Parish Council Footpath Report

20th July 2017

The sterling work on footpath maintenance continues, with the footpath wardens managing to keep on top of the vigorous vegetation growth this year.

My thanks go to Hew Helps for doing several hours of mowing with his quad and topper along field margin paths, the permissive access path at Home Farm, and also along Cross Lane and Harris Lane.

Lloyd Cockbain has done sterling work in mowing his path alongside the Ram Alley road, and I am also grateful to Mark and James dePass for running their topper over the paths on their land. Mark has promised to mow the path running along towards The Avenue as soon as there is a break in the harvesting period.

Simon Turton has rebuilt and improved the stile between his garden and the Manor paddock, and has added a gripping pole to hold onto. This stile has a high top bar which is needed to keep the cattle in, and Simon has offered the use of the wooden gate further down the paddock to walkers who find the stile too high.

Nick Sharpe has offered to be the warden for the path up onto Milton Hill from the Avenue. This has become overgrown. I am hoping to mow the lower section this coming weekend. The remainder of the track can be cleared with a small working party in the next week or two.

Chris Elliott is still persuading Chris Brennan to bring another load of planings to complete the bridleway improvements. We hope this will be accomplished in the near future.

As mentioned in Chris Elliott’s final report, I look forward to the reinstatement of the field margin footpath widths to 1.5m of walkable ground.

Thanks also go to Sarah Ensor who has had the track mown up to the Bruce Arms, and to David Butler who keeps his field margin tracks and the adjoining bridleway in excellent condition.