

Updated 5/11/2020

Erlestoke Footpaths

Erlestoke Parish Council



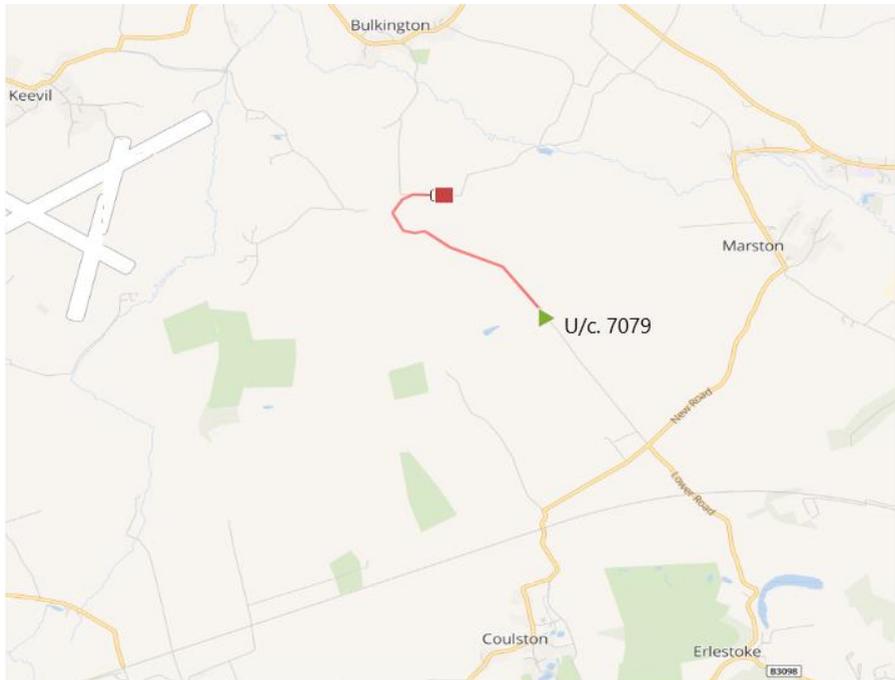
Footpath 1 1 mile (Pudnel to Bulkington)

6.5 miles (from the car park to Bulkington and back)

B.R. From the northern end of road U/c.7079, Pudnell Lane, leading north-west through Pudnell Farm to the Bulkington Parish boundary at Fullwood Green.

Directions:

From the Erlestoke car park, head north through the Park and up footpath #11 to Lower Road. Continue along Lower Road past the railway line to the cross road and on to U/c 7079 continue for ½ mile for footpath 1.



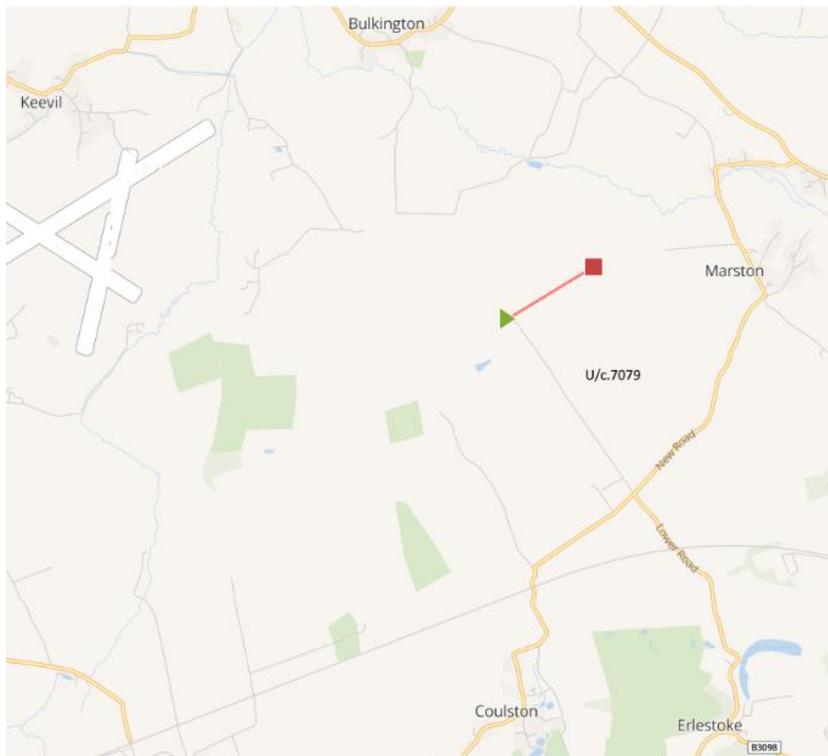
Footpath 2 440 yards (Pudnel to Marston)

