

# Duffield Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Footpaths Committee held on Tuesday 18 November 2003 at 7.15pm in the Committee Room, Hazelwood Road, Duffield

Present: Chairman: Councillor Mrs P Buckle  
Vice Chairman: Councillor F G Rice  
Councillors: Rowlands, Sartin, Storer, A & Mrs B Woodings

Also in attendance: P Boardman, D J Crowson, T Hodson, C Tonks & Mrs M K Tonks  
Mr J Farrow of Holloway Road (Part)  
D R Bostock – Parish Clerk  
Mrs S Bygraves – Assistant Clerk/Treasurer

Apologies: None.

### **FP/30/03 Colour Works Site**

Prior to the meeting, Mr J Farrow of Holloway Road reported that Footpath No's 10 and 12 were now in an almost impassable state, due to the activities of the various Contractors operating in the area.

**Resolved:** that the Clerk makes urgent representations to the County Council, in order that the above paths can be restored to a walkable condition for parents and children using these paths for access to the local schools etc.

### **FP/31/03 Minutes**

**Resolved:** that the Minutes of the Footpaths Committee held on 18 June 2003, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **FP/32/03 Matters Arising**

**27/03** the Clerk confirmed that he had advised the Chairman of Little Eaton Parish Council of the need to provide a footpath sign near the Sub-Station on Eaton Bank and also mentioned the derelict seat in the same area.

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### **FP/33/03 Annual Footpath Reports 2002/03/04**

The Clerk advised members that he had checked and actioned some items in the annual reports and that the following matters remain to be dealt with:

South East Section: Councillor Hancock & Mr J Raw

**Footpath No. 36**

1. From Bridge over River Derwent: *place on annual clearance schedule and replace stile into field.*
2. Field with railway embankment: *repaint anglers sign and replace step to stile.*
3. Passage under railway track: *repair sign, repair both stiles and move the largest rocks on the path to provide a more even surface.*
4. Jumps Field: *additional step required on the stile.*
5. Ploughed Field: *additional step required on the West side of the footbridge.*
6. Path at foot of wooded slope: *remove two fallen trees from the path and place on annual clearance schedule.*
7. Path from edge of wood to Parish Boundary: *new stile required near Burley Hill Farm.*

South West Section: D J Crowson

FP 7. Hedge at (33454320) at Wirksworth Road is obliterating stile – *hedge now cut, sign needs cleaning and painting, stile at (33404315) needs the step repairing.*

FP 8. Stile at (33034350) has barbed wire attached to the top of the post and hawthorn is encroaching from the other side – *hawthorn cleared, barbed wire made safe, stile at this location and the one just before it require replacing.*

FP 30. Stile at (33354230) still has barbed wire on the footrail on the uphill side - *barbed wire made safe and gives better grip on foot-rail.*

FP 31. On the post by the stile at (33054170) is a way-marking sign “Amber Valley No.10” pointing to the right and there is no footpath to the right – *the sign indicates Amber Valley Routeway No.10 which follows the highway at this point and is therefore correct.*

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FP 34. Questions the need for the existence of this footpath – *it is considered that this path is essential for public safety, as there is no safe alternative for pedestrians to avoid the Burley Lane junction with the A6, which is devoid of*

*footways. The footpath also seems to feed an access to Allestree Park from Burley Lane.*

FP 35. The drainage at the stile at (34254170) is still bad, a way-marker at this point would also be useful. The path is blocked at (34304200) by an electric fence – *new stile required and stone to be spread in the wet spot, new way-markers provided. No evidence of the electric fence has been seen recently, stile cleared of hawthorn and replacement sign required at this point.*

FP 39. Enclosed section of path from Broadway, in a SW direction is becoming overgrown – *DCC have been requested to serve a overhanging hedge notice on No.35 Broadway.*

FP 42. Confusion with the footpath line between the stiles at (33504260) and (33554255), is exacerbated by contrary signs and incorrect alignment in the Duffield book – *Metal finger sign on Cumberhills Lane requires realigning to point to the first stile, way-markers on subsequent stiles are not strictly correct, however they all point to the next stile which resolves any confusion.*

