



Neighbourhood Plan

Footpaths and Active Travel Working Group

Working Group Report – March 2026



Disclaimer:- This report has been prepared in good faith to be an accurate and unbiased summary of what is known within the topic area. However, the authors cannot guarantee the accuracy or the completeness of the information provided, and the report may be subject to revision and correction.

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Aims, scope and membership

WG Name	Footpaths and Active Travel
Aims	To improve, protect and enhance the non-motorised options for both leisure and commute travel within Sunningwell parish for the benefit of residents, visitors and future generations.
Scope	All non-motorised travel and its impact on the community life, including: • Public rights of way, including footpaths, bridleways and permissive paths • Access to open countryside and other green assets • Improvements to public rights of way • Roadside pavements, continuity, safety and accessibility • Cycleways • Shared-use roads • Improving ease of travel between separate parts of the parish to enhance cohesion • Planning for the increased traffic pressures arising from adjacent developments • Publicity and outreach activities on the above
Members	Robert Chorley, Kevin Carter, Debbie Neal, David Shorten, Cynthia Warmington, Mike Wykes, (Kevin Carter), (Bob Evans)

Executive Summary

Bridleways, cycleways, footpaths and roadside pavements are essential infrastructure for recreation and exercise, as well as providing an alternative to motor vehicles for local travel within the parish and neighbouring parishes. Sunningwell parish is blessed with an extensive network of well-used registered rights of way as well as unregistered footpaths. However, the following factors mean they are not utilised as much as they should be:

- **Condition:** many rights of way become virtually impassable from November to April due to their muddy condition. While this is partly a product of nature (seasonal rainfall and clay soil), it also reflects design and land-use (enclosure with fencing by landowners). We believe there is scope for improvement.
- **Connectivity:** many rights of way do not connect, forcing pedestrians to walk on country roads without roadside pavements. The communities of Long Furlong, Sunningwell village and Bayworth are not connected by roadside pavement or direct footpaths.

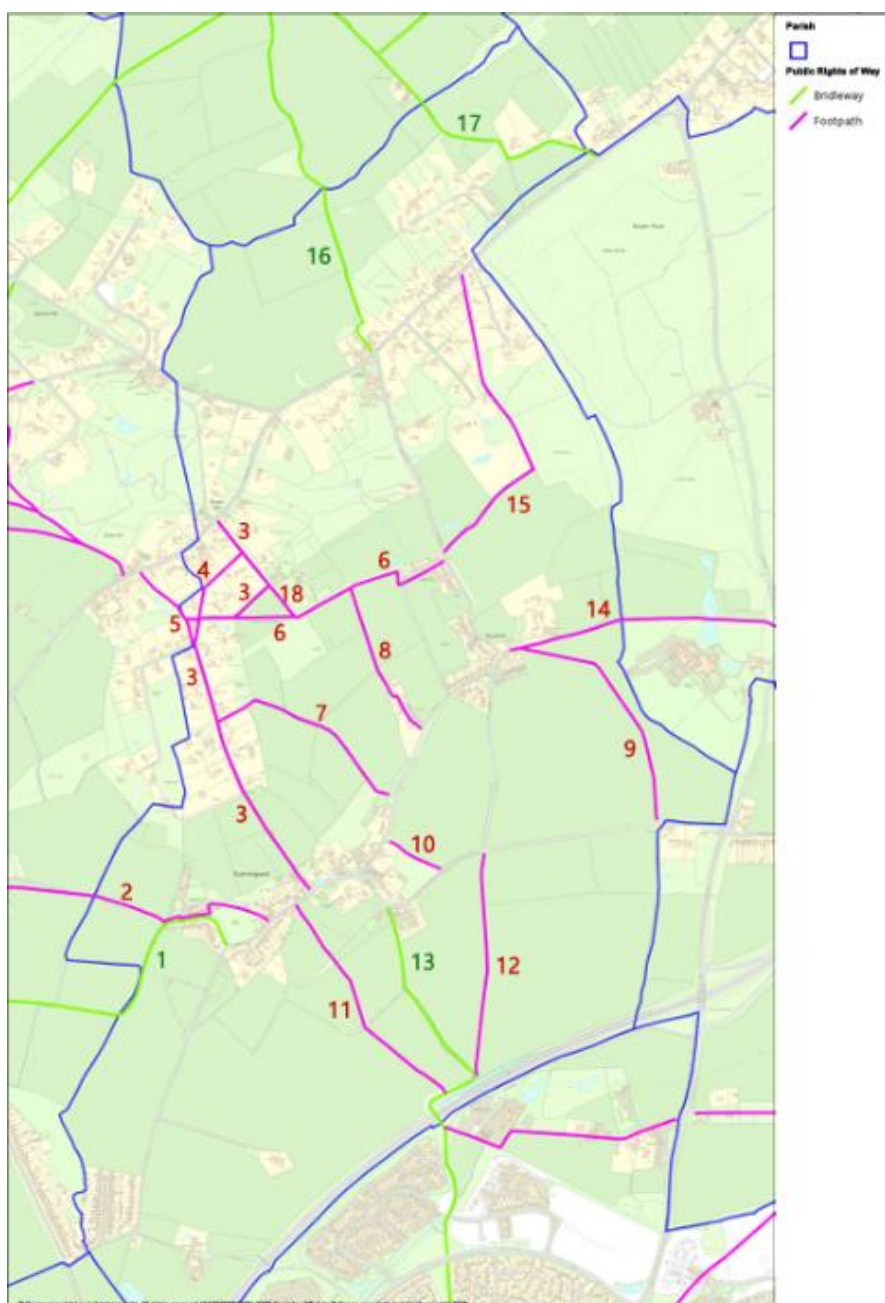
Improving the condition and connectivity of rights of way is an even greater priority given the significant housing development in surrounding parishes (Dalton Barracks, North Abingdon (Tilsley Park to Lodge Hill), Radley, Kennington) resulting in:

- **Demand:** increased visits to the parish to enjoy its amenities (cricket club, St Leonard's, Flowing Well, art school, Barn Café, village hall) and countryside (village green, Boars Hill and Bagley Wood, within and outside the parish)
- **Vehicle traffic:** increased visitor and through-traffic anticipated from surrounding developments, which could be materially mitigated through rights of way improvements promoting greater use of foot and cycle instead of motor vehicles.

