



PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY SURVEY

October 2025



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INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

The Town Council has a strategic aim to enable residents to reduce their reliance on cars by improving the desirability of walking, cycling and using public transport. Knutsford is fortunate to have a considerable number of public rights of way, connecting the town to the wider countryside and providing attractive routes for exercise and travel, as part of this aim, the council will work to promote the network of paths to ensure routes are known, accessible and well maintained.

Public Rights of Way (PROW) provide a network of routes across the country. Many PROW are historic paths that connected towns and villages and connected residents to the services they needed to access, such as routes to church. The Ramblers notes that “over centuries, a network of tracks developed naturally from the routes that the public used to get from A to B, evolutionary desire-lines, all used on foot, with the public’s right to use them firmly established.”

There are four types of PROW:

- Footpaths – walking
- Bridleways – walking plus horse riding and cycling
- Restricted Byways – above plus non-motorised vehicles
- Byways open to all Traffic – above, plus motorised vehicles

PROW are recorded on a ‘definitive map’ by the highways authority (Cheshire East Council), as the name suggests, the public have a legal right to pass along PROW and obstruction of this is a criminal offence. The creation of the definitive map started following the passing of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, which requires highways authorities to maintain a legal record of public rights of way.

In the 1950s county councils began recording routes on the definitive map, many of Knutsford’s PROW have been recorded since this time. Whilst the record is called the definitive map, it is constantly evolving and there are three main routes for PROW to be established:

- a) Recording of historic routes – where there is evidence that a route was a highway since time immemorial, it can be recorded as such. Even if there is no longer access.
- b) Deemed dedication – where a route has been used by right for an uninterrupted period of 20 years or more, a PROW is deemed to have been established
- c) Express dedication – a landowner can dedicate a route as a public right of way

There will be a number of other routes in existence which are not PROW. These may include adopted highways, routes over which there is clear permission to pass over, or routes which are used as PROW and could be registered as such in the future.

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

This survey was undertaken between December 2024 and April 2025 by a team of volunteers. It surveyed the established PROW as recorded on definitive map as of 2025, a total of 26 footpaths were surveyed.

AN OVERVIEW OF THE PROW NETWORK IN KNUTSFORD

Overall, the quality of the footpaths surveyed in the Knutsford area were acceptable. Whilst there are some footpaths that require more attention, most of the footpaths require only vegetation clearance, sign cleaning and the removal of graffiti, litter and dog waste.

SURFACE

The surface of most of the footpaths were of tarmac (10), the rest of the paths were of varied surfaces ranging from grass, mud tracks, concrete and paving with the town centre paths being made up of cobbles and stone paving.

Overall, the paths were generally in good condition. Paths FP4, FP5, FP13, FP17 are showing signs of erosion and paths FP19, FP24 and FP28 are suffering from potholes or uneven paving flags. The footpath FP22 in the town centre is in good condition, whereas paths FP23 and FP25 are uneven and showing signs of cracking.

AVAILABLE WIDTH

Over 23 of the footpaths have more than one metre available width with paths FP5 and FP28 having less than one metre available, with these paths being either a single-track lane or heading out into open field.

BOUNDARIES

Most of the footpaths had boundaries of fencing or hedges with some of the fencing being resident fencing. Three of the footpaths had wire fencing and those footpaths that run through Knutsford town centre (FP22, FP23, FP25, FP28) have building brick for boundaries. Two of the footpaths have metal railings, one of which (FP7) has wooden posts which are showing signs of rotting.

EASE OF ACCESS

Many of the footpaths were flat (13) but the majority of those would not necessarily be accessible for members of the public if they required additional accessibility needs. Two of the paths had posts or stiles restricting access, (FP18, FP26). The remainder of the footpaths were either muddy, on an incline, steep, uneven or had steps. Two of the footpaths had dropped curbs for additional accessibility needs (FP4 and FP13 section A-B), FP13 sections C-D has dropped curbs that are not directly by the footpath.

SIGNS

Footpath signs were identified at 15 of the footpaths. Of those, some of the posts were on the floor, in need of cleaning, not visible due to vegetation or were askew. 5 of the footpaths had no cycling signs all of which were reported as faded and unreadable with path FP13 having a post with no sign, and the posts on footpaths FP3, FP10, FP14 suffering from rust or corrosion. FP3 and FP5 had no dog fouling signs, these were faded and in need of cleaning. Path FP22 has road signs that are poorly visible, rusted, twisted and bent.

PATH FURNITURE

of the footpaths had bins, with three bins on FP7. Bins on FP5 and FP8 were in good condition, with one of the bins on FP7 requiring repair. No information was recorded for the remaining bins. Cigarette bins on FP22 and FP23 were found to be overflowing at the time of the survey.