The pavement on the NE side of Broadway remains in a very poor condition – *a new letter of complaint has been sent to the County Highways Dept.*

*North West Section: P Boardman and T Hodson*

FP 2. Signpost on Wirksworth Road is obscured. Hedges both sides need to be cut. Path is becoming eroded – *depression requires stoning up again, branches need cutting back around the sign and the area needs litter picking. DCC have been requested to serve a overhanging hedge notice on No. 10 Fairlawns.*

FP 10. Rutted from water run-off, water needs to be dealt with in some way, hedges at the top of the path need cutting back – *broken CI finger post requires replacing, bottom section of the path to be tarmacadamed to resolve the water scouring problem.*

FP 11. Hedges need cutting back, especially by the Meadows School playing fields – *DCC have been requested to serve a overhanging hedge notice on The Meadows School.*

FP 13. Overgrown again – *now clear.*

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FP 14. Section near the White House is becoming overgrown. Brook Walk section needs weeding and overhanging branches cutting back, the old retaining wall needs monitoring – *DCC requested to serve a overhanging hedge notice on the White House, Snake Lane, Clerk to arrange for the urgent repair of river wall in Brook Walk. Brook Walk to be weed killed and shrub area to be cleared of weeds and overgrowth. DCC to be requested to*

*take decisive action regarding the dangerous wall retaining the garden of 55 Riverside Cottages.*

FP 16. The stile at the parish Boundary (327441) needs way-marking – *way-marking carried out.*

FP 19. The two stiles at (332440) require repairing or replacing – *repair step and replace stiles as soon as possible.*

FP 21. Badly overgrown in some sections and some rubbish deposited again – *clear large rocks away, otherwise clear.*

FP 25. Sign required at junction with FP 26 – *way-marks and three way sign required, together with way-marks at the Chevin Road end.*

FP 26. Overgrown on section from Golf Lane to the A6 – *footpath clear, clean sign and renew Avenue Road, nameplate.*

Stiles Walk – tarmac damaged by tree roots – *repair scheme to be prepared.*

**Resolved:** the Footpath Advisors help with obtaining the details of Land Ownership where new stiles are required.

**FP/34/03      2003/2004 Budgetary Control**

The Clerk reported the budgetary control situation regarding the Footpath Committee's budget of £3,000.00 for the current year, as follows:

	£
Budget 2003/04	3,000.00
DCC/Minor Maintenance Fund	430.00
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Total Income	3,430.00
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Footpath Clearing 2003/04 to date	489.00
Stiles Walk	16.00
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Remaining Budget available	£2,925.00
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**FP/35/03      2004/2005 Budget Requirement**

The Clerk reported that the definitive footpath claim for Cockpit Lane had been approved by the County Council, however a decision regarding the Chapel Street to the Kings Head PH footpath will not be taken until 19 January 2003, due to a late objection from a resident of Chapel Street.

As it was probable that work could now commence to surface Cockpit Lane the Clerk suggested a budget of £5,000 be requested for the forthcoming year.

**Resolved:** that a Footpath Committee Budget of £5,000 for the 2004/2005 financial year be requested from the Parish Council.

**FP/36/03      Stiles Walk Improvement Scheme**

The Clerk reported that the two Land Registry searches in this vicinity, had only generated information regarding two different flats in the Duffield Court complex and was therefore of no help in establishing the river bank ownership.

The Clerk reported that Stiles Walk had been cleared of surface vegetation and that he had surveyed the site for the proposed improvement scheme.