1. Sunningwell parish network of footpaths and bridleways

The map below displays the registered public rights of way in the parish. In addition to these there are number of unregistered footpaths in common use, as well as roadside walkways, which are also considered by this report.

In this plan registered rights of way are referred to according to the numbering in this map. Rights of way pertaining to neighbouring parishes are prefixed 'Abingdon', 'Wootton', etc.



Bridleway 13, and paths 13, 3 and 5 form part of the designated Oxford Green Belt Way.

This map does not show the re-routing of the very north end of path 11 made on 11 August 2025, nor footpath 19 joining footpaths 2 and 3 which was registered on 15 September 2025.

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These rights of way are further subdivided where they interconnect with other rights of way. Further details for each path are provided in the table below:

Status	Code	Name	Length	Start	Finish
Bridleway	1/10		318m	Sunningwell Dark La	Whitecross (Wootton PC border)
Footpath	2/10		594m	Cricket Ground	Blagrove Farm (Wootton PC border)
Footpath ¹	3/10	Lincombe La	121m	Fox Lane	Footpath 4/10
Footpath ¹	3/20	Lincombe La	122m	Footpath 4/10	Footpath 18/10
Footpath ¹	3/30	Lincombe La	147m	Footpath 18/10	Footpath 5/10
Footpath ¹	3/40	Lincombe La	104m	Footpath 5/10	Footpath 6/10
Footpath ¹	3/50	Lincombe La	74m	Footpath 6/10	Path to Fox pub
Footpath ^{1,2}	3/60	Lincombe La	245m		
Footpath ^{1,2}	3/70	Lincombe La	224m		
Footpath ²	3/80		353m	Sunningwell Village Hall	Lincombe Lane
Footpath ²	4/10		250m	Lincombe Lane	Lincombe Lane
Footpath ²	5/10		41m	Lincombe Lane	Path to Fox pub
Footpath ²	5/20		80m	Path to Fox pub	Lincombe Lane
Footpath	6/10		180m	Lincombe Lane	Footpath 18/10
Footpath	6/20		190m	Footpath 18/10	
Footpath	6/30		340m		Bayworth Park
Footpath	7/10		640m	Lincombe Lane	Sunningwell Road
Footpath	8/10		485m	Footpath 6/20	The Quarry
Footpath	9/10		745m	The Coach House (Sugworth La)	Bayworth
Footpath	10/10		175m	Sunningwell Rd	Church Lane (connects Sunningwell to Abingdon-Oxford Rd)
Footpath	11/20		313m	Sunningwell Glebe	Pen Lane
Footpath	11/30		442m	Sunningwell Village	Sunningwell Green
Footpath	12/10		668m	Pen Lane (Bridleway)	Green Lane (Road)
Bridleway ²	13/10	Pen Lane	587m	Beaulieu Court	Footpath 13/20
Bridleway ²	13/20	Pen Lane	97m	Footpath 13/10	Footpath 13/50
Bridleway ²	13/50	Pen Lane	135m	Bridge(A34)	Bridge(A34)
Footpath	14/10		32m	Bayworth	Footpath 9/10
Footpath	14/20		313m	Footpath 9/10	Chandlings (Kennington PC border)
Footpath	15/10		1002m	Bayworth Park	Foxcombe Rd
Bridleway	16/10		535m	Foxcombe Rd	Old Golf Course (Cumnor Border)
Bridleway ¹	17/10		594m	Foxcombe Rd	Chilswell La (Cumnor border)
Footpath	18/10		117m	Lincombe Lane	Footpath 6/10

[1] Shared with private tarmac road

[2] Oxford Green Belt Way

Detailed assessments and descriptions (including photographs) supporting the sections that follow are included in Appendix 3.

2. Connectivity

A pictorial survey of all of the roads in the parish is given in the appendix, with the images below summarising the main observations.

2.1 Disconnected rights of way

There are several rights of way that do not effectively connect, resulting in pedestrians walking on busy country roads, risking their personal safety. In many cases unregistered footpaths have become established, providing a safer alternative. However, there is a risk that landowners may attempt to enforce their rights to remove access to these unregistered footpaths. Specific examples are:

- Woodcraft Wood (registered footpath 15) to Chandlings (registered footpath 14): these are connected by a commonly used unregistered footpath (approximately 500m) following verge of field. The alternative, via rights of way, involves a circuitous route of approximately 500m on the busy Brumcombe Lane.
- Disconnect between registered footpaths 10 and 12: this requires walking approximately 150m on the busy road connecting Sunningwell to the Oxford–Abingdon main road, unless a commonly used unregistered footpath is used, following the verge of a field.

Significant parts of the parish and adjacent land are owned by the Oxford Preservation Trust (Boars Hill Old Golf Course, Lincombe Lane Field and Reserve) and St John's College (Woodcraft and Bagley Wood). These give open access to the general public and are criss-crossed by popular unregistered footpaths providing useful connections between registered rights of way and communities. It is expected that all will support OPT and St John's College in the continued open access of their land. In addition, the Cecil Pilkington Trust provides access by subscription to the general public to Foxcombe Wood and Church Farm Wood.

2.2 Connecting communities

Although there are footpaths from Sunningwell village and Bayworth to Boars Hill there are no roadside pavements or direct footpaths that connect the communities of Long Furlong, Sunningwell and Bayworth, and within these communities, peripheral areas are not connected by roadside pavements or direct footpaths. For example:

- Beaulieu Court has no roadside pavement connection with the centre of Sunningwell
- No roadside pavement connecting houses in Sunningwell beyond the Flowing Well public house in the direction of Bayworth
- Brumcombe Lane from Bayworth Residential Park to Bayworth corner has no roadside pavement

Where roadside pavements are provided, they are often unsuitable for wheelchair users due to their inadequate width and surface quality.