6 of the footpaths had stiles, two were in good condition, the remainder being of fair condition, dislodged or at an angle. Gates were on three of the paths with one in need of cleaning.

Bollards on four of the paths were found to be in good condition. Three of the paths had handrails, in good condition but in need of cleaning.

A metal barrier on FP13 section B-C is reducing the width of the path.

Out of all the paths, only two have benches, FP6 and FP7. Both benches were in good condition, however, the bench on FP7 needs a clean.

Footpath 11 has a bridge that is in good condition and FP22 has a salt bin and planter both in good condition. FP25 has a bridge that has a crack across the width.

LIGHTING

Lighting was found on 16 of the footpaths. At the time of the survey, lights were found to be not working on paths FP14 and FP22. The lamppost of FP6 was leaning and on FP3 the light was obscured by vegetation.

OBSTRUCTIONS

Most of the footpaths were suffering from overhanging branches and vegetation. A tree in the path was blocking access on FP27 and on paths FP28 and FP25 cars were causing an obstruction or were parked on the original marked pathway.

GENERAL CLEANLINESS

The overall general cleanliness of the footpaths was good with some paths experiencing dog fouling, trade waste and graffiti. 16 of the paths had minimal litter and 7 paths were experiencing trade waste. There are five paths that have been affected by graffiti and

vandalism, the most effected being FP15 (FP3 FP15, FP18, FP24, FP28), another 6 paths are troubled with dog fouling.

IMPROVEMENTS

Consider additional needs accessibility, the installation of dog poo bins, repair to stiles and gates, replacement signs and better signage overall. Improvement to the lighting of footpaths within the town centre, repairs to tarmac and uneven/cracked paving. Removal of graffiti, litter and dog waste.

FOOTPATH SURVEYS

FP1 MANCHESTER ROAD TO MEREHEATH LANE

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	19 th January 2025
Description of Path	Footpath following a hawthorn hedge between farmed fields
Surface Description	Rough grass
Width between boundaries	Approximately 200 m
Available/Usable width	Several metres wide
Boundaries	Hedge on one side
Ease of Access	Access to the footpath is easier by walking through the un-gated field entrance rather than using the stile.
Signs	Two signs, one at each end of the path. Both slightly askew but are readable and can be easily seen from the road
Path Furniture	Stile at Manchester Road end is in fair condition
Lighting	None
Obstructions	None
General Cleanliness	Generally clean
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Discarded traffic cone on the path. Some litter near stile.
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor repairs to signposts to make vertical • Clearing of litter

Illustrative photographs



FP2 MANCHESTER ROAD TO GREEN LANE

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	19 th January 2025
Description of Path	Narrow path bordering the Land Rover sales garage then across a field.
Surface Description	Field Path – path occasionally ploughed over
Width between boundaries	1m for path then width of field.
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Hedge on one side and Land Rover fence on the other for the path. No boundaries once on field.
Ease of Access	Not wheelchair/ pushchair accessible.
Signs	Two signs, one at each end of the path. Both in good condition.
Path Furniture	Two stiles, one at Manchester Road end and one midway. Metal Swing Gate at Green Lane. Midway Stile bottom step is dislodged, and nails are exposed. Other stile and gate are in good condition.
Lighting	None
Obstructions	Some branches from hedge
General Cleanliness	Generally clean
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Some litter.
Trade Waste	Old tyres on the border with the Land Rover garage
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair midway stile • Remove litter and old tyres

Illustrative photographs



FP3 WESTFIELD DRIVE TO NORTHWICH ROAD

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	17 th December 2024
Description of Path	Alleyway between houses
Surface Description	Asphalt of varying condition
Width between boundaries	1.2 m – 1.7 m
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Fencing from houses, combination of concrete and timber, some covered in vegetation. Most in good condition, some repairs done by homeowners.
Ease of Access	Good
Signs	No cycling and no dog fouling signs at each end of the path. All signs are either very faded or difficult to read due to grime. The post at the Northwiche Road entrance is significantly corroded.
Path Furniture	None
Lighting	Galvanised steel column with LED luminaire, good condition but partially obscured by vegetation.
Obstructions	Some vegetation on edge of path, overhanging branches in the centre section.
General Cleanliness	Good
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Some, mostly in the centre section near the lamppost
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	Bags of dog waste in centre section
Graffiti/ Vandalism	Graffiti on lighting column and adjacent fence
General Comments	Generally good – ‘better than most’
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair sign post and replace/clean signs. • Cut back some vegetation. • Tidy up litter. • Remove graffiti.

