Alex with some surveying which has identified priorities. September heavy gang will be working in this area.

On a less positive note he reported that the council have imposed a freeze on recruitment which will prevent the filling of a vacancy for a surveyor in the county.

6. **NEXT MEETING** **Monday November 30th 2009 at 2.00 PM in the Wilton Depot Meeting Room.**