

Papplewick Parish Council

Public Paths Strategy 2000-2015

A Partnership between Papplewick Parish Council
and Nottinghamshire County Council

Papplewick Public Path Strategy 2000-2015

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Strategy has arisen out of an earlier document compiled by the ‘Linby & Papplewick Parish Paths Partnership’ to consider how the public path network in each parish might be enhanced. The Partnership was established in 1997 as a joint committee of the Parish Councils of Linby and Papplewick to administer a Parish Paths Partnership (P3) agreement between both councils and Nottinghamshire County Council. The joint committee undertook maintenance work on existing rights of ways in both parishes.
- 1.2 As part of the Partnership’s deliberations a strategy document was compiled to outline how the P3 Committee wished to see the rights of way network extended over the 15 year period between 2000 and 2015. It was intended to form the first step towards discussions with parishioners, landowners, local authorities and other interested parties. In proposing that strategy, the P3 Committee believed that it would accord with aims established in certain strategic planning and development frameworks that were then current. It attracted widespread support during consultation with the relevant individuals and bodies detailed in Appendix 1.
- 1.3 The ‘Linby & Papplewick Parish Paths Partnership’ was dissolved at the beginning of 2005 with each parish assuming individual responsibility for maintaining rights of way within its jurisdiction under the terms of new P3 agreements with Nottinghamshire County Council. Papplewick Parish Council wishes to continue with the aims of that earlier document and has consequently adopted this revised Public Paths Strategy. An identical timescale has been utilised to reflect the ongoing nature of the project.
- 1.4 The following five potential routes were identified in the original document as detailed below and shown on the accompanying plan:

2. Walter’s Hill (Route 1)

- 2.1 The difficulties faced by pedestrians along Walter’s Hill (part of the B683 Blidworth Way, north of Top Farm, Papplewick) had long been recognised

locally. Lack of pavements or grass verges on either side, coupled with poor visibility, made traversing this road on foot hazardous throughout the year. Forming part of the Robin Hood Way, the potential for conflict between road users was a concern particularly at weekends when there was a dramatic increase in the number of pedestrians using this busy road.

2.2 Following negotiations with the owners of woodland running along the eastern side of Walter's Hill, they kindly agreed to dedicate a right of way on foot over their land. Two new footpaths were officially opened on 21st April 2001 and have received widespread usage by parishioners and long-distance walkers since.

3. **Calverton Mineral Line (Route 2)**

3.1 Following the cessation of mining activities at Calverton Colliery in May 1999, this railway line between Bestwood and Calverton has remained unused. The Parish Council believes that it should be converted into a multi-use linear recreational route serving the needs of walkers, cyclists and horse-riders. A number of benefits would accrue from such a conversion. It would:

- a) link into the Sustrans Millennium cycle route and Robin Hood Way at Bestwood Lakes Country Park.
- b) intersect the Robin Hood Way at Moor Road, Papplewick; Stankerhill, Papplewick; and the A60 (near Seven Mile House, Papplewick).
- c) link in with the existing NET tram stop at Broomhill, Hucknall.
- d) adjoin a proposed major new residential development at Papplewick Grange fields. There should be a combined cycleway and footway along Moor Road to link this site with the multi-use recreational route and carry the Robin Hood Way along this dangerous part of its route.
- e) create circular routes when combined with existing footpaths and minor roads.
- f) link into the County Council's 'Double H' cycle route near Papplewick Pumping Station.
- g) provide better cycle access from Hucknall and western Nottingham for employees at The Park Hospital and Nottinghamshire Police Headquarters.
- h) intersect again with the Robin Hood Way near Papplewick Pumping Station.

- i) encourage better access and the use of non-motorised forms of transport to Papplewick Pumping Station.
- j) provide further access to permissive paths on Forest Enterprise land near Papplewick Pumping Station.

4. **A60 Mansfield Road to Papplewick Pumping Station (Route 3)**

- 4.1 Severn Trent have an access track to the Papplewick reservoirs and Pumping Station which leaves the A60 Mansfield Road some 250m south of the Devil's Elbow (at SK 568 528). Being linear in nature, this route would require relatively little work to make it accessible to the public. It passes over the highest ground within Papplewick parish affording excellent views over surrounding countryside. Papplewick Pumping Station Trust has proposals detailed in its Conservation Plan to preserve the old Papplewick Reservoir and make it publicly accessible. This proposed path would allow better access on foot to both the Reservoir and Pumping Station, and create the availability of circular routes.