5 miles (from the car park to Marston and back)

F.P. From the northern end of road U/c. 7079, Pudnell Lane, leading north-east to Marston Parish boundary.

Directions:

From the Erlestoke car park, head north through the Park and up footpath #11 to Lower Road. Continue along Lower Road past the railway line to the cross road and on to U/c 7079 for about ½ mile turn right to the footpath 2.



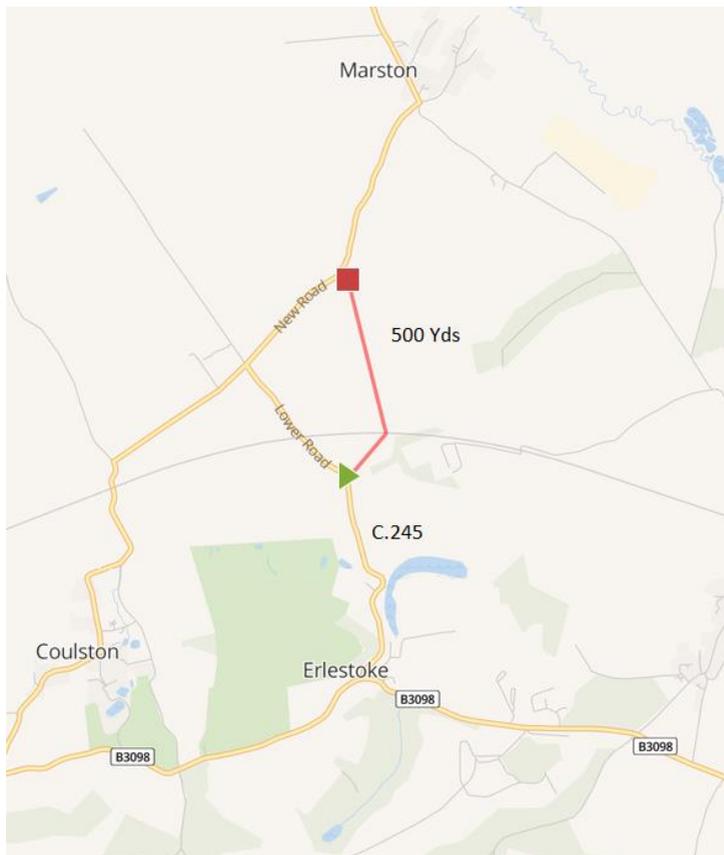
Footpath 3 500 yards (Manor Farm to Marston)

3.5 miles (from the car park to Marston boundary and back)

F.P. From Erlestoke Lower Road, C.245, at Manor Farm leading north-east under the railway to the Marston Parish boundary.

Directions:

From the Erlestoke car park, head north through the Park and up footpath #11 to Lower Road. Continue along Lower Road to Manor Farm before the railway turn right for footpath 3.



Footpath 4 500 Yards (Park Farm to Great Cheverell)

1.5 miles (from the car park to Great Cheverell boundary and back)

F.P. From Erlestoke Lower Road, C.245, at Park Farm leading north-east to the Great Cheverell Parish boundary.

Directions:

From the Erlestoke car park, head north through the Park and up footpath #11 to Lower Road. Continue along Lower Road to Park Farm head right for footpath 4.



Footpath 5 880 yards (Brounkers Court Farm to East Coulston)

2 miles (from the car park to East Coulston boundary and back)

F.P. From Erlestoke Lower Road, C.245, south of Brounkers Court Farm, leading west to the East Coulston Parish boundary.