He therefore recommended that a contract for the following work be let as soon as possible, in order to make the path safe:

*Remove four trees and their roots on the River Ecclesbourne side of the path.*

*Remove three tree roots from Network Rail land.*

*Remove existing seat and litter bin.*

*Cut back conifers associated with Duffield Court.*

*Excavate and reconstruct 100 sq m of footpath.*

*Replace 50m of pcc edging kerbs.*

*Clear, sweep and weedkill the area.*

*Rescue the existing green chain link fencing, replacing concrete posts as required.*

*Remove vegetation from the fence and maintain in future.*

*Provide and fix two new seats and a litter bin on the river side of the path, together with a section of special fencing at this point.*

**Resolved:** that the Clerk invites quotations for the above work as a matter of urgency.

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**FP/37/03      Grounds Maintenance Contract**

In order to increase funding available to support the employment of the Village Tidyman, the Clerk suggested that the Footpath Maintenance element of the Grounds Maintenance Contract be taken in house for the coming year and reviewed again for the new contract in the following year.

**Resolved:** that the Footpath Maintenance element of the Grounds Maintenance Contract be taken in house in the coming year and removed from the Contract.

**FP/38/03      Minor Maintenance Agreement with the County Council**

The Clerk confirmed that he had received the full £430.00 grant for 2002/03 and advised the County Council that the Parish Council would be claiming the full amount in 2003/04.

**FP/39/03 Amber Valley and Erewash Walking Festival 2003**

The Clerk reported on a letter from Groundwork Erewash Valley, thanking the Clerk personally for the valuable contribution to their walking programme.

He further confirmed that the Duffield Walk was held on 20 September 2003 in good weather, with 17 adults, 3 children and three dogs taking part.

**FP/40/03 Footway/Cycleway**

Members debated Councillor England's proposal to create a footway/cycleway on the existing footway between Duffield and Allestree, along the A6 footway.

The Chairman referred to the Meadows School's interest in joint footways and cycleways in the Parish, in order to reduce the use of cars.

**Resolved:** that the Clerk advises the County Council of the Duffield to Allestree Cycleway proposal

**FP/41/03 Public Footpaths 23 & 24**

The Clerk circulated a negative response from the County Council regarding the provision of pedestrian safety barriers, where these two footpaths join Golf Lane.

**Resolved:** that the Clerk circulates a copy of the above letter to John Milner the Golf Club Secretary, for his comment.

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**FP/42/03 Other Business**

a) the Clerk circulated a letter from Captain Chris Garner (Retired) RE, seeking support for a proposal to obtain additional land from the Derbyshire Building Society, in order to facilitate a permanent improvement to the Junction of Cockpit Lane with the A6.

b) the Clerk, Councillor Rice and Mr Tonks all had received requests for improvements to the two stiles by the Railway on Footpath No. 9, as they are too high and difficult to negotiate by the elderly and disabled.

**Resolved:**

a) that the Cockpit Lane matter above, be reported to the next Parish Council Meeting on 9 December 2003.

b) that the Clerk inspects the stiles by the railway on Footpath No. 9 and takes the appropriate action.

**FP/43/03      Date of Next Meeting**

**Resolved:** that the next meeting of the Footpaths Committee will take place on Tuesday 16 March 2004 at 7.15pm.

There being no other business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10pm.

Signed ----- Date -----

# Duffield Parish Council

## Terms of Reference of the Footpaths Committee

1. The Committee is responsible for carrying out the policy related to Footpaths and the inspection of pavements, within the Parish of Duffield, as determined by the Parish Council and any other matters referred to it by the Council.

The policy includes maintaining all footpaths in a usable condition, ie clearly defined, free from man made obstruction and not overgrown by vegetation.

2. The Committee shall ensure that all paths are walked at least once each year and a report on their condition shall be made to the Council together with a report on the monitoring of the condition of pavements.

3. The Committee shall have delegated powers to direct the activities of any Contractors including the Grounds Maintenance Contractor, who are engaged on any authorised works. Instructions to Contractors will normally be issued by the Clerk. In exceptional circumstances, instructions may be issued by the Chairman of the Committee and / or the Chairman of the Council.
4. The Chairman is responsible for reconciling annually that there is sufficient funding allocated in the budget plans set by the Council to meet the objectives set out in paragraph 1.
5. The Committee shall be responsible for the management of the Public Footpath Minor Maintenance scheme, in partnership with Derbyshire County Council.

Reviewed at the Footpaths Committee held on the 17 June 2003.