5. **Papplewick Dam (Route 4)**

- 5.1 The Dam area itself is already publicly accessible under the terms of an agreement between Nottinghamshire County Council and the Co-operative Group (CWS) Limited. Papplewick Parish Council has already enhanced access and restored some of the features within the wood. The Parish Council, in association with Linby Parish Council, propose to create a further short length of path to connect the northern end of Papplewick Dam with either footpath Linby 2 (on the definitive map) or Papplewick 1 to provide a continuation of the Leen Valley path and allow scope for circular walks when used with existing footpaths. The proposed path would run along field headlands either to the west or east of the fishing pond. Negotiations with landowners are already underway.

6. **Devil's Elbow (Bestwood II) Quarry (Route 5)**

- 6.1 In 1999, Tarmac Heavy Building Materials Ltd. announced plans to extend Devil's Elbow sand quarry into Papplewick parish. As part of their application for permission to Nottinghamshire County Council, Tarmac

incorporated various proposed uses for the entire quarry area following the cessation of sand extraction. Discussions with Tarmac's management revealed a willingness to consider installing footpaths and cycle ways in the final restoration plan. It is envisaged that these could link into the path proposed in section 4 above. As extraction is not anticipated to finish before 2012, it will not be possible to determine the precise routes until after that time and therefore no proposed route is not shown on the accompanying plan.

7. **Conclusions**

- 7.1 This strategy outlines how the publicly accessible path network in the parish of Papplewick is being extended over the plan period. When considered separately, each path provides a useful link in the existing path network. Taken together, the paths produce a circular walk covering a substantial area of Papplewick parish, opening up to public access its varied historical and natural environment.
- 7.2 It is intended to develop the overall network into a 'Steam Trail' with interpretative display boards around the Trail developing various aspects of the steam theme. Papplewick became the first place in the country to make use of a rotative steam engine in the cotton industry when a Boulton and Watt engine was installed at Middle Mill in 1785. Further, Papplewick Pumping Station currently has on public display two steam engines manufactured by James Watt & Co. in 1883, believed to be amongst the last made by this company. In addition, steam power has been used by trains along the Calverton Mineral Line, at Stankerhill and Forest Farms, and on local roads.
- 7.3 The Parish Council appreciates that it will be unable to implement this Strategy without the support and assistance of various stakeholders including individuals, authorities and organisations. The Parish Council commends this Strategy to interested parties and the people it serves.

November 2005

Appendix 1

List of consultees to original 'Linby & Papplewick Parish Paths Partnership'
Public Paths Strategy:

Papplewick Parish Council

The Parish Council of Linby

Ravenshead Parish Council

Calverton Parish Council

Bestwood Parish Council

Papplewick Pumping Station Trust

Linby and Papplewick Parochial Church Council

Local Landowners:

T. W. A. & A. S. Cundy Ltd. - Top Farm, Papplewick

Marshall Farms - Barracks Farm, Papplewick

Mrs. E. Stubbs - Forest Farm, Papplewick

R. H. Hardstaff & Sons - Hall Farm, Linby

A. Scruby - Newstead Grange Farm

Paddy Tipping MP for Sherwood

Cllr. John Whetton - Gedling Borough Council

Cllr. Joe Lonergan - Gedling Borough Council & Notts. County Council

Notts. Rural Community Council - Newstead

Greenwood Community Forest - Kirkby-in-Ashfield

The Ramblers Association (Notts. Branch)

Gedling Borough Council - Local Plans Section

Ms. N. Mularkey, Economic Development

Ashfield District Council - Ms. E Maltby

Notts. County Council - Rights of Way Section

Countryside Management Service - L. Scudder

Tourism Officer - N. Broomhead

The text of this document is also available on the Papplewick Parish Council web site
at www.papplewick.org

Papplewick Parish Council Public Paths Strategy 2000-2015 – Proposals Map



Route 1

Route 2

Route 3

Route 4

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