

Public Rights of Way 6 and 7

You are probably aware that our Parish includes several Public Rights of Way (PROW), including 6, which is a Bridleway, and 7, which is a Footpath (see map below).



You can see that PROW 6 and 7 run along the boundary of the large open field. These routes have not been maintained due to vegetation overgrowing into the field and new desire lines have been established over many years within the field running roughly parallel to the PROW.

Further information on public footpaths is available on the PC website at <https://www.oliversbattery.info/outdoor-footpaths/official-footpaths-and-bridleways/>

If you are one of the many local residents who use the large open field for social and wellbeing activities, you will be aware of the many desire lines that have been established around and across the field.

You may have noticed that PROW 7 has recently been re-established by Hampshire County Council (HCC). Some sections are close to the boundary and others are about half-way to the boundary from the existing desire line (due to overgrown vegetation).



See photograph above showing a section of the re-established PROW 7 close to the boundary and a new footpath signpost.

In connection with PROW 6, Abby Sullivan, HCC Senior Countryside Access Ranger, wrote to the landowner reminding him of his responsibility to ensure that any shrubs, trees or hedges do not endanger the public or obstruct any PROW. The land manager has confirmed that they will cut back the hedge and remove the trees in the first week of September after the breeding bird season. This will allow the PROW 6 to also be re-established.