

Footpath report April 2023

After an extremely dry February the opposite occurred with over 2 months average rainfall in March. The result was a number of large puddles in the paths which traffic used while those in the countryside and crossfield paths became almost im-passible after heavy rain. Examinations were carried out over a three-week period late March - early April Keith.

- Footpath No.1. In good condition and I am grateful that our former Chairman has cut back some of the bushes that border the path.
- Footpath No.2. One assumes that the path runs along an overgrown verge between two fields.
- Footpath No.3 As in every report I've done, the only evidence of this crossfield path is the concrete post at one end as it is always ploughed or cultivated.
- Footpath No.4. Partly the Essex Way is a popular walk and is mostly in good condition. The path had to be partly diverted recently due to a fallen tree.
- Footpath No.5. For over a year the path has been severed by building work on the Hopkins homes estate but I understand will be reinstated when work is complete.
- Footpath No.7. Always in good condition.
- Footpath No.8. A farm track generally in good condition.
- Footpath No.11. The whole field has been sown with grass and although there is no evidence of a path the field is easily walked.
- Footpath No.12 A crossfield path which has been ploughed and harrowed and for several weeks the footpath has been non existent.
- Footpath No.13. Partly a farm track so easily walked, the remainder is a field edge path and although a bridle way there is little sign that it is used.
- Footpath No.14. A local inhabitant keeps part of the path in good condition, the remainder is either a farm field or verge which can be rough.
- Footpath No.15. A lengthy path partly the Essex Way. The section through the Edme site as far as the railway tunnel is always in good condition but where it crosses Tunnel meadow the northern end becomes flooded for much of the year. The remainder as far as Bluebell Wood is well used.
- Footpath No.16. A residential track a mile in length used by vehicles for most of its length and as a result a short section of Green Lane has become badly cut up.
- Footpath No.18. In good condition, encroaching brambles are cut back regularly.
- Footpath No.19. After heavy rain large puddles appear in the lane between the church and the railway bridge.
- Footpath No.20. Apart from discarded litter the path is in good condition.
- Footpath No.21. A wide path running between houses is regularly used by vehicles and large puddles appear after heavy rain.
- Footpath No.23. There are several sections of this lengthy path of which about half is well used. There is a section which crosses a field where the landowner makes a poor attempt to maintain although thanks to walkers it becomes well trodden. The final section is field edge path which is occasionally cut back by the landowner.
- Footpath No.24. A wide path to the Primary school so is well used although again large puddles appear after rain.
- Footpath No.25. A short path behind Mistle Towers in in good condition.
- Footpath No.26. In good condition.
- Footpath No.28. In good condition and a very popular path.
- Footpath No.29. A well used clay path which tends to become very wet after rain and difficult to walk. Recently repairs have been necessary where the path has subsided due to the high water level at the pond outlet.
- Footpath No.30. In good condition