The roads connecting Bayworth, Sunningwell and Long Furlong have limited verges, being bordered by hedges, trees and deep irrigation ditches. This makes the construction of roadside walkways very costly, if the quote provided for the construction of a roadside pavement from Bayworth to Sunningwell can be taken as a guide. Roadside pavements may also impact the rural character of these country lanes, potentially encouraging faster vehicle speeds. A possibly preferable option would be to establish permissive rights of way along the verges of fields running parallel to the road, but would require landowner consent.

2.3 Connecting with surrounding parishes and new housing developments therein

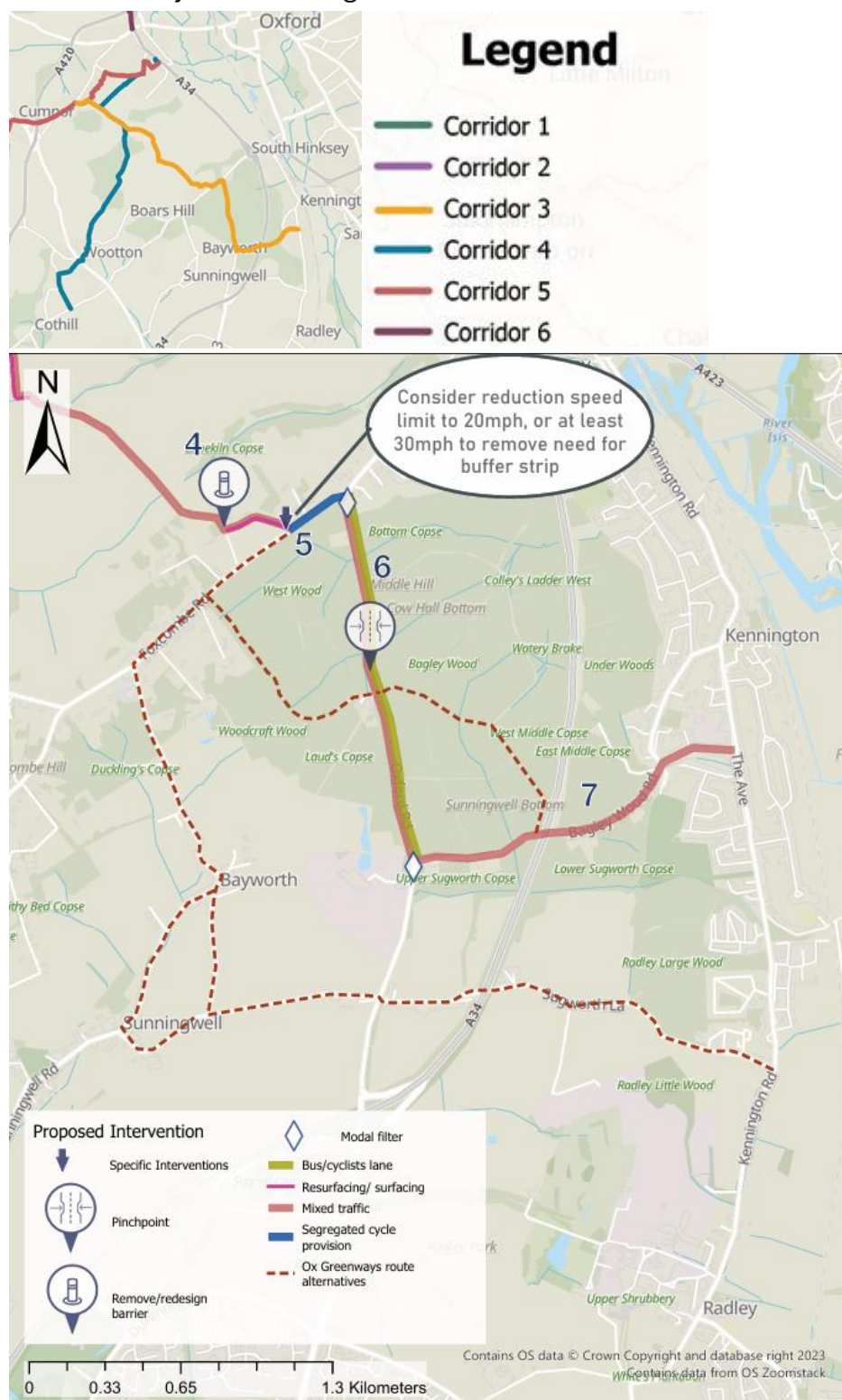
Public rights of way connections to surrounding population centres are as follows:

- **Sunningwell – North Abingdon** (including new housing north of Tilsley Park): Connected to Sunningwell via Pen Lane (Sunningwell public bridleway 13; Abingdon public bridleway 35). We understand there is Section 106 funding to enhance this bridleway.
- **Sunningwell – Whitecross/Dalton Barracks development:** Whitecross is connected to Sunningwell via Sunningwell public bridleway 1 and Wootton public bridleway 29. This is muddy and in poor condition and in need of an upgrade if increased usage is to be promoted. Or the Dalton Barracks development could be connected more directly to Sunningwell via Long Furlong if a roadside walkway is provided.
- **Sunningwell – Wootton/Lamborough Hill:** Sunningwell footpath 2/Wootton footpath 4 provides a good connection via Blagrove Farm at the Sunningwell end. However, at the Wootton end it could be improved by providing direct access to Lamborough Hill.
- **Sunningwell/Boars Hill – Kennington/Radley:** Kennington connects with the parish via Sunningwell footpath 14/Kennington footpath 13 and Radley via Pen Lane (see above) /Radley footpath 4. These are currently not suitable for bicycles although the Oxford Greenways project ([Oxford Greenways | Let's Talk Oxfordshire](#)), aims to 'create seamless cycling and walking routes that connect nearby towns, villages, and future development sites with Oxford' (see below).

