



Shaw & Crompton Parish Council

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NOTICE OF MEETING

There will be a meeting of the
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
to be held remotely via the Zoom platform
on

Tuesday 1 December 2020

commencing at 7:00pm

when the business set out in the following agenda will be transacted.

Meeting quorum is 3

Environment Committee membership

Councillors Beeston, Berry, Flores, Gloster, Marbrow (Vice Chair), Moore (Chair), Rowlinson and Sykes.

Meeting quorum is 3

The meeting will be open to the public for the whole or part of the proceedings.

Dated: 25 November 2020

Tony Hilton

Tony Hilton

Clerk to the Council

Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched to silent
or is switched off completely during the meeting

AGENDA

- 1 To receive any **apologies** for absence.
- 2 To receive **declarations of interest** in any contract or matter to be discussed.
- 3 To approve as a correct record the **Minutes** of the meeting on the 3 November 2020.
- 4 **Public Participation**
A period not exceeding 15 minutes set aside to listen to matters raised by members of the public.
- 5 **Clerk's report : Developing Health and Wellbeing in Shaw and Crompton:
To explore the role of the Environment and the Parish Council.**
To consider the attached report and agree further action.
- 6 **Sustainability Standards implementation** To receive updates and consider actions in relation, *but not limited to*, the following:-
 - a) Green Office and Sustainability toolkit – Councillor Gloster;
 - b) Single use plastic / Plastic free fast food outlets / Waste Terra Cycle – Councillor Gloster;
 - c) 'Refill your bottle' scheme for shops and others in the town centre
 - to receive an update from Councillor Gloster regarding, but not limited to, stickers for venues which promote a bottle refilling facility on the premises;
 - d) Local business use of biodegradable consumables
 - to consider an advisory note on the matter from Councillor Moore and

- to receive an update from Councillor Gloster on what type of disposed/used PPE that Waste Terra Cycle can accept;
 - e) Food and Climate Change – to receive an update from Councillor Moore on what resources can be obtained via the 'Take A Bite Out of Climate Change' academic team.
- 7 **Parish Council Renewable Energy**
To consider the attached reports (separate attachments) and quotation to install solar panels at the Parish Council premises – Councillor Gloster.
 - 8 **Local Foodbank organisation**
To consider representation on/liaison with the local foodbank body - Councillor Moore.
 - 9 **Financial report for the period 1 April – 31 November 2020**
To review the attached report and consider further priorities for 2020/21.
 - 10 **2021/22 Budget**
To consider priorities for the next financial year in line with the Business Plan (for reference see attached extracts relating to this Committee).
 - 11 **Footpaths and footpath maintenance and the Crompton Circuit**
To receive the attached update report from Martin Riley and consider further action.
 - 12 **Clerk's update reports**
To receive an update report from the Clerk on the following items and consider further action
 - 12 (i) **VE Day commemorative bench**
 - 12 (ii) **VJ Day commemorative bench**
 - 13 **Dates of Future Meetings**
Tuesday 7:00pm: 12 January, 2 February, 2 March, 4 May 2021.

SHAW & CROMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Environment Committee

Minutes of a remote meeting held on
Tuesday 3 November 2020
via the Zoom platform.

Present: Councillors Beeston, Berry, Flores, Gloster, Marbrow, Moore and Sykes.
Councillor Moore in the Chair.

Also in attendance – the Clerk and Mr Peter Jones (member of the public)

The meeting started at 7:02pm

- 1 Apologies for absence:** Councillor Flores; Mr Martin Riley and Mr Adam Holt (Groundwork).
- 2 Declarations of Interest:** Councillor Sykes declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in matters relating to Groundwork.
- 3 Minutes of the previous meeting**
The amended minutes of the meeting held on the 6 October 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.
- 4 Public Participation**
As the member of the public present did not wish to raise any matters, the meeting continued to the next item without the need for an adjournment.
- 5 Clerk's report - Developing Health and Wellbeing in Shaw and Crompton: To explore the role of the Environment and the Parish Council.**
The Clerk presented a report in which he had referenced (and provided hyperlinks to)
 - a number of existing cycle trails which pass through parts of Shaw and Crompton;
 - the nearest cycle trail in Oldham which forms part of the National Cycle Network (Sustrans);
 - health walks (Crompton Moor/Dunwood Park)
 - community growing hubs;
 - partnership working and
 - parish council powers.