Directions:

From the Erlestoke car park, head north through the Park and up footpath #11 to Lower Road. Continue along Lower Road to Brounkers Court Farm head left for footpath 5.



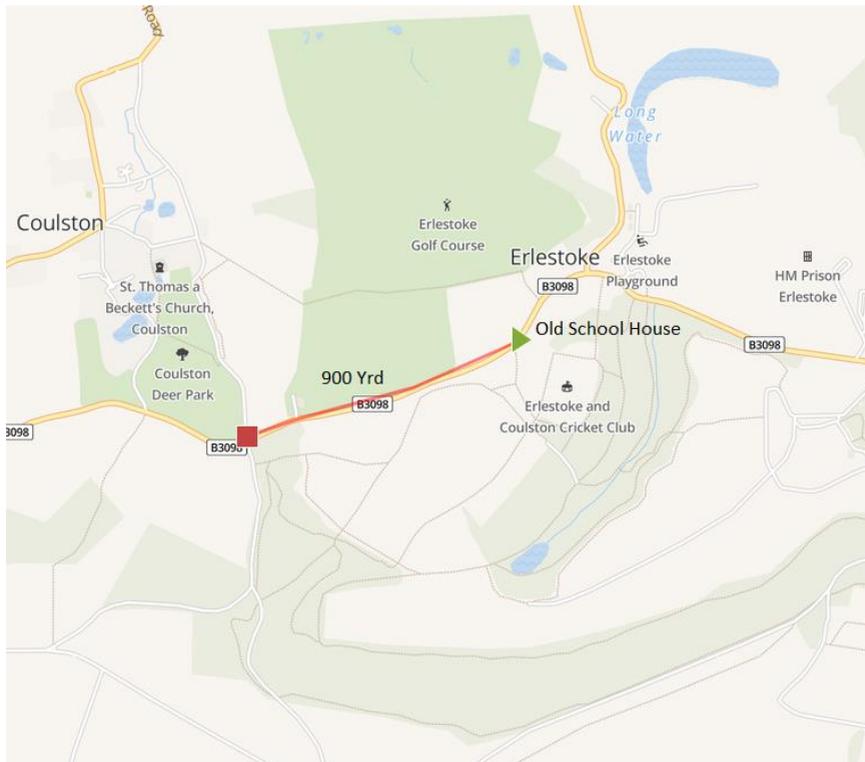
Footpath 6 900 yards (From Erlestone to Coulston)

1.5 miles (from the car park to Coulston and back)

F.P. From the Westbury Urchfont road, B.3098, west of the School, leading west to the East Coulston Parish boundary.

Directions:

From the Erlestone car park, head along the B3098 main road towards Westbury Continue along the B3098 to Coulston for footpath 6.



Footpath 7 800 yards (From Erlestoke to Marditch)

2 miles (from the car park to Marditch and back)

F.P. From Westbury Urchfont road, B.3098, 100 yards west of the vicarage, leading south-west to Marditch Road, U/c. 7083.

Directions:

From the Erlestoke car park, head along the B3098 main road towards Westbury Continue along the B3098 for 500 yards until you see the footpath sign post head left to Marditch for footpath 7.



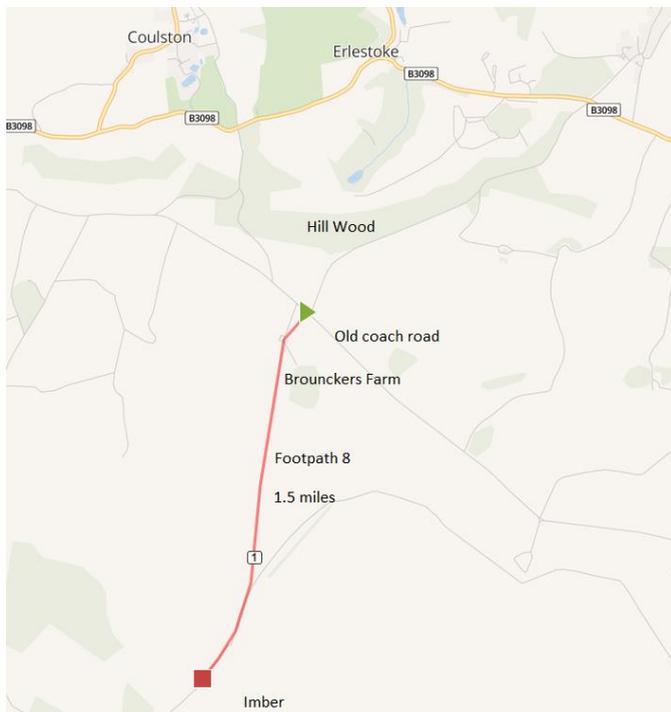
Footpath 8 1 ½ miles (From Marditch to Imber)