Sunningwell's footpaths are well used by those from outside the parish, both parking in the parish and using the paths, or using the paths to reach the parish from adjacent areas. Both of these activities have seen a marked increase since Covid, emphasising the importance of Sunningwell's rural haven to the wellbeing of those across the wider region.

2.4 Oxford Greenways

We note that the proposed Corridor 3 route connects Kennington with Cumnor via Chilswell Farm and Boars Hill, and while it includes Sunningwell registered brideway 17, it largely bypasses Sunningwell's principal communities. The alternative Corridor 3 routes (as set out on the [Greenways Corridor 3 route map](#)) which better connect with Sunningwell/Bayworth and avoid the busy Oxford-Abingdon road would be of more benefit to the Parish.



3. Conditions and improvements

3.1 Footpath conditions

Many rights of way become virtually impassable from November to April due to their muddy condition. While this is partly a product of nature (seasonal rainfall and clay soil), it also reflects design and land-use (enclosure with fencing by landowners). The following measures could be taken to improve the conditions of the parish's footpaths:

- Improved drainage
- Improved surfaces (e.g. use of gravel/aggregate)
- Addition of steps

In particular, improving the condition of the following rights of way should be considered a priority:

- Footpath 3/80: this popular path (part of the Oxford Green Belt Way) connects Sunningwell Village with Boars Hill (Lincombe Lane). During winter its lower half becomes very muddy and would benefit from improved drainage and gravel, and at its mid-point would benefit from a couple of steps.
- Footpath 6/30: connects Bayworth Residential Park with Boars Hill (Lincombe Lane), becoming impassable in winter due to mud and its gradient. It would benefit from gravel, steps and improved drainage.
- Footpath 8/10, recently reinstated, has a short section on the spring line near the top which is a quagmire for most of the year. Previously an avoiding route through the field was used, but this is now prevented by the deer fencing, and improved drainage is required.

Footpaths 9, 10, 11, 12 and 14 all skirt or pass through cultivated arable fields and all become difficult to negotiate in winter due to their muddy condition but may be considered a lower priority.

3.2 Use of footpaths by bicycles

The use of bicycles on bridleways, cycleways and roads as an alternative to motor vehicles is to be encouraged for transport and recreational exercise. However, some footpaths are also used by bicycles, for which they are unsuited and create a safety hazard for pedestrians. For example:

- Footpath 12: connects Bayworth/Green Lane to Pen Lane (and beyond to North Abingdon) and is popular with cyclists, presenting two possible options, either it could have, 1, gates added to its entry points to deter cyclists or 2. be widened and improved as a bridleway/cycleway.

However, we note that responsible cyclists have every right to wheel but not ride their cycles along footpaths, and this makes particular sense for short sections of footpaths connecting roads and bridleways where there is no convenient alternative. For example:

- Footpath 3/80: this footpath connects Lincombe Lane (private road providing access to Boars Hill and beyond) with Sunningwell village and is only approximately 300m. Tall gates, required to prevent access by farmed deer, makes the path virtually inaccessible to responsible cyclists wishing to wheel their cycles to Lincombe Lane.

4. Footpath amenities

4.1 Dog waste bins and foot scrapers

Dog waste bins are provided on some footpaths (e.g. footpath 15). Some are on land owned by the parish council, and some are on land owned by private landowners with their consent. Those easily accessible to the road are owned by the parish council who also arrange weekly emptying. Where bins are distant from the road they are owned by the local residents association who also routinely transfer the waste to one of the council bins collection points.

A foot scraper has been provided by the residents on footpath 6 on entry to Bayworth Residential Park to reduce the amount of mud being walked on the road in front of their houses.

4.2 Maps and signage

Some footpaths are poorly sign-posted or not sign-posted at all (e.g. footpath 5). The lack of public rights of way signs is particularly significant on Lincombe Lane which has prominent 'Private Road' signs without highlighting that it is also a public right of way for pedestrians.

Awareness of rights of way and their use could particularly benefit from the display of large maps of rights of way, where visiting walkers tend to park (e.g. Sunningwell village hall car park and Boars Hill Old Golf Course) and entry points from neighbouring parishes (e.g. Pen Lane).

5. Footpath warden

Sunningwell Parish Council has a nominated footpath warden.

Appendix: Rights of way assessments and descriptions

Bridleway 01

Assessment performed 20 December 2025

Bridleway from Dark Lane to Whitecross is a largely hardcore wide path with some mud sections. Large lengths used by farm vehicles so hardcore is muddy. At the end at Whitecross it ends at the Wootton Road where there is a footpath so people on foot can continue.

A bridleway connecting here to Wootton Village would be great to get from the parish to Wootton by bike.



Footpath 02

Assessment performed on 20 December 2025

Once leaving the Cricket Field the footpath is entirely a concrete track that passes through a farmyard and then connects to the lower section of Foxcombe Road.

There is a single kissing gate to enter the farm yard. With the necessary investment this would make an ideal cycle route to bypass Foxcombe Road over Boars Hill and avoid going by road into Whitecross and then up to Wootton. As this is a working farm persuading the landowner to allow cycles would be necessary and may not be forthcoming on the basis of previous discussions.



