

## Footpath Officer's Report 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015

### Reports from the Public

Following a further email from Goodrich PC regarding footpath WC94, which crosses Losito Stud, I set out to walk the path. I found all stiles to be in good condition and although the ground was very wet underfoot the path was not obstructed in any way. However the property owner made it quite clear that he objected to my presence on his land and demanded to see my id (which I refused) and took photos of me. I believe other walkers have received similar or even worse treatment.

I received a report (via the Parish website!) that path WC60 (which runs from the corner of Ashes Lane opposite the old Chapel down to Whitchurch Primary School) was blocked by a wire fence. Upon inspection it appears that the complainant was not keeping to the footpath (which is not blocked and is easily walkable) but was instead climbing over a farm gate to exit the footpath. This gate has now been topped with 3 foot of chicken wire, making this impossible. I explained to the complainant where the footpath runs.

I received an email from the owner of The Cover complaining that two conifer trees forming part of her boundary fence had been felled across her patio, causing some structural damage. She wanted to know if the 'work' had been undertaken as part of our footpath maintenance (as in the past I'd asked her to cut back her hedge which was blocking the footpath (WC67) adjacent to her property). I inspected the footpath, and noted the two felled conifers. I responded that the path was clear, and that the two trees (when standing) were in no way blocking the path, and that the PC had not authorised anyone to cut them down.

### Status of paths

Of the paths inspected so far, 18 require maintenance work and 8 are blocked.  
The blocked paths are as follows:

WC32 - Blocked at Little Mascot and at Goldway farm.  
WC47 - Blocked at Rockleech  
WC54 - Blocked from junction with WC57 down to Sandiway Lane  
WC55 - Blocked from Sandiway Lane by wooden / wire fence and 6ft hedge.  
WC73 - Blocked by overhanging growth and rubble.  
WC74 - Blocked by several fallen trees.  
WC95 - Blocked by hedgerow at junction with lane opposite Tuck Mill.  
WC96 - Blocked by domestic fence

The paths which are passable but which require some maintenance work are:

GN1 - Fence falling across path and encroaching undergrowth by Kennel Cottage  
GN5 - Partially blocked by fallen tree near junction with lane near Sellarsbrook Park  
GN9 - Stile needs repairing/replacing  
WC1 - Overgrown between Leisure Park and Ferrie Inn. Finger post at Church needs replacing.  
WC24 - Path from Quarry Road to Yew Tree Cottage is in need of some serious maintenance.  
WC35 - Overgrown between Lanivet and Pear Tree.  
WC37 - The 'dog leg' that runs down the side of Greston to the main Doward road needs clearing as well as south from WC36.  
WC38 - Needs trimming between WC37 and WC34  
WC46 - Electric fence across stile  
WC49 - Hedges need trimming either side  
WC50 - Badly eroded in places  
WC52 - Undergrowth needs clearing between boundary fences.

WC68 - In places the wooden steps have broken and need to be replaced  
WC70 - Tree across path  
WC79 - Unmarked and not found  
WC81 - Junction with Wye View Lane blocked and signs obscured.  
WC89 - Finger Post needs fixing  
WC102 - From the U71230 road access footbridge the first stock fence has no stile.

The Lengthsman has the following tasks on his list:

WC1 – Replace Finger post at St Dubricius Church and clear undergrowth.  
WC24 – Clear undergrowth from path  
WC37 - clear undergrowth and overhanging hedges from Doward road up to Leaping Stocks road  
WC41 – Clear undergrowth and fallen trees from path  
WC52 - clear undergrowth from path.