

## Report to Sandhurst Parish Council

**Date** 7 September 2020

**Subject** Progress report on Public Field Footpath Survey and other matters reported to the Public Footpath Officer

**Purpose** To give members an up to date report on the aim to achieve all footpaths being open and easy to follow and other allied matters.

**Report by** John Robinson

### Recommendations

Members are asked

- 1) To note report and take the action necessary indicated by initials in heavy type that has to be taken by individuals.
- 2) To make comments about any matter as soon as possible on any item of concern to RD or RE.
- 3) To note that a further kissing gate has been ordered at a cost of £150.97.
- 4) To approve the continuation of the Chairman and Vice Chairman taking any action necessary in these uncertain times of Covid-19 restrictions.
- 5) to agree to improvements being made to the three bar wooden fence to make it a stile.
- 6) To decide action that should be taken regarding stiles that need attention which are partly on County Council land but are rented out on one year tenancies.
- 7) Footpath Guide. Members are asked to give guidance.
- 8) To suggest ways in which improvements can be made in 2021 regarding planting of maize and still keeping field footpaths in good condition.

### All details as at 28 August 2020

#### Finance 2020/21

Detail	Already paid	Work approved	Donation	Balance
£500 + £257.91 carried over from 19/20				757.91
Erection of Kissing Gate north of Ronson's	50.00			707.91
Erection Of Kissing Gate Cricket Club	50.00			657.91
Donation Kingsholm CC			50.00	707.91
Donation Mrs PW			100.00	807.91
Permissive Path ESA 23		140.00		667.91
New Kissing Gate ordered		150.91		517.00

Erection of Kissing gates 2No

100.00

417.00

### Kissing Gates year 19/20

The kissing gate to the north of Ronson's has been inspected. No further action is necessary ie. the cattle proof fence was deemed to be cattle proof.

### Land to the South of the Parish

#### ESA 23 at first hedge in from the Pound (Permissive path)

JK has agreed to a permissive path being made duplicating the route. The position of the stile to be inserted in an existing three bar fence has been marked by JK and agreed. The stile has been designed and the cost of £140 including contingencies. The design was approved at your June meeting and has been sent to JK together with a letter signed by RD. If no communication has been received from JK by Thursday 3 September it will be assumed that JK is in agreement with the contents of the letter.

It will then be necessary **for a letter to be sent to SB by our clerk** to carry out the work at a cost of no more than £140 which includes £20 contingencies. However work **must not** be ordered until a replacement gate has been installed on the bridge over Broadboard Brook which is being constructed by PROW's contractor. HG has recently indicated that this work at Broadboard bridge is expected to commence in September. **JPR to keep SPC's clerk informed.**

#### Relocation of ESA23 at the junction of Moat Farm land to JK's land

No further information has been received by PROW from the County Council's Property Dept. This subject was included in the supplementary notes which I sent to RD and RE on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July. It was agreed that necessary work to indicate the route ESA 23 be undertaken.

It is my understanding that the tenancy of the land attached to the County Council's Moat Farm is on a one year basis. I therefore recommend, as both SPC and PROW are in agreement with the footpath now used by walkers should continue to be so, that the present three bar wooden fence be supplemented with a crosspiece to make the crossing a stile by SPC. It is suggested that any materials necessary, if not hand, should be purchased by SB or myself and reimbursement made.

### Work outstanding during November 2019

a) The stile on the Severn Way ESA 1A between Moat Farm land and JK's land was reported as being unsafe. RD now farms this land. This is also a suggested site for a new kissing gate which should be supplied by PROW as agreed in previous correspondence. No further progress made.

b) HG has been contacted regarding the gated entrance to ESA 19 from Mussel End as requested by members. No comment has been received to date.

### Waymark Posts

Work is still being undertaken on erecting further signs and posts. All this work is undertaken by volunteers.

## Sites for new kissing gates 2020/21

Members have agreed to consider the following sites for the erection of new kissing gates.