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Footpath 03/10 to 60

Assessment performed on 28 November 2025

This right of way (footpath) connects Fox Lane (public highway) with Sunningwell. Other than in its final 200m the footpath is shared with a private tarmac road (Lincombe Lane) serving a number of properties. It was noted that there are many signs along the route highlighting it being a 'Private' road, but no signs making clear it is a public right of way as a footpath. This could be remedied. Much of the route is designated as the Oxford Green Belt Way. The route is divided into the following sections:

03-10 Lincombe Lane. See Photo 1 Entry from Fox Lane

03-20 Lincombe Lane. See Photo 2 From junction of footpath 4/10 to 18/10 (entry to Foxcombe Hill Farm)

03-30 Lincombe Lane. See Photo 3 From junctions of footpaths 18/10 and 6/10 (bordering Lincombe Field and Reserve - OPT owned)

03-40 Lincombe Lane. See Photo 4 From junctions of footpaths 6/10 and 4/10 and 5/10

03-50 Lincombe Lane. See Photo 5 From junctions of footpaths 4/10 and 5/10 and 5/20

03-60 Lincombe Lane. See Photo 6 From junctions of footpaths 5/20 and 7/10



Footpath 03/70

Assessment performed on 25th November 2025

This right of way connects footpaths 372/03/80 and 372/07/10 along Lincombe Lane. The surface is a made road.



Sunningwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Footpath 03/80

Assessment performed on 25th November 2025

This right of way starts at the Sunningwell car park at the village hall, runs through the deer park fields up to Lincombe Lane. At the start there are two swing gates to access the path, at the Lincombe Lane end there is one swing gate. The surface is mud and uphill, at the midway point there is a dip in the ground which gets wet and slippery in the winter months. It's nice to see the deer in the fields enroute and a great view at the top of the path with a welcome bench.



Footpath 04

Assessment performed on 28 November 2025

This right of way (footpath) connects one part of Lincombe Lane (photo 1) to another (photo 2) behind the backs of houses, providing a shortcut. The entire length is bordered by garden fencing and is narrow (between 1.5m and 2.0m). Despite this terrain is good and not at all muddy.



Sunningwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Footpath 05

Assessment performed on 28 November 2025

This right of way (footpath) connects one part of Lincombe Lane (photo 1) to another (photo 3) forming a dog-leg. At the apex of the footpath/dog-leg the path continues to the Fox Inn on Fox Lane as Wootton public footpath 415/16/10. This junction divides the footpath into its two halves 04/10 and 04/20. This continuation as 415/16/10 (see photo 2) to the Fox Inn (a local amenity) is at times quite muddy, but could relatively easily be remediated, albeit this section is outside Sunningwell parish. The entire length of 372/05/10 and 20 is bordered by garden fencing and is narrow (between 1.5 and 2 metres). Despite this, terrain in Sunningwell parish is good and not at all muddy.



Sunningwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Footpath 06 (part 1)

Assessment performed on 3 December 2025

06/10 Path enters Lincombe Field and Reserve (OPT owned, grazed by horses, photo 1). Crosses the field diagonally connecting with footpath 372/08/10 (photo 2: view across field towards Lincombe Lane).

06/20 At this point there is a choice either to pass through gate (photo 1) connecting with 372/18/10 or continue at side of open land before crossing a stile (photo 2: stile awkward and in need of attention) at which point the two paths join again (photo 3 shows both paths). Through a gate (photo 4) the path follows the side of a field for a further 50m before it splits with 372/06/30 continuing to Bayworth Residential Park and 372/08/10 continuing to The Quarry.

06/10 Photo 1

Entry from Lincombe Lane



06/20 Photo 2

Path crosses Lincombe Field and reserve



06/20 Photo 1

06/20 Photo 1
Gate connecting with 18/10



06/20 Photo 2

06/20 Photo 2
Stile connects the two alternative paths



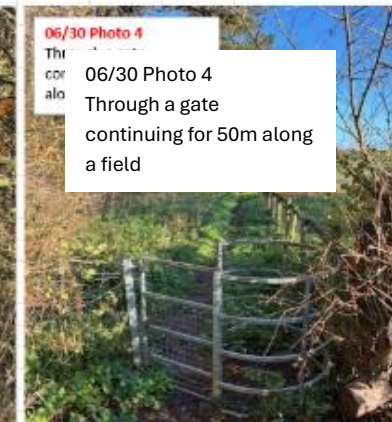
06/20 Photo 3

06/20 Photo 3
Shows the two alternative paths



06/30 Photo 4

06/30 Photo 4
Through a gate continuing for 50m along a field



Sunningwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Footpath 06 (part 2)

Assessment performed on 3 December 2025

06/30 Photo 1 shows the bifurcation of the path to Bayworth Park (06/30) and The Quarry (08/10). The path continues downhill (photo 2) and within the last ten years has been enclosed by the creation of a deer park. The soil is of clay and becomes dangerously slippery due its muddiness and steepness during the winter (photo 3). Photo 4 shows the reverse view of the path up the hill. The path then enters Bayworth Residential Park across a small bridge (photo 5). At this point a foot-scrapper is conveniently provided (see photo 6). The path exits through Bayworth Residential Park onto Brumcombe Lane (see photo 7).

06/30 Photo 1
Bifurcation of the path to
Bayworth Park (06/30) and
The Quarry (8/10)



06/30 Photo 2
Follows boundary of deer
park. Steep gradient.



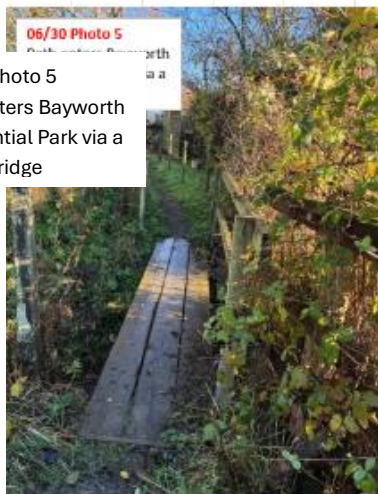
06/30 Photo 3
Dangerously muddy and
slippery at times



06/30 Photo 4
Reverse view up the hill



06/30 Photo 5
Path enters Bayworth
Residential Park via a
small bridge



06/30 Photo 6
A handy foot
scraper is
provided next
to the bridge



06/30 Photo 7
Exit via Bayworth Residential
Park onto Brumcombe Lane



Sunningwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Footpath 07

Assessment performed 25th November 2025

This right of way runs from the Bayworth end of Sunningwell Road to Lincombe Lane. At Sunningwell Road there is a stye and also a gap for access, the path crosses a culvert then an area of thick vegetation, often overgrown with brambles and nettles. The path then widens out and you walk between the wire fencing of the deer park fields with good visibility in both directions. Mid-way there is a point where the deer can cross the footpath to access other fields, this gets muddy in winter. At the top of the fields the path veers to the left, across a wooden bridge over a brook (improvements needed as handrail has collapsed) then narrows between wooden fencing of two properties, (to 85cms in some places), the path then emerges onto Lincombe Lane.



