

FOOTPATH WORK FROM MAY 1ST 2017

- 1) The footpath group shared a stall at the May Day celebrations with the tree group.
- 2) A new bench has been positioned on Footpath 121, just off Vernon Lane, Kelstedge. Another bench has been ordered for a venue near to Ashover. Re-varnishing on benches has started with help from Clay Cross volunteers. The first to be done is in Alton and the second one on footpath 58, looking down on Ashover. The safety fence has also been repaired.
- 3) The County Council has reviewed parts of footpath 116 near Eaton Lane in the hope of making it easier to follow and in some places closer to the definitive line.
- 4) Five of the walks in the Chesterfield Walking Festival were based on Ashover: 'I-Spy Ashover'; 'A Tale of Two Loos'; 'Aspire Ashover'; the Halls of Ashover'; Making Hay in Ashover'. Other walks crossed the border of The Parish!
- 5) After several years, the gate next the Show Fields on Footpath 37 has finally been attached. Cut backs around stiles have also been completed and the path between the cricket pavilion and open fields has been strimmed. The path from The Crispin to the pavilion is the responsibility of D.C.C. to cut.
- 6) The fence by the Blue Lagoon has been reported to Rights of Way as in a dangerous state. D.C.C. has it on a health and safety priority for investigation.
- 7) A gate near the junction of 123 and 124 by Hardwick Farm has been made safe by volunteers to help the local landowner. There was potential for cows to go a roaming.....
- 8) To help local residents, better way marking has been added to footpath 87 at the foot of Ashover Hay.
- 9) Thanks to the landowner, a new stone squeeze stile is in place next to Press Fisheries on Footpath 18.
- 10) Thanks to The Ramblers, progress is being made on the 'forgotten' road near Alicehead, which is an adopted highway. Gates are now unlocked and there is potential for the route to offer a bridleway safely linking to Cullumbell Lane.
- 11) The gate from Butts to Butts Quarry on Footpath 53 has been repaired by the land owner.
- 12) Quarry Lane, Alton (Footpath 23) has been strimmed by Stephenson's' Countryside Services with the support of a D.C.C. grant.
- 13) New owners of the land near Butts Chapel on footpath 48 are keeping the flagstones clear – one less job!
- 14) The Alton walks have been revised and will appear on the Parish Council web site.
- 15) Thanks to two Clay Cross volunteers, steps up to footpath 19 by Hilltop farm have been repaired and the finger post points forwards rather than downwards!
- 16) Tuesday evening walks have taken place throughout the months of April to August. The trappings of the walkers and those of the morning walkers have bashed vegetation underfoot. Especial thanks go to the recce group, who add a great deal extra.
- 17) Peak and Northern Footpath Society are erecting four of their distinctive footpath signs, which indicate destinations. Two of the signs are at Hazelhurst Farm and one each in The Butts and opposite the Parish Hall.
- 18) Three volunteers are repairing the steps up from the fields below the Water Treatment Plant on footpath 58 and making them safer. A new way marker post has replaced the one that is rotten and has succumbed to several years as a backside scratcher for cattle...
- 19) The diversion of footpath 127 around the Peak Hotel is nearly complete and to a high standard. The part on the edge of the car park is separate and well constructed. Along the rest of the path there is a stone wall of high standard and a mixed hedge has been planted.
- 20) Bridleway 67, down White Hillocks now looks well used. The signs by Redhouse Farm on 145 are very clear and there is no excuse for motorists to get stuck on the bridleway.