

Carlton Footpath Group

Annual Report for 2021-2

All public RoW in the Parish are free from obstruction, in good condition and are clearly well-trodden. Many waymark posts are rotting, and several have been pushed or fallen over: the LCC RoW Team will be asked whether this area is scheduled for review.

Regrettably, dog fouling remains frequent in spite of exhortations in Carlton News and an article about the serious harm caused to local livestock by *Toxocara*. A Parish Councillor removed a dump of more than 20 plastic bags containing dog faeces from under a bush at the junction of footpaths S77 and S68, and similar deposits have been made in the churchyard.

Concerns are regularly expressed about herds of lively and curious beef cattle, particularly when they are first let out in the Spring. These animals may attack dogs, but are usually wary of humans. Farmers are entitled to graze these animals in fields crossed by public rights of way: dog walkers are advised to keep away, or to let their dog loose if approached.

Thanks to Cllr Bertie Harrison-Rushton, the LCC Members Highways Fund, Market Bosworth PC and local landowners, three stiles on footpath S69 across Silk Hill have been replaced by two kissing gates and one hand gate. One Carlton resident who cannot climb stiles but who regularly walks to Mkt Bosworth has expressed appreciation of these works which have enabled her to walk directly to Back Lane instead of having to detour round Barton Road. Two residents of Mkt Bosworth have also expressed their appreciation. An article is being written for Aspect.

John Piggon has resigned, having served as Chairman of this Group since 2008, and I thank him for his practical work, support and advice over the past 16 years, which have seen most of the stiles in the Parish replaced by gates.

Chris Peat