

Stoke Prior and Ford Footpaths Officer Annual Report May 2026

PROW	Comments
SP1	Impassable following a landslide – meeting with Hereford Council in November 2025. Acknowledgment was made that a finger post should be present. PROW position discussed, no agreements were provided on a time scale for any work to be done, nor any proposed diversion. People will still have a legal right to try and find a way through, i.e., past/around the landslide. People have not been doing this because they either know the path is impassable or don't know it is there because there is no finger post or way markers. In May 2026, there is still no readily accessible footpath, nor any visible signage or entry to the path from the C1110 opposite the Lamb.
SP2	Initially, from the access road on C1112 at The Woodhouse, the FP is well signed, and stiles and gates are accessible. Nevertheless, upon reaching, traversing, and exiting the woodland area, the path becomes impassable, and the route's signage is missing. Action is required to clear the route. 
SP4	Initially, from the access road on C1112 at The Woodhouse, the FP is well signed, and the landowner of this section is congratulated on the accessibility and clear routing through their property.  Once in the open fields, the footpath cannot be followed easily because signage stops and a padlocked gate prevents further access.  Action is required to ensure the route is well-signed and accessible.
SP7	This footpath is clear, well-signed, and had no defects. 
SP9	This footpath is clear, well-signed, and had no defects. 
SP31	This footpath is initially well sign-posted, well-maintained, and accessible; the landowner of this section is congratulated on the accessibility and clear routing through their property. 

	As the footpath enters farmland, the stile and bridge are both surrounded by significant undergrowth that needs clearing. The bridge immediately after the stile is ill-defined and potentially hazardous. A much-needed handrail is present, which aids navigation.  From this point, signage is minimal, and there is no clearly defined route across the fields or around the woodland until just before crossing onto the golf club land, where there were two signs in the hedgerow. This section of the footpath was planted at the time of inspection.  On accessing the golf club land, over this stile, all signage ceased, and there was no clear route. This is where the footpath joins the FD4 path, which leads down to the end at Ford Farm on the C1113. There is a notice stating the footpath has changed route and that way markers are to be followed. However, no way markers were evident.  Action is required to improve the signage along the route, particularly across the field and around the edge of the woodland, to the point where it meets FD4. A clear path needs to be established across the field to ensure walkers are aware of the route.
FD4	Upon accessing the golf course, where FD4 begins, a notice is displayed stating that the footpath has changed route and that way markers are to be followed. However, no way markers were evident.  Action is required to improve signage across the golf course.
SP3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 32A & 33	These footpaths have not been inspected since the current Parish Council Stoke Prior Footpaths Officer took over the role. However, there have been no reports of defects, accessibility issues, or poor signage from residents in the parish.

Sarah Sneyd

Footpaths Officer, Stoke Prior & Ford

13.05.2026