Illustrative photographs



FP4 RACEFIELD ROAD TO HEATHFIELD SQUARE

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	14 th December 2024
Description of Path	Alleyway between houses
Surface Description	Tarmac throughout, some areas around surface covers eroded
Width between boundaries	2 m
Available/Usable width	The whole width is useable
Boundaries	Combination of fences and hedges in good condition
Ease of Access	Flat path in good condition. Dropped curbs in appropriate places to help access.
Signs	'No cycling' signs at either end, worn
Path Furniture	None
Lighting	Streetlight in good condition at midpoint
Obstructions	None
General Cleanliness	Good condition
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace sign at Racefield Road end

Illustrative photographs



FP5 WESTFIELD DRIVE TO TABLEY SUPERIOR FP12

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	15 th April 2025
Description of Path	Narrow footpath alongside Knutsford Academy opening into a field
Surface Description	Concrete footpath with some erosion then earth track
Width between boundaries	1 m then open field
Available/Usable width	0.5 – 1 m then dependant on crops
Boundaries	Wire fence along school side and domestic fences then open field
Ease of Access	Flat track but uneven
Signs	Footpath sign at the school end, lying in the vegetation and no longer visible. Two 'no dog fouling' notices on each end of the school path, both need cleaning. Footpath sign at end of school path in good condition.
Path Furniture	Bin at the entrance of the path by the school in good condition.
Lighting	Street lights on road
Obstructions	Lots of nettles on the school path
General Cleanliness	Good
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Little
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	Some on the school footpath
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	Footpath at the school end is narrow but opens out to open fields and trees
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove nettles • 'No dog fouling' signs need cleaning • Footpath sign re-fitted

Illustrative photographs



FP6 BLACKHILL FARM TO BEXTON PARISH BOUNDARY

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	21 st December 2024
Description of Path	Farmer's access path around edge of field
Surface Description	Rutted mud track
Width between boundaries	3 – 4 m as it is possible to also walk on field
Available/Usable width	Varies depending on if crop is planted
Boundaries	Hedge on one side, open field on the other.
Ease of Access	Flat but muddy and rutted
Signs	Footpath sign at Blackhill Farm end in good condition
Path Furniture	Bench at Blackhill Farm end in good condition
Lighting	Lamppost near to Blackhill Farm end, this is leaning
Obstructions	None
General Cleanliness	
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Used dog poo bags
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	Lots
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	Good path but weather dependant
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install bin at Blackhill Lane

Illustrative photographs



FP 7 MOOR PROMENADE PATH

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	27 th January 2025
Description of Path	Path across the moor
Surface Description	Tarmac with block paving edge, some mud patches from the marsh overflowing
Width between boundaries	3 m, wider in places
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Metal railing with wooden posts on the pond side, the posts are starting to rot. Open on the other side.
Ease of Access	Flat path with slight incline
Signs	Footpath sign on Moorside in good condition. Sign showing “Birds of the Moor” provided by “The Friends of the Moor” in good condition.
Path Furniture	Three bins at intervals, the bin nearest to Moorside is missing slats. Eight benches along the path made of wood with metal framework. Algae and bird poo on the benches. Gate at Moorside end.
Lighting	Five streetlights at intervals in good condition
Obstructions	Some overhanging branches
General Cleanliness	Good
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	Popular path
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair wooden posts • Clean benches • Fix bin • Remove any precarious looking branches.

Illustrative photographs



FP 8 MOBBERELY ROAD TO SWINTON SQUARE VIA BARNCROFT AND MOOR

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	13 th December 2024
Description of Path	Tarmac path across Coronation Square and past St Cross Church
Surface Description	Tarmac in good condition
Width between boundaries	1.5 m
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Hedges and fences in good condition
Ease of Access	Even path, handrails present where steep
Signs	Footpath sign at each end, sign at Mobberley road end concealed by hedge. Plants of the moor sign in good condition
Path Furniture	Plenty of bins and benches in good condition. Handrails in steep places in good condition. Railings to slow bikes etc near railway bridge. Gate at entrance to Coronation Square, some algae on the gate and railings
Lighting	Street lighting
Obstructions	None
General Cleanliness	Good
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Minimal litter
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	Graffiti on railway bridge and fence.
General Comments	Path in good condition, no obstructions, clean and tidy
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cut back hedges around sign at Mobberley Road end.

Illustrative photographs



FP 9 MOBBERLEY ROAD TO WOODLANDS DRIVE

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	19 th January 2025
Description of Path	Alleyway between houses
Surface Description	Tarmac
Width between boundaries	2 m
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Hedges and fences from houses
Ease of Access	Slight gradient but even path
Signs	None
Path Furniture	None
Lighting	None
Obstructions	Overhanging bushes and branches
General Cleanliness	Leaf litter
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Some
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	Footpath is used by a lot of people
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear leaf litter and vegetation