Having considered the report, Committee agreed that the report be forwarded to Councillor Hamblett for comment with the view to jointly developing proposals further.
- 6 Sustainability Standards implementation**
Committee considered the following updates:-
 - a) **Green Office and Sustainability toolkit**
Lead Member : Councillor Gloster : the item was deferred to the next meeting;
 - b) **Single use plastic / Plastic free fast food outlets / Waste Terra Cycle**
Lead Member : Councillor Gloster : the item was deferred to the next meeting;
 - c) **'Refill your bottle' scheme for shops and others in the town centre**
Lead Member : Councillor Gloster : the item was deferred to the next meeting;

d) Local business use of biodegradable consumables

– deferred to the next meeting whilst (i) Councillor Moore produces an advisory note and (ii) Councillor Gloster provides an update on what type of disposed/used PPE that Waste Terra Cycle can accept

e) Food and Climate Change

Lead Member : Councillor Moore : the item was deferred to the next meeting

7 Report updates

(a) Parish Council solar panels

– Lead Member : Councillor Gloster : the item was deferred to the next meeting;

(b) Floral display service

– Lead Member : Councillor Sykes : reported that on behalf of the Committee he had commissioned up to 16 additional planters (some of which are previously used and as such will be cheaper) and is awaiting confirmation of the locations for the new planters as well as when the winter planting will be carried out. Councillor Sykes also informed Committee that, in his capacity as Borough ward councillor, he has also secured funding to commission an additional 12 planters which will provide a more substantial display this winter and in the future. It was agreed that further progress on this item to be addressed through future financial reports rather than as a stand-alone agenda item;

(c) VE Day commemorative bench – The Clerk

The Clerk reported that the bench contractor (Fabrications Northeast) was currently testing new bolts (for their anti-rust properties) with the view to sending the Parish Council replacements for those bolts that had begun to rust;

(d) VJ Day commemorative bench – The Clerk

The Clerk explained that the manufacture/delivery of the bench will be confirmed once the contractor has resolved the issue of the rusty bolts.

8 Local Foodbank organisation

Following the discussion regarding COVID-19 at the meeting of the Parish Council on 29th September 2020 (Minute 20/45), it was decided to delegate to Environment Committee to investigate if the local food bank should or might wish to become a member of the Outside Bodies the Parish Council has representation on. Following discussion it was resolved that Councillor Moore make contact with the Shaw Food Bank initially and try to ascertain the governance arrangements under which the food bank are operating and how the work of the Parish Council links, or might do so in the future, to the work of the food bank in Shaw, used by residents of the Parish Council. Councillor Moore to report back to a future meeting.

9 Financial report for the period 1 April – 31 October 2020

Committee noted the report which had been circulated with the meeting papers and it was agreed that an item relating to the 2021/22 budget together with the business plan be included on the 1 December agenda

10 Footpaths and footpath maintenance and the Crompton Circuit - Martin Riley

10 (i) In the absence of Martin Riley, the Clerk talked through Martin's report referencing a number of issues on 5 footpaths. Having reviewed the report Committee agreed the following:-

- To ask that Martin includes in future reports, options for sensible diversions should he identify any whilst undertaking routine footpath inspections;
- To record in these minutes its gratitude to both Martin Riley and Harry Clarke for all their recent joint efforts in inspecting and maintaining footpaths and
- To write to Harry Clarke to thank him personally for giving of his time to assist Martin with footpath inspections and maintenance

Note Harry Clarke had recently enquired with Councillor Sykes about the possibility of carrying out works in a voluntary capacity on public footpaths and was referred by Councillor Sykes to Martin Riley.