6.5 miles (from the car park to Imber and back)

C.R.F. From the old coach road, path No.9, at milestone “Bath 18, Sarum 18”, opposite road U/c. 7084, leading south past Brouncker’s Farm to the Imber Parish boundary by Brouncker’s Well.

Directions:

From the Erlestoke car park, head along the B3098 main road towards Westbury Continue along the B3098 for 500 yards until you see the footpath sign post head left to Marditch. At the top of the Hill Wood follow the footpath to Imber for footpath 8.



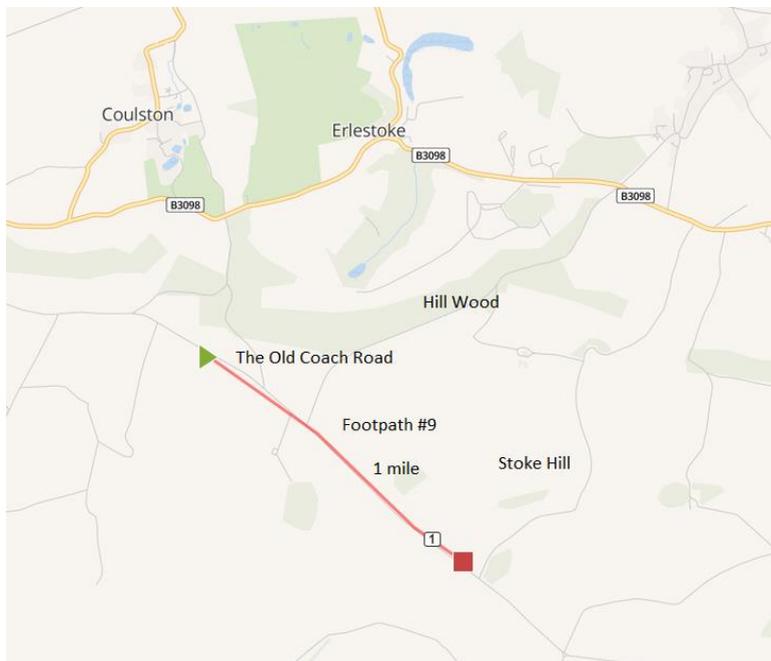
Footpath 9 1 mile (Coulston to Great Cheverell)

5 miles (from the car park to Great Cheverell and back)

C.R.F. The old coach road from Bath to Salisbury. From the Coulston Parish boundary leading south- east over Stoke Hill to the Great Cheverell Parish boundary.

Directions:

From the Erlestoke car park, head along the B3098 main road towards Westbury Continue along the B3098 for 500 yards until you see the footpath sign post head left to Marditch. At the top of the Hill Wood follow the footpath to Cheverell for footpath 9.