1) ESA 13 The kissing gate between Kingsholm CC and Mrs. JW's land has been erected. **PC** will report on whether an invoice has been received from PROW for the supply of the kissing gate. The donation from Mrs. JW has been received via RE I believe.

2) ESA 31 at the existing stile from the garden of Giles Cottage owned WR into County Council land farmed by RD. WR's verbal permission has been obtained via SB. Members will recall that HG (PROW) has said that she should be able to fund the purchase of this kissing gate. HG is still trying to contact Jill M (GCC Property Dept.)

3) ESA1A Severn Way at the existing stile at the boundary of JK's land and the County Council land now farmed by RD. It will be necessary for **JPR** to obtain JK's permission. Members will recall that HG should be able to fund the purchase of this kissing gate. HG is still trying to contact Jill M (GCC Property Dept.). This stile is mentioned above. The stile needs attention. **Members** guidance needed.

4) ESA 25 Gardiner's Farm to River Severn. The first stile 200m in from Sandhurst Lane the stile is in need of attention as reported last meeting. **Members'** guidance needed. Land on a one year tenancy.

5) ESA 29 & 30 Sandhurst Lane opp ESA 24/25 to Moat Farm. The gate used at this entrance has been reported as difficult to use. It can now be opened and shut more easily. A rope has been added to the gate. A kissing gate would be very much better. However it is in a position directly off Sandhurst Lane where PROW would be expected to install the kissing gate. **Members** guidance needed. Land is on a one year tenancy.

## Complaints

### Complaints received in January 2020

**RD** to report the present position regarding signage of Bridleway ESA2 needed after his meeting with Richard Downton.

### Preparing for 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 and Anomalies that exist on the present DFP

All as last report.

No further action has taken place due to lockdown COVID 19. **JPR** to follow up with Alan B (PROW)

### Comments received in April 2020

ESA 31 has been cleared throughout by SB/WR at Giles Cottage. The stile onto Sandhurst Lane has been 'unearthed' by the owner. Sandhurst Lane side of stile has been cleared by volunteers and this month further clearance was undertaken by WR it is thought.

## Comments received in June/July/August

ESA7 Sandhurst Lane to Wallsworth. Two bridges need attention. No further action by PROW. Contractor appointed by PROW. HG expects this work will be undertaken in September.

### Footpath Guide

At last month's meeting mention was made that a plan and explanation of a good walk should be made. A good walk exists from the church car park on ESA 5 to top of Sandhurst hill, stopping at the seat erected in remembrance of Mr. Lyons to admire the view of the Cotswolds etc. visit the site of the 'beacon' fire 1911, use the seat by the Trig point admire the best view in the benefice of Wales, the Malverns, and the Severn Valley, return via ESA 2 to Brawn Farm and by lane to the church. **DW** agreed to see if anyone could draw up a leaflet.

### Rodway Lane ESA 18 Bridle Way and restricted byway

Comments have been received by myself and HG regarding the two five bar gates placed across ESA 18, the separate kissing gate, and the separate opening gate and the difficulty in reaching the old ferry landing point on the River Severn. All are being dealt with I believe by GCC.

### Kissing Gate and signpost left in field connected with Rodway Lane

RD agreed to take this gate (which is one SPC paid for and erected 3 years ago) into Barrow Farm for storage. **Members** are asked to decide in what position.

The signpost should be erected by volunteers. Any materials necessary reimbursement made by SPC. **Members** to decide.

### Non availability of public field footpaths due to the planting of maize

Four footways have been blocked by growing crops and weeds. Two remain blocked by maize. This is a pity as walkers are able to notice where footpaths exist and can make a mental note of their whereabouts for future use. **Members** are asked to suggest ways in which this does not happen next year.

### ESA1A Severn Way Tree fallen across the footway

This was removed by GF and JR but the branches remain on site.

### ESA11 Sandhurst Lane to ESA 10 through churchyard

The bridge at the eastern end of the churchyard has been brilliantly cleared of all foliage by SB which makes the footpath much more inviting.

### Conclusion

Members have to deal with a lot of items which I hope will get less once HG has managed to contact the County Council's Property Dept.