10 (ii) Committee considered the Clerk's report which detailed recent exchanges with Jean Greer as to how OMBC/Unity Partnership prioritise service requests to repair Public Rights of Way (PROWs)/footpaths following which it was agreed that the Clerk continue to liaise with Councillor Gloster in order that she brings the range of issues relating to footpaths to the attention of the appropriate OMBC Service Director for response.

11 Dates of future Meetings

Tuesday 7:00pm: 1 December 2020; 12 January, 2 February, 2 March, 4 May 2021.

The Chair thanked everybody for their attendance and contributions and closed the meeting at 8:05pm.

Public Participation

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**Clerk's report : Developing Health and Wellbeing in Shaw and Crompton:
To explore the role of the Environment and the Parish Council.**

1. Background

1.1 At the Environment Committee meeting of the 1 September this year, Councillor Hamblett presented a report (with the above title) following which Committee agreed to consider practical ideas at the next meeting to explore opportunities to develop communal or social outdoor spaces as we transition out of the COVID 19 restrictions.

1.2. At the subsequent Committee meetings of the 6 October and 3 November, the following initial proposals were made where it was agreed to forward them to Councillor Hamblett for comment with the view to jointly developing proposals with OMBC (other partners, where appropriate) further:-

- (i) The development of scenic cycle paths and walks;
- (ii) The mapping of pedestrian shortcuts to cycle routes/trails along the Metrolink and canal towpaths;
- (iii) To consider a status report on local community growing hubs.

2. Report

2.1 Councillor Hamblett has responded with the following additional information for further consideration:-

We don't have any canals in Shaw and Crompton, however alongside and going away from the Metrolink stop there is the Moss Hey footpath and the Beal Lane/Linney Lane fruit route walk.

*[Clerk's note – the OMBC website includes the following information -
Two Fruit Routes have been developed in Oldham, providing attractive off-street pedestrian routes that are lined with fruit trees and bushes available to the public.*

The off-road paths have been improved to encourage walking and cycling, and the established trees now provide a healthy snack for the public at harvest time, while supporting education about healthy eating.

The first route goes from Grotton to Alexandra Park, with a second route developed along Union Street in the Town Centre].

There is a growing Hub in Dunwood and at High Crompton Park;

There is also a fruit tree grove at Shaw Side park (Cowlshaw);

I know that Crompton (the ward) has at least three Allotment schemes (happy to supply the locations of them).

2.2 I have received some information from OMBC regarding community growing hubs, which can be located on the map via the following link

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/100009/leisure_and_culture/1743/get_oldham_growing/5

with a note to say that the Growing Hub at Dunwood is run by Pure Innovations and the Friends of Dunwood Park.

2.3 Two of the Shaw locations on the map – Fraser Street and Hope Street – are also referred to as allotments on the OMBC allotment map at

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200277/allotments_and_gardening/671/allotments

2.4 Having undertaken further research in relation to some of the proposals so far, Committee may be interested in OMBC's 'Get Oldham Growing' initiatives

<https://www.oldham.gov.uk/getoldhamgrowing>

where the most recent 'Get Oldham Growing' (GOG) annual report (2016/18) sets out the aims of the programme as follows:-

Aim one To develop employment opportunities through local food production and better establishment of the local food economy

Aim two To increase skills, qualifications and entrepreneurship in food related initiatives

Aim three To reduce barriers to participation in food growing activities through supported access to land, training and advice, materials and infrastructure development

Aim four To increase community participation in food growing, cooking and eating projects for the improvement of the health and wellbeing of Oldham residents

These aims align with the Parish Council Business Plan's priority of **Caring for the Environment and Protecting our Community** with an action overseen by this Committee of

Promote and campaign for

- increased use of renewable energy
- conservation of biodiversity in particular bee habitats
- better environmental/air quality
- reduction of greenhouse gases/climate change
- **more allotments/other places where food can be grown**

3. Recommendations

3.1 It is recommended that Committee

- a) choose to progress initiatives which are in step with the business plan priorities, where appropriate budgetary resources are identified and
- b) explore external grant funding to support such initiatives - this aligns to the Business Plan priority of 'seeking to diversify income'.