Illustrative photographs



FP10 MANOR CRESCENT TO WOODLANDS DRIVE

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	19 th January 2025
Description of Path	Alleyway between houses
Surface Description	Tarmac
Width between boundaries	1.5 m
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Fence on both sides
Ease of Access	Easily accessible
Signs	No cycling sign at Manor Crescent end. Unreadable sign at Woodlands Drive end, post is also rusty
Path Furniture	None
Lighting	Lamppost opposite Manor Crescent entrance
Obstructions	None
General Cleanliness	Good
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace sign at Woodlands Drive

Illustrative photographs



FP11 PARKGATE LANE TO MOBBERLEY VILLAGE PATHS

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Description of Path	Part of a cross-country route to Mobberley, recently improved as a result of house building.
Surface Description	Gravel track with wide grass verges on either side.
Width between boundaries	Greater than 5 m, potentially wider when building works in the area have completed
Available/Usable width	Gravel path is 1 m, can also walk on the grass verges
Boundaries	Fences on both sides. One permanent and set far back from the road. Temporary fence on other side protecting building works
Ease of Access	Flat level path, easily accessible. Bridge and steps at end crossing the Birkin Brook
Signs	New signage at the decision points of the route. Keep out signs on both fences, one for private woodland and the other is for the building works
Path Furniture	Bridge over Birkin Brook is in good condition with sturdy handrails
Lighting	None once the path leaves the housing estate
Obstructions	None
General Cleanliness	Very good
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Very little
Trade Waste	Some debris from the building site
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	A wide footpath with greenery on both sides
Improvements	The path currently doesn't need any maintenance

Illustrative photographs



FP 13 THORNEYHOLME DRIVE TO MANOR PARK NORTH

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	14 th December 2024
Description of Path	Pavement adjacent to road
Surface Description	Tarmac in good condition
Width between boundaries	2.5 m
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Domestic residences, driveways, fences, hedges etc
Ease of Access	Flat with several dropped curbs
Signs	General road signs, none footpath specific
Path Furniture	Bin near the school
Lighting	Lampposts at intervals
Obstructions	None
General Cleanliness	Good
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	Residential road
Improvements	None.

Illustrative photographs



FP 13 MANOR PARK NORTH TO KENILWORTH AVENUE

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Description of Path	Alleyway between houses and school
Surface Description	Uneven tarmac from tree roots
Width between boundaries	1.6 – 2 m
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Metal fence along school boundary, domestic fences on the other side
Ease of Access	Slight gradient but accessible
Signs	Post for no cycling sign at Manor Park end but the sign is missing
Path Furniture	Metal barrier restricting path width to 0.8 m at Kenilworth Avenue end.
Lighting	Lampposts at Kenilworth Avenue end.
Obstructions	Some overhanging branches
General Cleanliness	Good but lots of leaf litter
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace no cycling sign • Remove leaf litter

Illustrative photographs



FP 13 KENILWORTH AVENUE TO BROOKDALE AVENUE

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	14 th December 2024
Description of Path	Path between houses
Surface Description	Tarmac, a few minor cracks
Width between boundaries	1.6 – 1.8 m
Available/Usable width	As above, restricted at ends by bollards
Boundaries	Domestic brick walls, fences, and bushes
Ease of Access	Flat but dropped curbs are not close
Signs	No cycling sign at either end, both are faded but readable
Path Furniture	Bollard at either end in good condition
Lighting	Street lighting at each end of the path, none on the path
Obstructions	None
General Cleanliness	Clean
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	Fine
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider removing bollards to make path accessible to all

Illustrative photographs



FP 13 BOOTHFIELDS TO ST HELENA'S CHURCH

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	14 th December 2024
Description of Path	Historic alignment of path is obstructed by houses on Boothfields, path unclear across public open space (grass) to Longridge
Surface Description	Grass field then tarmac pavement
Width between boundaries	Width of field then 1.5 m pavement
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Domestic fences, bushes etc
Ease of Access	Muddy path across the field
Signs	None
Path Furniture	None
Lighting	Street lighting on Longridge
Obstructions	None
General Cleanliness	Muddy but generally clean
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	Vague route across recreation field to roadways
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definitive map location and on the ground, location is confused – check with CEC for official alignment of the path

Illustrative photographs



FP 13 LONGRIDGE TO MARTHALL PARISH BOUNDARY (PAVEMENT LANE)

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	14 th December 2024
Description of Path	Footpath across fields. Access off Longridge via a kissing gate then over a wooden bridge leading to a very narrow, convoluted path. You cannot follow the OS path owing to overgrowth (many trees and much scrub). That path leads to a stile which allows access to a farmer's field, and then via a second stile to a second farmer's field. The exit from the second field onto Pavement Lane is currently over a moveable electric fence (insulated section).
Surface Description	Rough, rural footpath. Winds around overgrowth with no clear markings.
Width between boundaries	1 m to open field
Available/Usable width	0.5 m to open field
Boundaries	None apart from gate and stiles
Ease of Access	Path is inaccessible to most due to there being no clear route across the first field
Signs	None except for arrows on stiles
Path Furniture	Kissing gate and two stiles, all in good condition
Lighting	None
Obstructions	Vegetation between Longridge and the first stile
General Cleanliness	Clean
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Little
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	Section between Longridge and the first stile is significantly overgrown. Current position of insulated access through electric fence is 60m from map reference, though the placing of the access point is better than where it is indicated on the map
Improvements	Development planned for part of the path. Recommend specific project to improve clarity of PROW in this area in conjunction with the development

