



*PLUMPTON
PARISH COUNCIL*

Footpath Committee
2 November 2011

Committee Members

Sue Akers – Chairman of Footpath Committee

Clare Drew – Rights of Way Officer

Catherine Jackson – VAP and Monday Group representative

Report

A meeting took place on 25 October to discuss with Clare Drew the “Heath Robinson” measures that a tenant farmer has put in place in order to keep his sheep from straying onto the railway line and nearby roads. Some of these measures are causing problems for walkers because the gates etc., are not easy to open and in one case wire netting has been used and this is a potential risk to dogs.

The route walked was from Percy’s Patch heading east towards Novington Lane. The problem area, identified by footpath number, were the junction 5c/8a, 5b, 5a, 15, 26a, 9, and 6a. All of these paths are in East Chiltington but it was felt very strongly that because Plumpton has such a good network of paths that link very quickly into neighbouring villages it was appropriate for these problems to be reported by Plumpton Parish Council.

Actions

CD agreed to take all the points raised back to a colleague at ESCC (Chloe Rowling) with the suggestion that she makes contact with the tenant farmer, Network Rail and The Monday Group to try and obtain agreement as to the best methods to be used that would benefit both the farmer and walkers.

The following footpaths requiring attention were also reported to **CD** for action.

Streat 18 – loose boards on footbridge over stream

Streat 21/Westmeston 19b – Step stile and dog latch not in use – suggest this is moved to another location.

Plumpton 25./East Chiltington 21 – stile and sign post been ripped out.

Streat 30 – barbed wire lying on the ground near the bridge over the stream

Plumpton 17a – Suggest that decking boards be put in place to overcome the problem of flooding at the bottom of the footbridge leading to the station

Streat 20a/30 – sign post on the ground (The Ridge)

If walkers wish to report any damage to stiles or overgrown footpaths they are encouraged to use the Rights of Way website and use the interactive map which gives details of location (by number), whether there is a stile or a bridge on the path and a unique reference number which will help to identify the footpath.