Tony Hilton
Clerk to the Council

26 November 2020

Sustainability Standards implementation

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Parish Council Renewable Energy – Councillor Gloster

Please see separate attachments to the meeting papers

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Local Foodbank organisation – Councillor Moore

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Cost Centre : Environment					
EXPENDITURE	Budget	Actual to date	Outstanding commitments	Outturn Projection	Balance
	£	£	£	£	£
Groundwork contract	11,550	5,635	5,915	11,550	0
Floral display service	4,200	0	4,200	4,200	0
Projects (1 – 13)	10,340				
see note 1	9,000				0
Projects sub-total	19,340				
Projects (1 – 13)		2,506	2,730	5,236	5,104
Other projects (tbc)		0	9,000	9,000	0
Total Environment	35,090	8,141	21,845	29,986	5,104
1. VE Day bench - Fabrications Northeast (supply/delivery)		780	0	780	
2. VE Day bench - OMBC (site preparation/installation)		0	375	375	
3. VJ Day bench - Fabrications Northeast (supply/delivery)		0	830	830	
4. VJ Day bench - Fabrications Northeast (supply/delivery)		0	390	390	
5. Groundwork - to add bark mulch to oak tree at Cheetham Hill		103	0	103	
6. Groundwork – to remove discarded felled tree branches from unadopted road off Cowlshaw Lane/Scowcroft Lane		190	0	190	
7. Groundwork – replace timber risers/backfill (Cowlshaw)		0	635	635	
8. Groundwork – prune overhanging branches/remove from site (17 Longfield Park, Cowlshaw)		80	0	80	
9. Groundwork – tree stump removal (Millennium Gardens)		0	250	250	
10. Groundwork – stock netting clad fence reinforcements (Beal Riverside Walk)		360	0	360	
11. Groundwork – replacement treads/mesh reinforcement to boardwalk		823	0	823	
12. Groundwork - cut back the footpath route at Charlbury Way/Swinford Grove		170	0	170	
13. National Tree Charter – associated costs		0	250	250	
sub-total		2,506	2,730	5,236	
Balance remaining for 'Projects' expenditure assuming current earmarked allocations (Outstanding Commitments) are realised					5,104

Note 1 - £9,000 vired from the Events, Promotions and Grants 2020/2021 budget as approved by Resources Committee on the 15 September 2020.

2021/21 Budget

1. Background

At its previous meeting (3 November), Committee agreed to consider its budget priorities for the next financial year in conjunction with Business Plan priorities assigned to this Committee, as follows:-

Priority – Caring for the Environment and Protecting our Community		
Action	Lead Body	Timescale
1. To support and contribute to initiatives which ensure that Shaw and Crompton moves towards a more ecologically friendly status by - Implementing Sustainability Standards across Shaw and Crompton in relation to - Green Office (reducing carbon footprint); Free water; Single use plastic in fast food outlets.	Environment Committee	Throughout the lifetime of the plan
2. To support the development and improvement of green corridors, walkways and footpaths to link different parts of the town to parks and green spaces	Environment Committee	Throughout the lifetime of the plan
5. Increase the infrastructure for electric car charging points	Environment Committee	TBA
6. Promote and campaign for - increased use of renewable energy - conservation of biodiversity in particular bee habitats - better environmental/air quality - reduction of greenhouse gases/climate change - more allotments/other places where food can be grown	Environment Committee	TBA
7. To engage local business to support the above initiatives	Environment Committee	TBA

Priority – Health & Wellbeing		
Action	Lead Body	Timescale
The protection and better use of green spaces for local residents	Environment	Throughout the lifetime of the plan

