

King's Sutton Annual Parish Meeting 20th April 2016

Rights of Way Report

Average sort of year; some good dry walking in the summer but plenty of mud many other times. The meadows by the railway getting flooded and not just in the middle of winter.

No other great problems this year just a few minor ones that should be unnecessary.

Electric fences caused minor adjustments.

AS10 and AS12:

A start has been made on changing the course of the Black brook and the building of the bund which will save the houses at the end of Wales Street from flooding. This will slightly affect the footpaths AS10 and AS12 leading to the rail station.

AS10:

The part of this path that goes between Banner/CALA Homes estate and the ditch has a dangerous drop on the ditch side. It has taken most of the year emailing and phoning to get a start made to get it filled in. Some has been done at the Banbury Lane end but in spite of promises to finish the job by 8th April most of the length has still to be done. So care still has to be taken on the ditch side of the path.

Anne Burrell my new assistant who joined me last year is doing a good job assisting in keeping a check on the Rights of Way.

She is doing her best to solve the problem of dog mess with notices etc. She deserves a medal for picking up some of the dog muck bags. I do not intend to pick up any bags myself. It is a great shame that there are filthy people about who leave this mess.

I hope that someone gets caught and is heavily fined.

Note also that dogs should have been chipped a couple of weeks ago and owners can be fined if they are not done.

The parish leaflet showing the paths in the parish is nearly out of copies and is needing a little updating before a new printing. Anne is the leading light in this.

The leaflet has sold well since the price was put down to nil!

Stiles are a barrier to the elderly, less able, parents with young children and people with large dogs.

It is the Northamptonshire Rights of Way Office's plan to get rid of stiles and replace them with gates, kissing gates or even just gaps when fields are arable and do not have farm animals in them. There are many gates, kissing gates, and gaps already in this parish and it would be nice to get other stiles changed to help this situation.

One last thing:

Deddington has a map in the market place giving the names of all the fields in its parish.

Some while ago I thought that this would be a good idea for King's Sutton parish.

I made a small start and a friend did a lot more. Unfortunately he passed away a while ago.

It is quite a task but extremely interesting.

Anyone like to step in and help?

Dave Hall

Parish Paths Warden