Illustrative photographs



FP14 BEECHWOOD TO FP13

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	15 th January 2025
Description of Path	Alleyway between houses
Surface Description	Tarmac path, some repairs have already been done on this path in the past
Width between boundaries	1.8 m
Available/Usable width	1.8 m
Boundaries	Domestic walls and fences etc
Ease of Access	Flat, easily accessible path
Signs	No cycling sign at Beechwood end, rusty and faded
Path Furniture	None
Lighting	Street light at junction with FP13
Obstructions	None
General Cleanliness	Fine
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	Short path
Improvements	Replace no cycling sign and pole

Illustrative photographs



FP14 SPARROW LANE TO HIGHER DOWNS

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	15 th January 2025
Description of Path	Alleyway between houses
Surface Description	Tarmac in good condition
Width between boundaries	1.3 – 2 m
Available/Usable width	1.3 – 1.9 m
Boundaries	Domestic fences
Ease of Access	Easily accessible, with slight gradients
Signs	None
Path Furniture	None
Lighting	Several lampposts in good condition
Obstructions	Some overhanging branches
General Cleanliness	Lots of dead leaves at time of survey
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	Fine, accessible
Improvements	Clear vegetation

Illustrative photographs



FP15 CHELFORD ROAD ALONG SPARROW LANE FP14

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	11 th December 2024
Description of Path	Footpath from Chelford Road to Aylesby Close. Single track road from Aylesby Close to the allotments then footpath till it meets FP14.
Surface Description	Patched and uneven tarmac
Width between boundaries	2 m
Available/Usable width	Varies, minimum 1.5 m
Boundaries	Domestic fences and hedges etc in varying states of repair. Walls are in poor condition. Gate to allotments in decent condition
Ease of Access	Accessible but uneven surface
Signs	Small footpath sign at the entrance from Chelford Road. Footpath sign and a street sign 'Sparrow Lane' at the entrance from Aylesby Close towards the allotments. Both in good condition
Path Furniture	Bin at the Chelford Road end. Bollard at the end of the path from Chelford Road where it meets Aylsby Close. Evidence of bollards being removed between Chelford Road and Aylsby Close. Disused telephone kiosk at the Chelford Road end. All in poor condition
Lighting	Two street lights between Chelford Road and Aylsby Close. Street light at the junction with FP14 does not work
Obstructions	Lots of overhanging and fallen branches. Hedges encroaching onto the path. Lots of nettles and weeds along the edge of the path.
General Cleanliness	Fallen leaves and horse manure on path
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	Lots of dog poo and discarded poo bags
Graffiti/ Vandalism	Graffiti on brick wall, vandalism on fences
General Comments	
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add Dog poo bag dispenser • Repair streetlight at junction of FP14 • Improve lighting • Clear vegetation

Illustrative photographs



FP17 BOOTHES PARK TO PAVEMENT LANE

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	8 th December 2024
Description of Path	Pavement next to road running through Booths Park then a hardcore track turning into a lane to Pavement Lane Official alignment of path departs the track towards Spring Wood and turns back to track there; users usually use the track.
Surface Description	Tarmac pavement to Booths Farm then hardcore track followed by a rough lane. Mild erosion of the hardcore and some potholes on the lane.
Width between boundaries	2 m
Available/Usable width	2 m
Boundaries	Livestock fencing on the hardcore track and lane
Ease of Access	Accessible flat path with some rough sections. Hardcore track not wheelchair accessible.
Signs	Public Footpath Sign at the Booths Hall end and on the stiles. Caution Speed Ramps within Booths Hall. Pedestrian Crossing signs within Booths Hall. All in good condition.
Path Furniture	Several bins within Booths Hall. Four stiles, only one needed to be climbed as gates open. The one at entrance to Pavement Lane top step at a slight angle.
Lighting	Some street lighting in Booths Park, good condition
Obstructions	None, everything well maintained
General Cleanliness	Good
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fix top step of stile • Adjust alignment of track and consider upgrading to cycle track