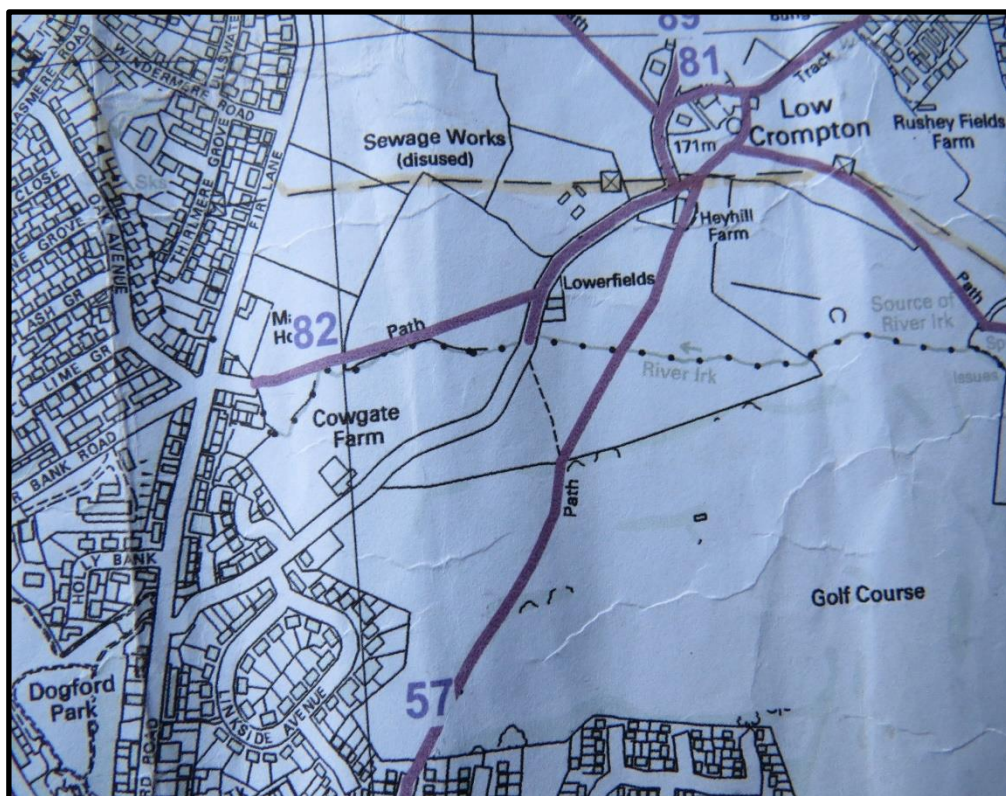
Footpaths and footpath maintenance and the Crompton Circuit Martin Riley

