

Cradley Parish Council :

Lengthsman & Parish Path Partnership [P3] Schemes

Monthly Report : January 2017

Dear Councillors ,

January has been a month of very mixed weather and coupled with some winter flu problems has resulted in a reduced programme . Never the less your parish L / P3 team have been active in several areas .

On the PROW side several parish paths have been worked on :

- CD-27 : New signage erected at the B4220 end of this path which passes through the recently approved planning application for a house alone side the path [field behind Butchery , Bosbury Road] . More work planned when weather improves , including waymarking and bridge painting .
- CD-28 : Major effort to open up this PROW from Chapel Lane to A4103 near the Red Lion . This path has now been cleared of vegetation overgrowth and 2 new signages erected . I am proposing that an approach to B-B is made with a view to creating a short hardcore-surfaced path from the Red Lion , alone side the A4103 [Very wide verge here] to connect to the NW end of the path as it issues onto A4013 . This safety feature should encourage much more frequent use of the Cradley[Chapel Lane] to Red Lion path . Can but try !
- CD-51 : Following negotiations with Mr Jim Harrington [Land owner] we have now completed the repair and upgrading of the stepped approach to this path from Crumpton Hill Road . Safety features have been added and routing through the farm has been mainly waymarked .

On the Lengthsman front we have concentrated on U65621 :

This is the Chapel Lane to Cradley Old PO which includes Poundbrige area and Brookside .

- Flood Mitigation work : a brilliant job has been carried out to clear the Pounbridge tributary stream at its confluence with Cradley Brook . Severe vegetation and detritus build up had created a serious impediment to the discharge of heavy precipitation . Thanks to Jeremy and Dr Ivan Smart for their sterling efforts . Job done ... no thanks to B-B /HCC who have neglected it for years .
- Overhead tree branches and ash sports , etc have been cleared from the bridge to brookside and I can now report that U65621 is now fully maintained and up-together .
- Finally sided out the full length of Brookside carriageway and swept up .

A short month but plenty achieved . In February we will continue our PROW work and start construction of a new bridge on CD-78 [nr Beanhouse Farm] and also push on with CD-41 [Bridleway] scrub / tree clearances . Pothole jobs are stacking up fast and we are preparing a springtime campaign to deal with them . To this end I am currently working on a proposal to set up an a/c with Speedy Ltd [Plant Hire] so we are ready for the new campaign . I have so far negotiated very favourable terms and charges and hope to report to Council in due course .

Geoff Fielding [Scheme Administrator]