

## How can I get involved?

You can make an important contribution to keeping parish paths open for everyone to enjoy for example by:

- **Regularly walking footpaths.**

Regular walking of paths keeps them open and can provide an early warning system of issues that might arise in terms of condition, ease of access etc.

- **Carrying out simple “footpath gardening” duties.**

The biggest single difference volunteers can make is to regularly walk footpaths; carrying a sharp pair of secateurs in their pocket. Hawthorn, blackthorn, bramble, dog rose, nettles and thistles can all be found obstructing the footpaths of the parishes. Regular pruning will go a long way to keeping paths accessible.

- **Helping to surveying PROWs and reporting any issues, obstructions and problems.**

At least once a year volunteers can regularly inspect footpaths to record their observations on a standard survey form that we have prepared for you and can be found **(To follow)** Observations can be made on four subject headings:-

1. Footpath surface.
2. Bridges, gates and stiles.
3. Signs and waymarks
4. Obstructions.

A simple rating system should be applied:-

- A. Well maintained.
- B. Difficult to navigate.
- C. Impossible to navigate.

Wherever possible, digital photographs should accompany any written observations. Completed forms should be returned to the [Clerk to the Parish Council](#) who will report any identified problems to Cheshire West and Chester Council and monitor progress on actions taken to remedy highlighted problems.

- **Taking part in special projects,**

Volunteers would be encouraged to contribute ideas for and action towards special projects that might include (but not limited to): identifying circular routes, leading walks, preparing leaflets etc.

**Get involved by taking the first step and send your expression of interest to [Clerk to the Parish Council](#) and become part of the Parish Paths Team.**