1. Decking at Mosshey near Millpond Close, Refuge St

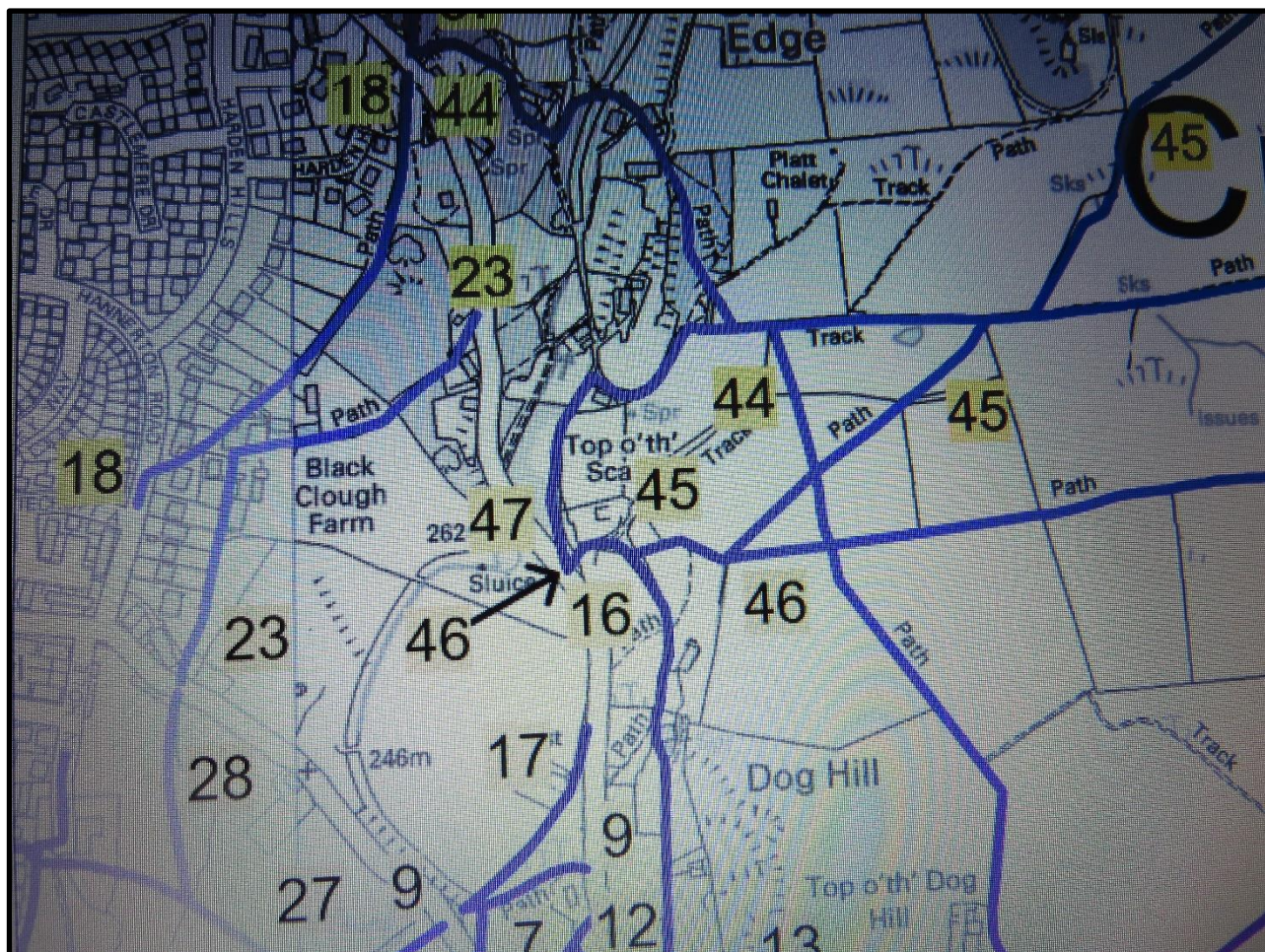
Photos attached of vandalised. Repair work was done earlier this year but more damage has been done, some of the railings broken, wood stays at the side of planking broken off, scorch marks on decking and lots of litter thrown into water.