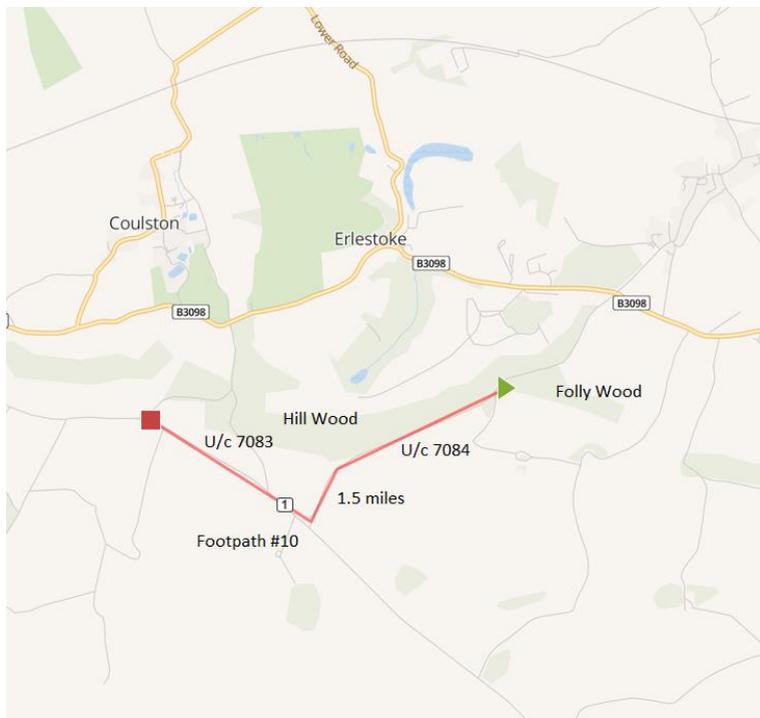
Footpath 10 1 ½ miles (Coulston to Folly Wood)

5 miles (from the car park to Folly Wood and back)

From road U/c. 7084 at the western end of Folly Wood leading south- west and west along the southern edge of Hill Wood, across road U/c. 7083 then north and north-east to road U/c. 7083, opposite path No7.

Directions:

From the Erlestoke car park, head along the B3098 main road towards Westbury Continue along the B3098 for 500 yards until you see the footpath sign post head left to Marditch. At the top of the Hill Wood follow the footpath to Folly Wood for footpath 10.



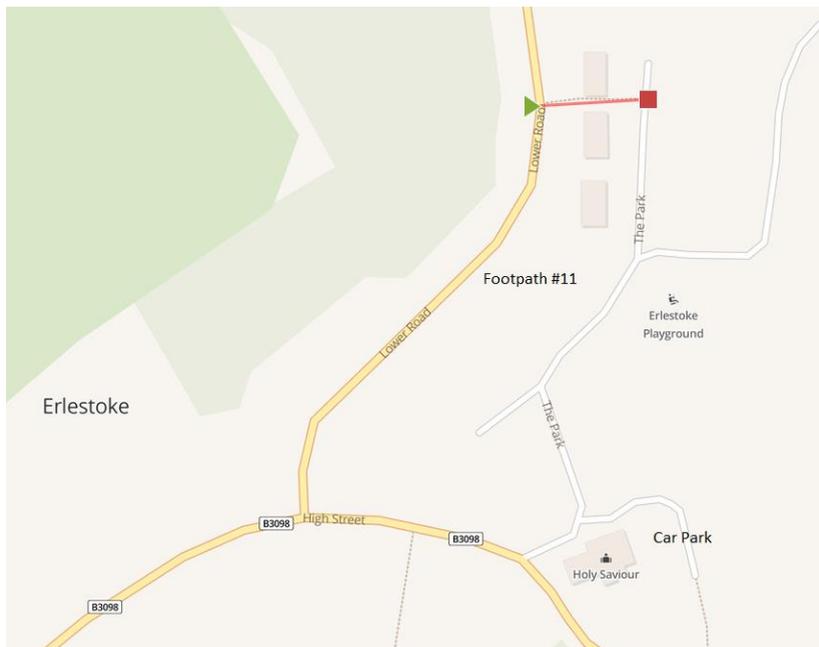
Footpath 11 50 yards (Lower Road to The Park)

500 yards (from the car park to Lower Road and back)

From Lower Street down between Council Houses to road in the Park between 14&15 The Park.

Directions:

From the Erlestoke car park, head north through the Park and up footpath #11 to Lower Road for footpath 11.



