

Footpath report for Estates meeting of 14th November 2024

FP 1 at Farley Green This footpath which originally ran diagonally across a small rectangular paddock now accompanies the hedge around two sides of the field. This permissive path alternative seems to have been accepted by all regular users.

Meeting with PRoW Officer on 24th September

Hilary, Julian Wilson and I spent a morning with James Pickerin on 24th September walking several footpaths in the village. It is hoped that funding for improvements to the network will become available under the Thriving Communities Fund or a similar scheme. Various possibilities were discussed. These included

- i) expansion of the Dogs Trust Scheme to provide more dog bins and signage,
- ii) replacement of several stiles with kissing gates,
- iii) repairing worn footbridges,
- iv) providing hard surface on sections of footpaths/bridleways which are particularly challenging in wet weather e.g. BOAT 31 and FP 24.,
- v) and strengthening the collapsing bank on FP 24 (Coltsfoot Green to Cloak Lane). This is now a matter of urgency because the winter rains are likely to cause further deterioration. The first step is to find out who is responsible for maintenance of the track (if anyone). PRoW look after the surface of any footpath but only for a width of no more than two metres. It is known that at least one local landowner has access rights.

Hedges bordering footpaths.

Can we thank those landowners who have already carried out the winter trim and remind those who have yet to do so of their responsibilities.

Roger Medley 7.11.24