

South Chilterns Path Maintenance Volunteers

Workday Report for Saturday 9 April 2022

Team members	
Team 1	Lead: Wim Klaucke Volunteers: Jenny Strange, Dick Strange, Steve Feigen, Paul Wisdell, Vyv James

	Work site	Meters cleared	Hours worked	Preparation hours
Team 1	SU 7362 8347	1	20:30	6
	Total			

Team 1 Report (Gate)

On a bright but chilly morning 6 volunteers met on site at Rotherfield Greys to install an Oxford Gate on a permissive path. The right of way is crossing the field nearby, but the gap in the hedge to come to the road is fully grown over and every walker uses the permissive path along the field edge to get to the road. Before today there was a stile installed to allow walkers to cross the fence, with signage indicating this is a permissive path. The landowners had expressed a preference to have the gate installed as close to the adjoining fence line as possible and after the task brief the team set out to remove some bramble that was growing too close to the future corral. Then continuing to remove the current stile installation and rails, as well starting assembly of the gate. Initially the removal went smooth, but two of the posts supporting the steps proved difficult to remove, as the ground had a firm grip on them. The jack helped in one case, but the g-clamp used to support the jack for the second post bent and it was difficult to find another method to transmit the jack's lifting force to the post, so back to digging and trying. Eventually the post gave up resistance, but the team were now left with a massive hole in the middle of the gate space and a lot of time used.

One volunteer mentioned that we normally started digging new holes much earlier and now had lost precious time. The gate assembly team - between the gate experts - also used time to discuss the exact positions of the hinges and the way the gate would close, eventually resulting in a faultless installation. Digging did progress smoothly and any time lost was soon caught up. Lining up the gate installation caused no problems and the team finished the task, including covering of barbed wire near the corral and closing the gap between field gate and Oxford gate and attaching the correct signs and donation plate, by 12:15 and the team retired to the Rising Sun at Witheridge Hill for a well-earned Lunch. Where time was used to discuss the operation and future tasks of the SCPMV (...).

Summary Gate:

Number of volunteers:	6
Volunteer hours:	26:30 (including preparations)
Type of Gate (Inc latching, weld mesh etc):	Oxford
Fencing:	Wood
Parish Name:	Rotherfield Greys
Parish Number:	330
Path Number:	Permissive path near path 27
Grid Reference (8 figures plus prefix usually SU):	SU 7362 8347

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Signage

