

Report on the Piddington Parish footpath stiles

Carried out November 2024, Ian Darby

1. Piddington Circular Walk . All the gates and footpaths from the Playing Field and Widnell Park and around the Circular walk within the Parish are in good condition .

2. Thame Road to Ludgershall Bridge
SP640,172 1st stile from Thame Road

In good condition



SP642,172 2nd stile .

Top step of the Stile leaning to the right and loose

Action needs replacing/fixing immediately



SP 643, 173 3rd stile.

The step used to get over the stile is loose and rocks back on either side .

Action needs immediate attention



SP645.174 4th Stile

Stile in good condition



SP648,175 5th stile onto Lugershall Road next to Eastfield Farm (not in the parish, but used as part of the walk to Lugershall)

Stile in good condition



3 Alongside Ludgershall Road from the village
SP643,175 First stile and gate into grazing field on the right as you leave the village

Stile is functioning but is difficult to use and offers no obvious opening for dogs



SP643,175 1st stile into grazing field on the left as you leave the village

All working well and much improved



SP644,175 Stile to field from Lugershall Road opposite Plantasia

Stile needs bottom step attaching as not secure (on road side)

Action secure the bottom step



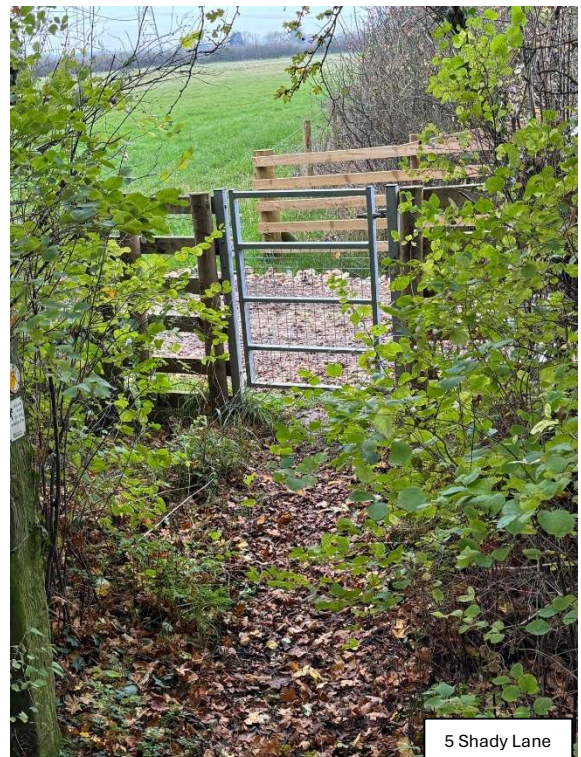
4 Lower End (footpath to the Lugershall Road)

SP641,174 Stile is fine but offers no access for dogs and is difficult to navigate as v high with only 1 step



5 Shady Lane (footpath to Bridge Farm , towards Blackthorn)

Brand new gate had been fitted so works well



1st Stile along the footpath has been repaired and works well



2nd stile has been repaired and is working well



Third stile Footpath to New Farm has been improved and the entrance is now fine



4th stile , the exit has a loose step which is not attached and needs urgent repair

Action fix loose step



5th stile . The stile has been cleared and works well now .



6th stile . This stile has been left to totally overgrow and I was unable to check if the stile was functional as unable to see it. If you want to carry on with the route you must go through the farms sheep pens that are to the side of the stile . This situation hasn't changed since the last report

Action . Cut down the vegetation covering the stile and then check if the stile is fit for purpose .



7th Stile is extremely difficult to get over , both for human and dogs , and is overgrown .

Action needs immediate attention as is hazardous



Stile 8 there is no stile . The walker has to climb over a double metal gate more like an assault course

Action a side pedestrian gate as seen elsewhere would make this much safer



At this point it is impossible to find the next stile although the ordnance survey map shows the route crossing the field between the New Farm and Bridge Farm . This means you either have to walk back to Piddington or walk through the farm itself

Action locate the stile and make it obvious to walkers

Conclusion

The stiles and footpaths in Piddington Parish are generally of a good character and substantial improvements have been made particularly on the stiles coming off Shady lane. A few urgent fixes are needed, but the work isn't substantial to fix the issues.

Ian Darby, November 2024