

## FOOTPATH INSPECTION REPORT

### PATH 10 – SHELLEY LANE

This path is effectively a metalled private road up as far as Hammond's Farm and is therefore, in excellent order.

At Hammond's Farm, the path becomes a wooded path which, while somewhat overgrown at the moment, is clearly defined by a signpost set alongside the farm yard and which runs to the Parish boundary. There is a gate at the boundary which is in good order and this gives access to the bridge and path continuation on the other side of the stream.

The farmer stated that the path is quite well used, albeit some people miss the gap in the fence off the road and try to go through the farm yard. The finger post is partially obscured by branches etc. and there would be a benefit to a small clean-up of undergrowth at the entrance.

Overall, an easy walk.



Finger Post is slightly overgrown and in need of some TLC



Path is overgrown but navigable

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### PATH 11 – BLACKHILL ROAD TO SALISBURY ROAD

This is a long path – some 3.5 kilometres with some of the path over open forest, some on a marked track and some on a semi-established private unmade road. Generally, the walk is clear and in good condition albeit some areas are boggy where there are gates to fields.

One major issue is that being a long path, at the Salisbury Road end, the path leads immediately onto the main A road at a point where speed limits are 50mph. There is no layby adjacent to the path and the nearest one has no pathway access alongside the road – overall, quite an unsafe access point.

At the Blackhill Road end, there is a different issue. The first 600 metres are over open forest prior to getting to a clearly marked track. Between the road and the marked pathway, it is unclear where the path goes and thus, easy to get lost. A compass solves the problem, but the signage at the car pull in on Blackhill Road appears to have been removed – see below.

No discernible overgrown areas apart from some side bushes which lean over the central path at Coppers Lane alongside Cooper's Copse.

Overall, however, a pleasant long walk – good for dog walkers.



Some very boggy areas



Sign as Blackhill Road are missing – easy to lose your way!



600 metres in from Blackhill Road and pathway is clearly marked