Photo 1 -
Entrance from
Sunningwell Road



Photo 2 - Start of
path through
vegetation



Photo 3 - Mid
way point gets
muddy



Photo 4 -
wooden bridge
with collapsed
handrail



Photo 5 - path
narrows
between
wooden fencing



Photo 6 -
Entrance from
Lincombe Lane

Sunningwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Footpath 08

Assessment performed on 20 December 2025

The Quarry footpath is all in good order (photo 5). The only issue relates to the section approaching from the Sunningwell-Bayworth road (photo 1) which is shared with the entrance drive (photos 2 and 3) to a house in order to access the bridge/steps (photo 4) which lead out of the Quarry. Because it is someone's drive/garden and there is no public right of way sign, footpath users may be anxious about whether they are allowed to go in. It therefore would be worth discussing with the property owner about erecting a discreet right-of-way sign.



Sunningwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Footpath 09

Assessment performed 9 December 2025

Footpath 372/9/10 runs 'diagonally' across 80 Acre Field. The route is marked by posts at each end and at positions A and B (photo 1). It can be difficult/impossible to see these posts.

When walking North and reaching post B (photo 2) the correct route is towards post A which is barely visible in the distance below the house in the trees. This direction is not indicated by the sign on post B. The result is that people walk straight-on to the edge of the field, as can be seen by the trodden path. This is known to aggravate the landowner. (Photo 2).

When starting at the northern end the direction of the path is correctly indicated by the sign on the post at the start of the path, but it is difficult to be confident that one is walking in the right direction. Even if you know that you are aiming at Post A (which casual walkers will not) it is not easy to see (photo 3), and walking diagonally across a cultivated field, although not uncommon, feels very strange. (Photo 3).

Photo 1 - Map



Photo 2 - View from post B looking North (30 Aug 24)

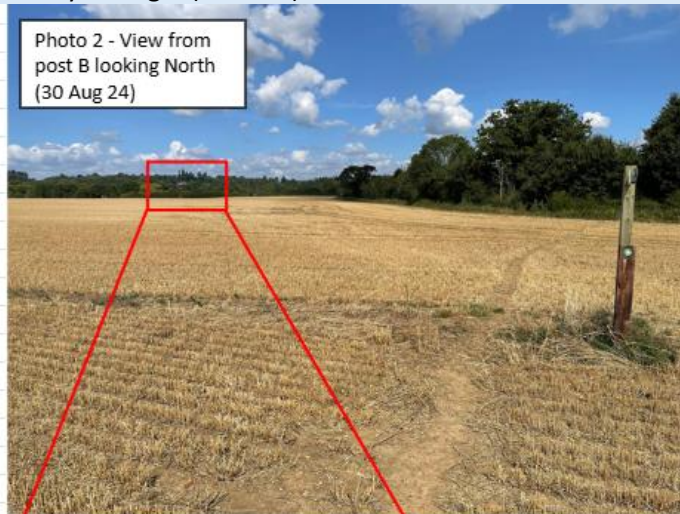


Photo 3 - View from path start of at Bayworth looking East (3 Aug 24)



Sunningwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Footpath 10

Assessment performed on 24th November 2025

This right of way connects Sunningwell Road by The Old Manor House to Church Lane (road that connects Sunningwell with the Oxford–Abingdon Road). Entry from road is slightly overgrown and the path then follows along the side of an agricultural field. The surface is mud and can get wet and slippery at the Sunningwell Road end due to the incline of the path. When you reach the road entrance access to Footpath 372/12/10 is via Church Lane, the busy road that connects Sunningwell with the Oxford–Abingdon Road. This is a dangerous stretch of road as cars speed along at 60mph and there is no accessible verge on either side. It is also prone to large puddles and ice. To connect the two footpaths, we suggest that either a permissive path is introduced along the top line of the agricultural field (often walked already), with a swing gate installed for access next to the farm gate, or one of the verges along Church Lane is made accessible.



Sunningwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Footpath 11

Assessment performed December 2025

Where the steps from Pathway 13 reach the field, it is often too muddy to cross the small bridge and start walking up hill through the field. When the top of the field is reached there is a turn to the right on to a farm track and then to the left over the next field. Both field paths can be muddy but they are arable fields. The gap from the field to the top of the Village Green is normally very easy to walk through but when reaching the top of the Village Green there is clay and often water settles for a very long time. Once over that hurdle the path is easy all the way to the gate.



Footpath 12

Assessment performed on 24th November 2025

This right of way is the most direct path from Bayworth to Abingdon and would be well used if conditions permitted. It starts on the road connecting Sunningwell with the Oxford Road Church Lane opposite the junction with Green Lane, follows along an agricultural field and connects with the junction of 372/13/10 and 20. The surface is mud, both ends and the middle of the path are prone to large puddles and slippery due to the use of the farmers tractor.