Illustrative photographs



FP 18 CROFT LANE TO LEGH ROAD

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	6 th March 2025
Description of Path	Alleyway between houses
Surface Description	Unpaved dirt path
Width between boundaries	1.5 m
Available/Usable width	1.5 m
Boundaries	Brick walls and fences. One tall brick wall is leaning significantly towards the path
Ease of Access	Easily accessible but posts on either end restricting access to all users
Signs	Footpath sign at Croft Lane end, overgrown with ivy
Path Furniture	None
Lighting	Lamppost at Croft Lane end
Obstructions	Lots of overhanging branches and vegetation.
General Cleanliness	Clean but lots of leaves
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None but letter on fence from residents about issues
Graffiti/ Vandalism	Some on concrete fence
General Comments	
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess leaning wall • Cut back ivy and overhanging vegetation • Install a dog poo bin • Clear Graffiti from concrete fence • Consider removing posts to make accessible to all

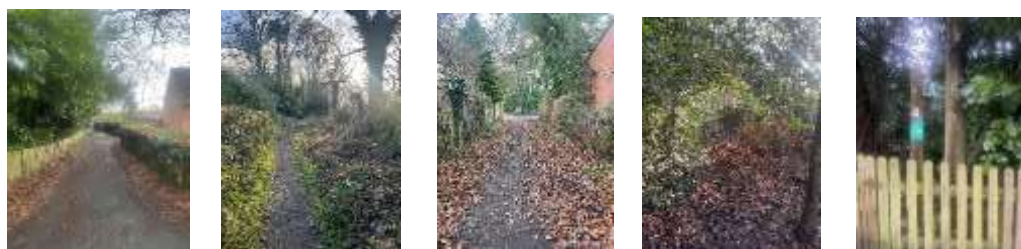
Illustrative photographs



FP19 LEYCESTER ROAD TO GOUGHS LANE

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	14 th December 2024
Description of Path	340m pathway between houses and a field. First 100 m a single lane track to Humbug Cottage. The next 150 m is a footpath between the field and gardens, with pedestrian access gates to several properties. The final 90 m is a single lane track to Goughs Lane.
Surface Description	The first 100 m is hardstanding. Several potholes with some being filled, the track also prone to flooding. The next 150 m is a muddy dirt path then the final 90 m is a dirt track in generally good condition.
Width between boundaries	8 – 3 m depending on point in track
Available/Usable width	1 – 3 m depending on point in track
Boundaries	Domestic fences and walls etc in good condition. Barbed wire fence next to field, broken in some places.
Ease of Access	Generally flat track, wide enough for access but nature of the path means not always accessible
Signs	Footpath sign at Leicester Road end in good condition. Signpost at Goughs Lane end is missing, post is on the floor and is rotting.
Path Furniture	None
Lighting	No lighting except for those from domestic properties.
Obstructions	A few overhanging branches and lots of surface vegetation in middle section.
General Cleanliness	Very good, minimal litter
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	As a local resident, I have on occasion trimmed this back [vegetation] to maintain good accessibility.
Improvements	Replace sign at Goughs Lane. Trim back some vegetation.

Illustrative photographs



FP19 GOUGHS LANE THROUGH TO WINDMILL WOOD

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	17 th January 2025
Description of Path	Circa 550m long running through Windmill Wood.
Surface Description	The entire footpath passes through woodland and is dirt path with areas also covered by surface vegetation to either side of the path.
Width between boundaries	Goughs Lane end width is 11m then widens to 16 m narrowing again to 7m where the woodland opens up
Available/Usable width	1 – 4m depending on vegetation, trees and fencing
Boundaries	Panelled fencing and mesh fencing
Ease of Access	Boggy in winter months with tree roots underfoot making it uneven in places
Signs	Metal Footpath sign at Goughs Lane entrance Heavily corroded. CCTV sign at entrance in good condition. Wooden footpath sign at the junction of the Toft footpaths in good condition
Path Furniture	Dog poo bin at the entrance
Lighting	None
Obstructions	A few overhanging and fallen branches and surface vegetation
General Cleanliness	Good, but often dog poo bags hanging on trees
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	Occasional
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	
Improvements	Clear vegetation and fallen/overhanging branches.

Illustrative photographs



FP20 TOFT ROAD TO TOFT FP2

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	16 th December 2024
Description of Path	Tree lined path
Surface Description	Grass and compacted earth in good condition but muddy
Width between boundaries	3 m
Available/Usable width	1 – 2 m
Boundaries	Trees and a barbed wire fence on one side
Ease of Access	Flat but uneven
Signs	Footpath sign at Toft Road end, in good condition. Sign on stile, needs cleaning.
Path Furniture	Stile in good condition at Toft FP2 end
Lighting	None
Obstructions	None
General Cleanliness	Good
Litter/ Fly Tipping	A few stacked pallets at the Toft Road end, not obstructing pathway
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider adding protection to the barbed wire close to the stile • Add right of way sign on stile heading towards Toft Road as passes along the side of a house • Clean sign on stile

