

## Easton Royal Parish Council

Rights of Way Report - 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021

My thanks go to Colin Sibun for very promptly clearing six smallish trees and branches brought down by the recent storm in Harris Lane. Colin has mentioned that there are several dead/dying trees on Harris Lane which would benefit from felling before they fall in future storms. This could be a task for a volunteer's working party.

Other tracks appear to be clear, with no recent fallen trees.

EROY 22 - Paul and I met John Summers from Pewsey Vale Running Club yesterday (29<sup>th</sup> November 2021) to discuss the use of the track for the Terminator Run. John agreed that the track needs repair to the very muddy areas and PVRC have kindly decided to avoid using it for their planned run in February.

John suggested that we should apply for some funds from PVRC's charity funds to help with the task and he thought it possible that they could also provide some volunteers to help move aggregate to the track.

The Rough and Tumble run does not appear to be taking place this year.

I will be contacting Stephen Leonard about planings/aggregate for the track. There should be some in storage at Easton Farm, as promised by Stephen earlier this year.

EROY 5 - Broken gate. I have asked Stephen Leonard to supply a new hanging post. Once we have sourced this, I have a team ready to replace it.

EROY 2 – Path at the bottom of the village leading on to Shepherd's Steps or to Milton Lilbourne.

It has been brought to my attention by a villager that the side gate for the bridlepath/footpath, installed by ERPC volunteers alongside the main farmgate, has recently been used on numerous occasions by a farm quad vehicle. During this time the main farm gate has been locked. The purpose for installing the side gate was for the benefit of horses and walkers.

The farm gate is now unlocked, and hopefully farm vehicle will refrain from using the side gate in future.

I am grateful to the farmers for respecting the 1.5 metre widths on field edge footpaths during autumn winter cultivations and for keeping the paths in good walkable condition. Thanks also to Graham and Ben Cooper for repairing the stile from their water meadow onto Byway EROY 14.

Pewsey Vale has been awarded the Walkers Are Welcome Accreditation. This is a national scheme to encourage walking/tourism in the Vale, and Easton Royal tracks are included in the recommended walking routes.

I have been approached by Susie Brew to set up a more formal Rights of Way/walking group in the village, to encourage walkers and to help with path maintenance. One of the advantages offered is access to insurance for working parties through PCAP and Walkers are Welcome. I think it would be worthwhile to follow this up.

Beverley Helps

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