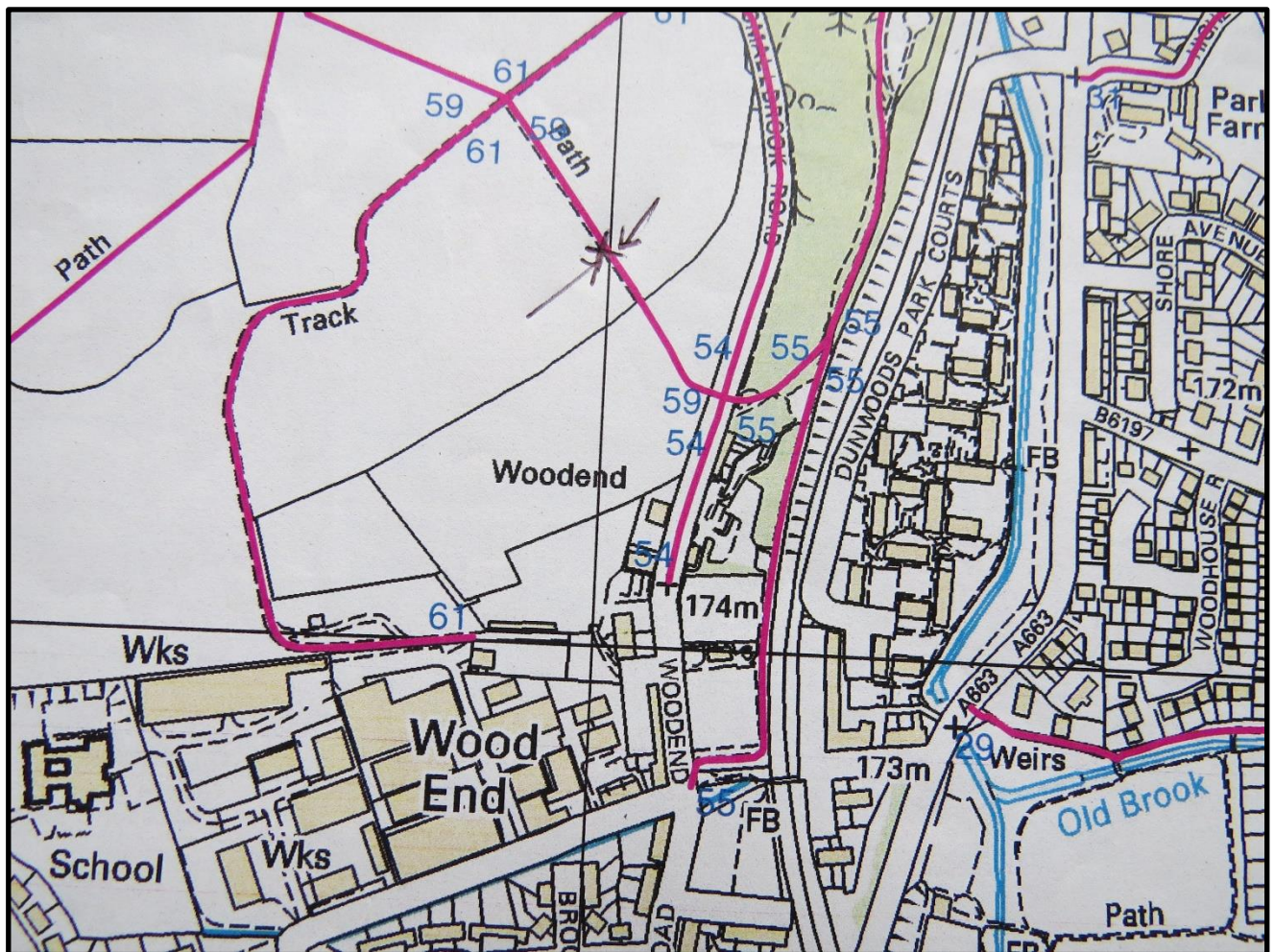
2. Footpath 82 which goes from Cedar Grove off Fir Lane, Royton to Low Crompton Rd. Broken single step stile and loose fencing about half way along. There is a similar stile with no step at all, where the path leaves Low Crompton Rd. This is a Crompton footpath.