Illustrative photographs



FP21 BROOKDALE AVENUE TO ST HELENA'S CHURCH

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	6 th March 2025
Description of Path	Pavement on Brookdale Avenue, followed by tarmac cut through onto the field behind the houses.
Surface Description	Tarmacked path in good condition followed by boggy field. Grass has evidence of original gravel path, but this is lost into the grass.
Width between boundaries	2 m then width of field
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Domestic fences on cut through between houses
Ease of Access	Access via chicane awkward for mobility scooter access Access up to St Helena's graveyard not suited for wheelchair/mobility scooters
Signs	Footpath sign at Brookdale Avenue end of cut through in good condition
Path Furniture	Railings at both ends of cut through in good condition
Lighting	None
Obstructions	Overgrown ivy in the cut through Low fences/barriers installed around St Helena's graveyard preventing wheelchair or scooter access.
General Cleanliness	Clean
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Discarded cans in the cut through
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	There is no clear signage to show where the path goes when you are on the field and no signage to indicate that the graveyard is there
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add signage to the section across the field • Consider access via the chicanes and path improvement up to historic site

Illustrative photographs



FP22 PRINCESS STREET TO KING STREET VIA REGENT STREET

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	5 th December 2024
Description of Path	Major thoroughfare with shops either side
Surface Description	Modern cobbles, many cracked or eroded. Better condition at King Street end.
Width between boundaries	4.5 m measured at Princess Street end, 9 m estimated in the middle, 3.2 metres measure at King Street end.
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Brick shop fronts in good condition. Wooden framed pub at Princess Street
Ease of Access	Easy access, slight slope
Signs	No unauthorised vehicles at Princess Street end, good condition. Shared zone at Princess Street end, very bent. No right turn at Princess Street end, the post is twisted-sign is not clearly visible, light above it is not working. TV surveillance camera sign, good condition. Regent Street Road sign needs cleaning. Four No Parking signs and a no smoking sign at King Street end, all in good condition.
Path Furniture	Salt bin at King Street end. A planter outside entrance to car park. Planter outside Clarendon Art. Bollard at each end. Three tall flags with images of Knutsford on either side. All in good condition. Cigarette butt holders at each end, overflowing at time of survey.
Lighting	Seven streetlights, two not working.
Obstructions	None
General Cleanliness	Very good
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Minimal
Trade Waste	Business Waste Bins at time of survey
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	A well-used thoroughfare, well-maintained and with attractive shopfronts.
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair bent road signs on Princess Street • Repair light on Princess Street • Clean road sings

Illustrative photographs



FP23 PRINCESS STREET TO KINGS STREET VIA SLATER'S COURT

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	9 th September 2024
Description of Path	Narrow footpath
Surface Description	York stone path with concrete path at the ends. York stone cracked in places
Width between boundaries	King Street end 0.81m Widens to 1.42m. Very wide at Slater's Court (20m estimated). Narrows again to 2.80m at Princess Street junction.
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Brickwork from properties in good condition.
Ease of Access	There are 15 steps in total in two flights only one of which had a handrail. Narrow entrances to the path.
Signs	Signage to Slater's Court from Princess Street end in good condition. Footpath closed sign halfway down on the north side. Lots of 'No Parking' signs for local businesses.
Path Furniture	Handrail on only one flight of steps. Several overflowing cigarette bins.
Lighting	Security light in Slater's Court. Lighting on the path at the King Street end, no lighting on the Princess Street end.
Obstructions	Low headroom on King Street end.
General Cleanliness	Generally clean, rather gloomy path.
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Small amount of litter e.g. bottle tops and cigarette butts.
Trade Waste	Bins from the businesses
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	Building near Princess Street end has broken windows, A gas meter which has lost its cover at the entrance to Princess Street
General Comments	Would benefit from a few improvements
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage at the King Street end • Consider adding lighting at the Princess Street end • Repair gas meter cover • Add a handrail on steps • Repair cracked paving

Illustrative photographs



FP24 KING STREET TO CHURCH VIEW

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	25 th January 2025
From	King Street
To	Church View
Description of Path	Alleyway and steps linking King Street to Church View
Surface Description	Uneven, paved flagstones then very uneven tarmac
Width between boundaries	1.8 – 1.2 m
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Buildings and domestic walls, trailing electric wires on cross keys side.
Ease of Access	Several flights of steps with a handrail
Signs	High up sign on King Street end
Path Furniture	Bollard protecting lamppost at Church view end in good condition
Lighting	Lampposts at Church View end but no lighting on the alleyway at King Street end
Obstructions	Some weeds growing. Overflow pipe discharging onto path
General Cleanliness	Very dirty. Some litter and mud, but mainly pigeon poo. Walls dirty and neglected
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Little
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	Graffiti on gate
General Comments	A dark and dirty path
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing of litter and cleaning of pigeon poo • Install lighting at the end of King Street • Repair the tarmac

