

Westbury sub Mendip Parish Council

Report by Parish Paths Liaison officer, April 2023.

There is even more recreational walking in and around Westbury, than I reported last year. Villagers have expanded their local walks, and longer-distance walkers have also been enjoying the paths, and stopping off in the village.

- 1) Cropping of paths owned by the Church Commissioners.

Land-users continue to illegally plant crops over paths 13/2, 13/3, and 13/10. Letters from the owners have had no effect, and even official ones from the Highway Authority have been ignored. Action by walkers and volunteers creates some useability on these central paths, which at present are not planted with new maize. Waymarking has been improved, and I hope this will further encourage use of the local network. Obstructions by crops will be reported – again.

- 2) An application is being made to have Pump Path, between Old Ditch and Free Hill, added to the map as a definitive Right of Way. It has been generally accepted as such for generations, but it is important to make it safe for those to come. There are villagers who do not know that it is legally free to use, and this registration will cure that. Many have been keen to complete forms giving their evidence as users of the path. My thanks to them.
- 3) The completion of the Westbury section of the Strawberry Line multi-user path, has increased the numbers of walkers on paths with which it intersects: these are, at the Easton end, Erlon Lane, and to the south, path WS 13/10 to Easton, and the same path back to Westbury passing the Sewage Works. This forms a circular walk which has become popular.

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5 / 4 / 2023.