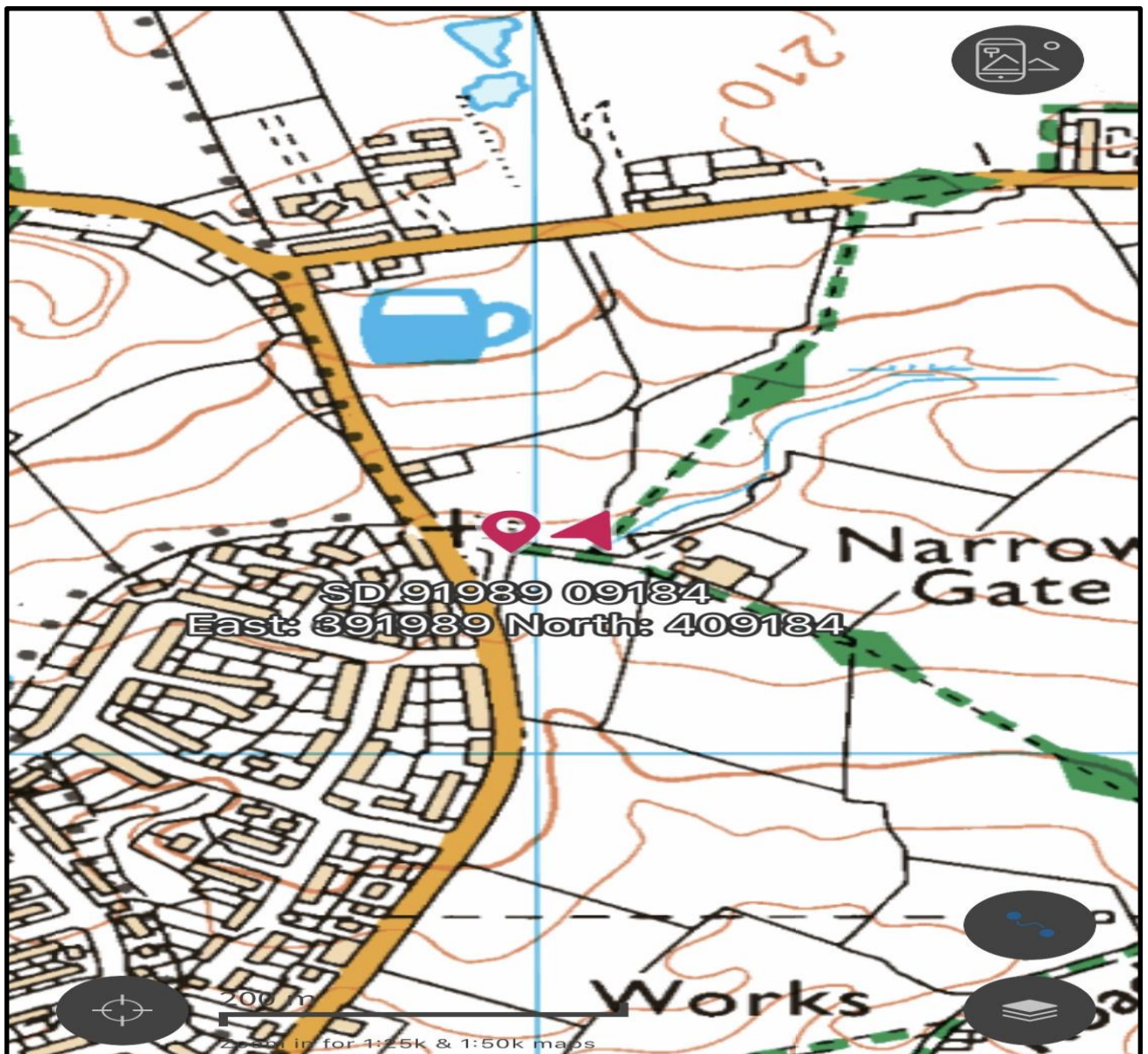
3. Footpath 46 off Buckstones Rd - sunken way that runs alongside Dog Hill House garden. This section of footpath had some cut down thorn bushes placed on the path to block access, these were cleared by myself and Harry Clarke. A week or so later, they were again blocking the path - these were cleared a second time by Harry C. They appeared again a third time to be cleared again by Harry! At the moment, the branches have been removed completely from the site by someone and a large stone on the line of the path removed.



A photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, a stone wall runs diagonally across the frame, topped with a single strand of blue barbed wire. To the left of the wall, a wooden fence post is secured with a red rope. To the right, a wooden gate is partially visible. The ground is covered in green grass and some low-lying plants. In the background, a grassy hill rises, and several colorful shipping containers (orange, blue, yellow) are stacked on top of it. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.



5. Footpath 80 [Crompton Circuit] at Narrowgate Farm off Fir Lane. Broken double step stile, now repaired by O.M.B.C.?



Martin Riley
25 November 2020