

Meals Ashby Parish Council  
Footpath Report

8<sup>th</sup> April  
2019

With the better Spring weather having recently arrived, Lorna and I (in our capacity as Footpath Wardens) decided it was a good time to start checking out our local footpaths.

On a lovely sunny afternoon at the end of March we set out on our first footpath walk between Paddock Lane, Meals Ashby and Washbrook Lane.

The footpath starts in Paddock Lane - over a stile and then a short walk across Stockdale's paddock, alongside the hedge bordering Rose Cottage. A couple of horses are kept here but they showed no interest in us as we crossed their field. Another stile leads onto Pell's Hill and the next couple of hundred yards are a bit tricky. There are high banks on each side of the road and no path, making this a potentially dangerous section, dodging cars coming up and going down the hill. At the bend in the road, next to Orchard House, another stile leads into a field where the well-delineated footpath goes diagonally across towards an opening in the hedge onto Earls Barton Road. We walked along the verge for about 300 yards, crossing the road and through another gap then across 2 more fields which again were well marked. The footpath comes out, over another stile, onto Washbrook Lane, a few yards from the entrance to Sywell Country Park.

All sections of the footpath going across farmland were signposted, well delineated and clear. The only problem we encountered was the swarm of flies hovering all along the path - but I don't suppose we can hold the farmer responsible for them!

We are looking forward to our future footpath checks over the next few months.

Maggie Frampton  
Lana Bell