DEFINITIONS

- FOOTPATH: A highway over which the public have a right of way on foot only, other than such a highway at the side of a public road (footway).
- BRIDLEWAY: A highway over which the public have the following, but no other rights of way, that is to say, a right of way on foot and a right of way on horseback or leading a horse, with or without a right to drive animals of any description along the highway.
- N.B. Under Section 30 of the Countryside Act 1968 gives the public a right to ride bicycles on bridleways, provided that they give way to walkers and horse-riders. This right is subject to any orders or byelaws which may be made to prohibit cycling on a particular bridleway.
- ROAD USED AS A PUBLIC PATH: A highway, other than a public path, used by the public mainly for the purposes for which footpaths and bridleways are so used.
- BYWAYS: Byway open to all traffic, that is to say a highway over which the public have a right of way for vehicular and all other kinds of traffic, but which is used by the public mainly for the purposes for which footpaths and bridleways are so used.

COUNTY COUNCILS ARE THE BODIES TO WHICH ALL THE DUTIES FOR PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED. THEY ARE DESIGNATED AS HIGHWAY AUTHORITIES AND SURVEYING AUTHORITIES. THEIR PRINCIPAL DUTIES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- (A) TO MAINTAIN THOSE HIGHWAYS WHICH ARE MAINTAINABLE AT THE PUBLIC EXPENSE OR TO REIMBURSE THE DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR ITS MAINTENANCE OF PUBLICLY MAINTAINABLE FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS;
- (B) TO KEEP AN UP TO DATE LIST OF THOSE HIGHWAYS WHICH ARE MAINTAINABLE AT THE PUBLIC EXPENSE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION IN EACH DISTRICT;
- (C) TO ASSERT AND PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC TO THE USE AND ENJOYMENT OF, AND TO PREVENT SO FAR AS POSSIBLE THE STOPPING UP OR OBSTRUCTION OF, ALL HIGHWAYS FOR WHICH THEY ARE THE HIGHWAY AUTHORITY;
- (D) TO SECURE THE RESTORATION OF LAWFULLY PLOUGHED FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS AND TO TAKE ACTION IN ANY CASE WHERE ANY HIGHWAY HAS BEEN UNLAWFULLY PLOUGHED;
- (E) TO SIGNPOST ALL FOOTPATHS, BRIDLEWAYS AND BYWAYS WHERE THEY MEET METALLED HIGHWAYS AND TO PLACE SUCH SIGNS ALONG THE WAYS AS ARE NECESSARY FOR THE BENEFIT OF PERSONS UNFAMILIAR WITH THE LOCALITY;
- (F) TO PROSECUTE ANYONE RESPONSIBLE FOR PLACING OR MAINTAINING A MISLEADING NOTICE ON OR NEAR A FOOTPATH, BRIDLEWAY OR RUPP SHOWN ON A DEFINITIVE MAP;
- (G) TO KEEP THE EXISTING DEFINITIVE MAP UNDER CONTINUOUS REVIEW, MAKE MODIFICATION ORDERS AS NECESSARY TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE OCCURRENCE OF EVENTS REQUIRING THE MAP TO BE MODIFIED AND RECLASSIFICATION ORDERS TO RECLASSIFY ANY WAYS SHOWN AS RUPPS AND TO PREPARE DEFINITIVE MAPS FOR ANY AREAS NOT PREVIOUSLY SURVEYED;
- (H) TO KEEP COPIES OF THE DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT, TOGETHER WITH COPIES OF ANY SUBSEQUENT MODIFICATION AND RECLASSIFICATION ORDERS, AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION IN EVERY DISTRICT AND TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE PUBLIC TO THIS AVAILABILITY AND TO THE RIGHT TO APPLY FOR MODIFICATION ORDERS TO BE MADE.