Illustrative photographs



FP25 KING STREET TO MOORSIDE

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	25 th January 2025
Description of Path	Path runs down Cotton Shop Yard, across the King Street car park and over a bridge at the River Lily
Surface Description	Cobbles at King Street end, tarmac across the car park then concrete bridge. Bridge has a crack in it and the cobbles to tarmac join is uneven
Width between boundaries	3.8m, open space in car park to 1m over bridge
Available/Usable width	3.8m on cobbled path, approx. 1m over the bridge
Boundaries	Walls of buildings at King Street end then railings on the bridge in good condition
Ease of Access	Steep and uneven at the King Street end. Bridge is up a kerb
Signs	Clear sign for Cotton Shop Yard at King Street end
Path Furniture	Large planter blocking cobbled path and car park. Bin on the cobbled slope
Lighting	Lamppost on king Street end, car park well lit
Obstructions	Official footpath is blocked by parking bays
General Cleanliness	Clean
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Little
Trade Waste	Little near path
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	Footpath is open and providing access to the car park and to the Moor. An alternative route avoids the steps
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair crack in bridge • Upgrade bridge to be accessible for all

Illustrative photographs



FP26 LEYCESTER ROAD TO GOUGHS LANE

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	6 th March 2025
Description of Path	Cul de sac road followed by pathway between houses.
Surface Description	Tarmac followed by compacted earth track
Width between boundaries	2 – 3 m
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Domestic hedges and wooden fences. Some fences falling into the path and held up by rope
Ease of Access	Flat with a stile onto the track
Signs	Footpath signs at each end in good condition
Path Furniture	Uneven stile between Cul de sac and track
Lighting	None
Obstructions	Overhanging branches
General Cleanliness	Lots of leaf litter
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	Lots of dog poo bags
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaning fences need repair • Repair stile • Clear leaf litter

Illustrative photographs



FP27 CHELFORD ROAD TO TOFT FP11 VIA WINDMILL WOOD

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	20 th January 2025
Description of Path	Path running along the edge of Windmill Wood
Surface Description	Uneven dirt path
Width between boundaries	1.2 – 3 m
Available/Usable width	0.9 – 3 m
Boundaries	New fence bordering Windmill Wood. Barbed wire fence along field that is falling down in places
Ease of Access	Uneven but flat track
Signs	Private woodland keep out sign. Footpath signs in good condition, one on the other side of the fence.
Path Furniture	None
Lighting	None
Obstructions	Tree in the path. Vegetation may be an issue in summer months
General Cleanliness	Clean
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Some litter
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	Dog waste present
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move footpath signs to correct side of new fence • Add litter bin • Clear litter

Illustrative photographs



FP28 PRINCESS STREET TO TOFT ROAD

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	23 rd January 2025
Description of Path	Short cut through car park
Surface Description	Tarmac, uneven paving stones near the back gate
Width between boundaries	Single lane road width at Princess Street, gate at the Toft Road end.
Available/Usable width	As above
Boundaries	Brick walls and buildings in good condition
Ease of Access	Flat and easily accessible
Signs	None visible
Path Furniture	Trade bins, but not in the way
Lighting	Some lighting in good condition
Obstructions	Cars
General Cleanliness	Quite good
Litter/ Fly Tipping	Little
Trade Waste	Some by the bins
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	Some on side door to Waitrose
General Comments	Path needs much clearer signs at both ends
Improvements	Consider sign at entrance from King Edward Road

Illustrative photographs



FP30 NORTHWICH ROAD TO TABLEY HILL LANE

Survey Category	Survey Finding
Date of Survey	22 nd October 2025
Description of Path	Across fields
Surface Description	Grass across fields, concrete through farmyard then a drive
Width between boundaries	Wide across open fields, narrowing at the drive to approx. 4.5m
Available/Usable width	No restrictions- wide space
Boundaries	Hedges, fencing and barbed wire
Ease of Access	Flat, no steps but very muddy – not accessible to all
Signs	Footpath sign at Northwich Road and Tabley Hill Lane end both in good condition but path is unclear
Path Furniture	One stile at Northwich Road end and one at the end of the field, both in good condition
Lighting	None
Obstructions	None
General Cleanliness	Very clean path
Litter/ Fly Tipping	None
Trade Waste	None
Dog Fouling	None
Graffiti/ Vandalism	None
General Comments	Extremely muddy path. Unclear where the footpath goes. Footpath sign at Tabley Hill Road sign is obscured by trees. No signage from the Tabley Hill Road end through the farm
Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage through the farm to indicate footpath • More defined route marked out from Tabley Hill Road end

Illustrative photographs