Photo 1 - Pen Lane entrance



Photo 2 - Puddles at Pen Lane entrance



Photo 3 - Mid way along path at entrance to other field

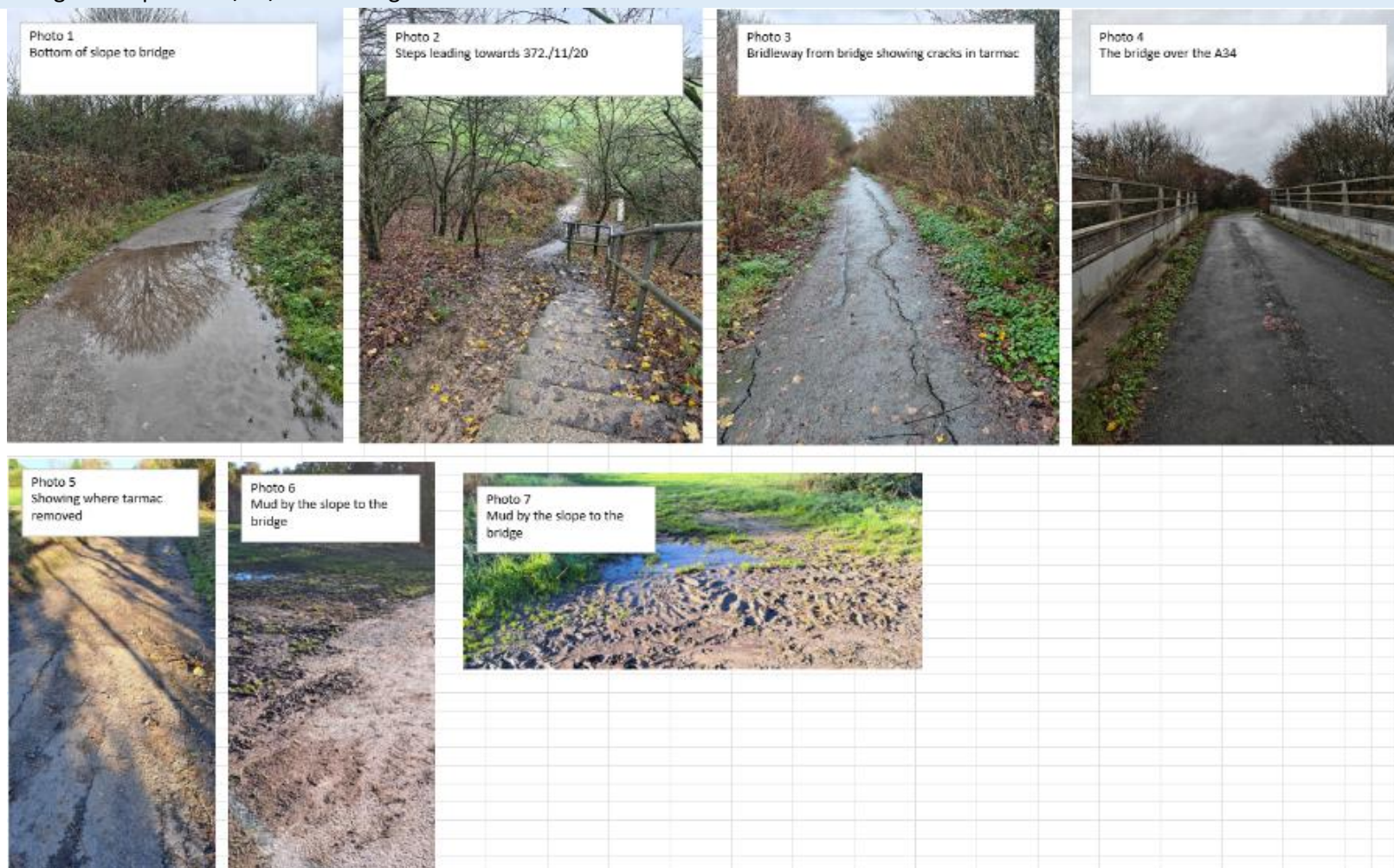


Photo 4 - Junction with 372/13/10 and 20 looking towards Pen Lane

Bridleway 13

Assessment performed on 7 December 2025

The part of the bridleway we are concerned with covers the way from the bridge over the A34 to Beaulieu Court. Most of this is tarmacked although nearer Beaulieu Court the tarmac was removed by the tenant farmer. The farmer maintains the verges from 372/13/10 – 372/13/20 but nothing is maintained from the slope to the bridge which might be under the care of the County Council. From the photos you can see that despite relatively recent repairs the tarmac is splitting and the verges are narrowing the way. The steps leading to footpath 372/11/20 are dangerous after rainfall.



Sunningwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Footpath 14

Assessment performed on 20 December 2025

Footpath connects Bayworth Corner to Bagley Wood Road (Kennington Parish). The entrance (photos 1 and 2) at the corner in Bayworth is muddy and slippery: a bit of hardcore thrown down here would help as it's on a slope. Up the side of the field it is in good order (photo 3). At this point through Chandlings the footpath is in the parish of Kennington and is in good order (photos 7, 8 and 9). Where it connects to Bagley Wood Road (Kennington parish) isn't great. You are left on a busy road opposite a junction with no obvious route beyond (photo 10).

There's a sign at the entrance to Chandlings land/Kennington parish (photo 4), where a stile leads to an unregistered footpath to Bagley Wood and public footpath 372/15 – this is a fairly high stile (photo 6) and not easy to use for those who are less certain on their feet. A kissing gate would be better. Opposite this is a clearly worn path around the edge of the field (photo 5). This indicates this route is used probably more than the one that goes over the field (public footpath 372/09).



Sunningwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Footpath 15

Assessment performed on 3 December 2025

The right of way (footpath) begins on Brumcombe Lane opposite Bayworth Park Residential Park (photo 1. Note the dog waste bin provision). The path continues along the edge of a field for about 300m (photo 2). At this point the path enters Woodcraft Wood (part of Bagley Wood) photo 3. Note the dog waste bin provision). Note, at this point there is also a well-used footpath that is not a recognised right of way that connects 372/15/10 with 372/14/10 (Bayworth to Chandlings School footpath), including provision of a stile.

