

Steypning Community Partnership

Visitor & Tourism Group



PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE

March 2015

Completion of improved access held up by poor weather

'This is not a case of the wrong sort of rain but too much of it!' explained Martin Leigh-Pollitt in answer to queries as to why work had been suspended on resurfacing of the footpath from Bramber along the river bank. As previously reported, the improvements will enable people of all ages and wheelchair users to gain access to this wonderful stretch of the countryside. Once the works laying the base coat neared the A283 we had to call a halt to avoid churning up the access and making the path inaccessible.

That has not deterred some mobility scooter users taking a look to see how far they can get. Pictured here are Mr & Mrs James, who live nearby, taking a trial run. Mrs James said it was a brilliant idea and that as soon as it got warmer they planned to take some coffee and look for the swans along the riverside.

Temporary signs have been put up at various point along the footpath reminding people that this section is a public footpath and is not open to cyclists or horseriders (even if they are being pushed or led). On completion of the project permanent information boards will be put up with information as to the scenery and what to look out for in terms of wildlife, activity on the River Adur and flowers along the banks and fields.

When the weather improves, the contractors will return to put the final surface on the section already started and also lay a compacted surface from under the bridge at the A283 to the junction with the Downs Link and South Downs Way close to the footbridge across the river.

All this work is in addition to works to improve safety on the Downs Link bridleway. This path is marked with blue symbols and signs, and is open for walkers, cyclists and riders. It started earlier in the year and has largely been completed apart from some surfacing and is already attracting many users who want to avoid crossing the A283.

This route can be busy at times and to avoid problems Christine Supiot, pictured on her horse Thunder, talked to Martin about The British Horse Society Code for riders and cyclists. This reminds riders they should wear

fluorescent & reflective clothing at all times, so they can be seen earlier, and should slow to a walk if they meet other path users. The Countryside Act 1968 gave cyclists the right to use bridleways but they must give way to horses and walkers. It is also good practice to let other users know they are approaching from behind by calling out “hello”. When passing horseriders, cyclists should do so in small numbers on the right, slowly, giving plenty of room. She said ‘it is all a matter of common sense but if everyone follows the code it avoids any problems, leaving us all to enjoy this improved access’.

ENDS March 2005

PHOTOS: LARGE PDFs ATTACHED
Please attribute **"Frank Bull" or © Frank Bull**



INFORMATION ON STEYNING & DISTRICT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

“Volunteers working to maintain and develop our community”

Under the control and guidance of an executive committee, groups can identify a need for a community project and work to together to help create something that improves our community for everybody.

For more information contact

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