

## FOOTPATH WORK FROM NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> 2017

- 1) The finger post by Butts Chapel has been made safe, if a little shorter.
- 2) The finger post at the Holestonegate end of Footpath 146 was uprooted but there are no replacements, so the remains of the post have been replaced with appropriate way marker discs.
- 3) Clearing has taken place along footpath 122 near to Peglant Farm, above Kelstedge. This path gives some of the best views of the valley of Ashover and also towards Beeley Moor.
- 4) A group of 6 volunteers cut back parts of paths 133/134, above Butterley and Ravensnest Tor and also 125 at Alicehead, as part of a day's independent work in late November. Work was completed by three volunteers on a later date: working on a high, encroaching holly hedge at the bottom of 133. Extra way marker discs were added to footpath 124, towards Spitewinter.
- 5) The last written walk for Hazelhurst Farm has been completed – to Ashover and back, by different paths!
- 6) There were 37 walkers on the Christmas walk from the Post Office, which followed some of the perimeter of the valley.
- 7) At long last, the diversion of Path 56 around Hatchley's Farm has been confirmed.
- 8) Thanks to the landowner, the hedges along Bridleways 145 (up to Overton from The Poets') and 136 (Demonsdale to Hockley Lane) have been cut. The bits that tractors can't reach have been dealt with by volunteers.

9) Seven volunteers worked on the flagstone path to Overton ( Ashover 59) and did more work on Bridleway 145 and also on the path over a former settling pond on footpath 63 (Overton).

10) A County council inspector has reported on Ashover 57: the stone steps in Butts Quarry across the Amber. The level of the water is monitored daily by a local volunteer. The inspector also looked at the path through the quarry (footpath 52), which is crossed by the motor cross track. He commented about the positive attitude of the owners in trying to look after the path – despite the wet weather.

11) Following a Tuesday morning walk, three of the walkers returned to Clattercotes Wood on Ashover 82, to remove a large bit of a tree which had fallen right across the path.

12) Thanks to the efficiency of The Countryside Service a tree that blocked bridleway 145, near to The Poets' Corner, was moved within 48 hours. The blockage was such that horses could not pass by and horses coming from Overton have had to back down the path and turn round before retracing their steps.

13) The Ramblers have done an excellent job on replacing the planks on the board walk by Yewfield Farm at Spitewinter, on Ashover 1. Their work on the drainage should also help to make the improvements last.