The path follows the boundary of Woodcraft Wood and the garden of Hamels. Although generally in good condition, there are points when the path is muddy but passable (photo 4). The path then leaves Woodcraft Wood and narrows to approximately 1.5m, between fences and hedges bordering the backs of gardens of properties adjoining Hamels Lane and Foxcombe Lane (photo 5). Eventually the path exits onto Foxcombe Road (photo 6).

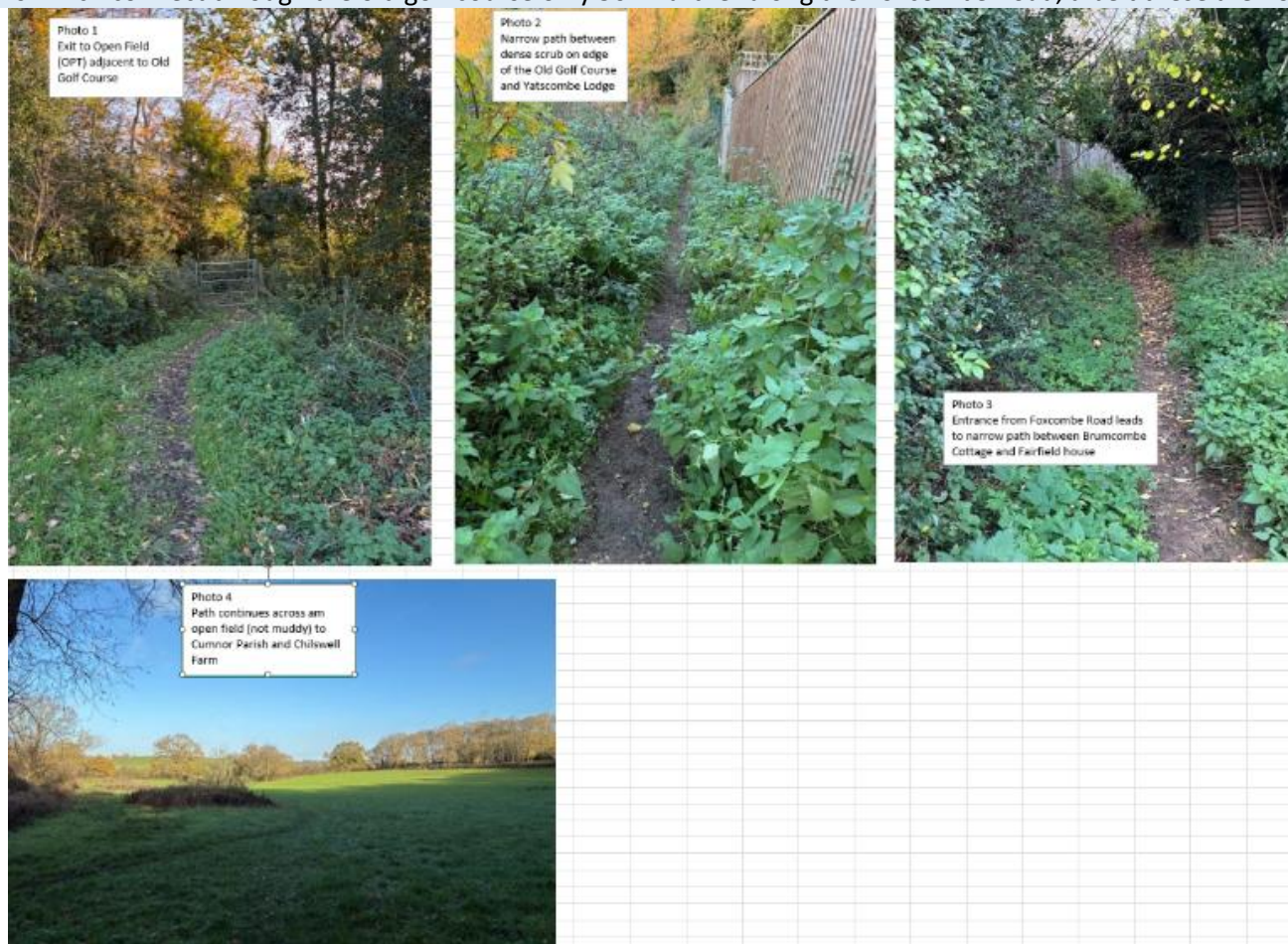


Bridleway 16

Assessment performed 17 November 2025

This right of way connects Foxcombe Road (photo 3) initially (approximately 100m) behind the backs of gardens and the dense scrub (photo 2) at the edge of the old golf course, followed by 100m on the edge of woodland bordering the old golf course, before exiting to an open field (OPT) at the foot of the old golf course (photo 1). This section of the right of way was fit for purpose as footpath but not as bridleway. Without use it would be vulnerable to becoming overgrown and in very wet weather impassable.

The path continues through an open field (photo 4), from where it enters Cumnor parish, towards Chilswell Farm. Although not public rights of way, there are much more popular and passable footpaths which connect through the old golf course only 50m further along the Foxcombe Road, albeit these are not used or suitable for horses.



Sunningwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Bridleway 17

Assessment performed on 28 November 2025

This right of way (bridleway) connects Foxcombe Road (photo 1: entry from road) near the Hinksey Hill junction with Chilswell Farm (Cumnor parish). The bridleway is mainly tarmac as it doubles up as an access road for a number of properties including Chilswell Farm. It connects to another private road (at junction of photos 2 and 3) which acts as a shorter route for vehicles from Chilswell Farm accessing the Foxcombe Road.



Sunningwell Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Footpath 18

Assessment performed on 3 December 2025

This short (110m) right of way (footpath) begins on the corner of Lincombe Lane (photo 1) and connects with footpath 372/06/10 and 20 (see photo 2 for the connecting point). The path is lined on either side by trees and is relatively good condition (i.e. not too muddy). It is bordered by OPT-owned Lincombe Field and Reserve and Foxcombe Hill Farm.

As photo 1 illustrates, an alternative footpath is provided by the OPT entering Lincombe Field and Reserve via gate, which also connects with 372/06/10 and 20. This is not a public right of way.

