Hemington, Luddington and Thurning Parish Council

Report of the Working Group in respect of restoring Old Footpaths to the Definitive Map March 2024

Two members of the group, supported by the Clerk, met on Thursday 8 February.

Given the need to complete detailed paperwork, and to serve notice on all affected landowners, it was agreed to limit the scope of initial applications and follow up with more (before deadline of January 2026) if considered worthwhile following initial feedback. 2 paths were selected for Hemington, and 2 for Luddington (1 Luddington later withdrawn by Cllr Dawson). No Thurning items were considered as the representative was not present.

The agreed routes to pursue (subject to ratification by Council at a later meeting) have been plotted in Parish Online and maps are attached. The routes have been plotted against Land Registry information to identify potential changes of land ownership along the length. This list is attached. The list identifies the need for 8 searches at Land Registry to identify the owners – at a cost of £48. Two have unknown ownership on their length (no Land Registry information on Parish Online, but it is hoped that ownership will emerge when the other ownerships are established.

A 1927 version of Ordnance Survey maps shows the routes near Hemington. The group believe a full size version of this map should be purchased for £28.56. From the online view it is unclear whether the map will include Luddington and Thurning. If not it may be necessary to purchase two further maps and authority for the spend is requested in case.

The Luddington route is shown as a highway on some old maps, so it may not appear on Ordnance Survey as a footpath. Further work needs to be done on establishing the right map to use for evidence of the Right of Way.

Cllr Dawson has met with Councillor Whitehall to advise on the work of the group to enable work to start on Thurning routes.

The working group needs to meet to:

a) Identify all landowners along the paths;
b) Complete in draft the forms for Definitive Map Orders to ensure that we have all required information;
c) Aim to meet with the landowners and explain the process and desired outcome, and receive their comments;
d) Report back to the May 2024 meeting.

Richard Allinson
Clerk
8 March 2024