RIGHTS AND POWERS OF LOCAL COUNCILS

1. I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO JUST RUN THROUGH THE PRINCIPAL RIGHTS AND POWERS WHICH PARISH COUNCILS HAVE WITH REGARD TO RIGHTS OF WAY. THEY ARE IMPORTANT POWERS WHICH PARISHES SHOULD BE AWARE OF.
2. PARISH COUNCILS ARE PERMITTED TO UNDERTAKE THE MAINTENANCE OF ANY FOOTPATH OR BRIDLEWAY WITHIN ITS AREA WHICH IS MAINTAINABLE AT THE PUBLIC EXPENSE. THIS POWER DOES NOT EXTEND TO PATHS WHICH CARRY VEHICULAR RIGHTS SUCH AS BYWAYS. IF THIS POWER IS EXERCISED IT DOES NOT EFFECT THE DUTY TO MAINTAIN WHICH RESTS WITH THE COUNTY COUNCIL. IF THE POWER IS EXERCISED THE COUNTY COUNCIL MAY PAY THE WHOLE OR PART OF ANY EXPENDITURE INCURRED. PARISH COUNCILS MAY ALSO UNDERTAKE MAINTENANCE OF PRIVATELY MAINTAINABLE HIGHWAYS.
3. IT IS AN OFFENCE WILFULLY TO OBSTRUCT THE FREE PASSAGE ALONG A HIGHWAY WITHOUT LAWFUL AUTHORITY OR EXCUSE. NO RESTRICTION IS PLACED ON WHO MAY PROSECUTE SO PARISH COUNCILS CAN EXERCISE THE RIGHT.
4. ONCE AGAIN, PARISH COUNCILS MAY PROSECUTE IN SITUATIONS WHERE A PATH HAS BEEN PLOUGHED LAWFULLY, BUT NOT RESTORED, OR WHERE A PATH HAS BEEN PLOUGHED UNLAWFULLY.
5. A HIGHWAY AUTHORITY HAS A SPECIFIC DUTY TO ERECT AND MAINTAIN A SIGNPOST AT EVERY POINT WHERE A FOOTPATH, BRIDLEWAY OR BYWAY LEAVES A METALLED ROAD. SHOULD THE COUNTY COUNCIL NOT WISH TO ERECT A SIGNPOST, IT MUST OBTAIN THE APPROVAL OF THE LOCAL COUNCIL. EFFECTIVELY, THIS GIVES PARISH COUNCILS A RIGHT TO INSIST ON THE ERECTION OF A SIGNPOST.

6. THE HIGHWAYS ACT ALLOWS FOR APPLICATIONS TO BE MADE BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL TO A MAGISTRATES COURT FOR AN ORDER TO STOP-UP OR DIVERT A FOOTPATH, BRIDLEWAY, BYWAY OR UNCLASSIFIED ROAD. HOWEVER, SUCH APPLICATIONS MAY NOT BE MADE IF THE APPROPRIATE PARISH COUNCIL REFUSE TO GRANT THEIR CONSENT.
7. THE WILDLIFE & COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 PROVIDES THAT PARISH COUNCILS MUST BE CONSULTED BEFORE THE COUNTY COUNCIL MAKES A MODIFICATION OR RECLASSIFICATION ORDER. PARISH COUNCILS, OF COURSE, HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBJECT TO ANY ORDERS MADE.
8. THE COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1968 GIVES 'ANY PERSON' THE POWER TO ERECT AND MAINTAIN SIGNPOSTS ALONG A FOOTPATH, BRIDLEWAY OR BYWAY, PROVIDED THE CONSENT OF THE HIGHWAY AUTHORITY HAS BEEN OBTAINED.
9. FINALLY, PARISH COUNCILS MAY ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ANY PERSON HAVING THE NECESSARY POWER TO DEDICATE A HIGHWAY OVER LAND IN THE PARISH OR AN ADJOINING PARISH. THIS POWER IS SIMILAR TO THAT WHICH BOTH DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILS HAVE.
10. I'D LIKE TO MAKE 1 OTHER POINT. PARISH MEETINGS IN THOSE PARISHES WHERE THERE IS NO COUNCIL HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS AND POWERS AS A COUNCIL IN RELATION TO NO'S 5, 6, and 7. IN ADDITION, THEY CAN (LIKE PARISH COUNCILS) MAKE REPRESENTATIONS TO THE HIGHWAY AUTHORITY THAT A PATH HAS BEEN UNLAWFULLY STOPPED-UP OR OBSTRUCTED.