

# Haydon Parish Neighbourhood Plan – Footpath Survey – Jan 2020 – Jan 2021

## Introduction

Using the council map of official footpaths in our parish, nearly all the footpaths were walked to see what condition they were in and what repairs were needed to signs, stiles and gates.

To make auditing the footpaths manageable they were grouped into sets of paths which together made a logical circular route. It was thought that local people might like to 'adopt' a route, which they could walk a couple of times a year and report back on the condition. This is listed as a 'Community Action'. Ideally, there would be 6 adopters.

## Combining paths into walking routes

This chart shows the letter and name of each circular route. The audit chart further on uses these colours and letters to show which county council path numbers are part of which circular route, with numbers added to sequence them in the right order.

Circular route Letter	Name of circular route	Adopter number
A	Chesterwood loop	1
B	Haydon Old Church loop	2
C	Haresby Road loop	1
D	Housesteads loop, returning along Stanegate	3
E	Lands End Road loop	4 (also do John Martins trail)
F	West Deanraw short loop	4
G	Up to and around Langley	5
H	Spring Wood long loop	5
J	Elrington Loop	5
K	Settlingstones loop	2
L	Along river	6
M	West Deanraw long loop	4



*Harsondale Cleugh*

### **Footpath Adopters:**

**Adopter 1** – walking routes A and C, Chesterwood Loop and Haresby Road Loop

**Adopter 2** – walking routes B and K, Haydon Old Church Loop and Settlingstones Loop

**Adopter 3** – walking route D – Housesteads Loop

**Adopter 4** – walking routes E, F and M – Lands End Road Loop. West Deanraw short loop, West Deanraw Long loop

**Adopter 5** – walking routes G, H, J – up to and around Langley, Spring Wood Long loop, Elrington Loop

**Adopter 6** – walking route L – along river

## **Footpath Audit Chart**

This is shown below. It is based on the County Council footpath numbers. Colour coding and letters refer to the chart above, which groups these paths into circular walks. The number is the order in which to walk the path in the circular route.



*Above Lees Farm*



*Langley Dam*

Path number on Council map	Which walk route (Colour code) and which stage of walk		Description of where this is	What state is it in?	Actions needed
031	H1 (School)	J1 (Gees wood)	Cemetery Rd to Allendale Road (A686) via back of school and Gees wood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fence leaning and about to fall in section of Gees wood nearest to village</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- mend fence</li> </ul>
065	L4		Back of Havelock along river	ok	
035	J2		Through Elrington Wood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Footpath wooden sign off Threepwood Bank has fallen over.</li> <li>- gets taken over by bracken</li> <li>- coming from Elrington end, not clear where turn off left through field</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- new sign off Threepwood bank – or existing repaired?</li> <li>- regular beating back of bracken needed</li> <li>- sign would help</li> </ul>
032	H2		Spring Wood (from A686) to track that goes between Threepwood farms and Langley Castle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- dangerous walk from top of Cemetery Road to start of footpath</li> <li>- fence down near top of steep section above Langley Burn gates broken – at top of Spring wood first section, and going into the field where all the trees have been felled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New footpath to connect top of Cemetery Road with start of path, as dangerous walk along A686.</li> </ul> <p>Have spoken to Tim Fish at County Council. (Mar 2020)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- fence repair</li> <li>- gates repair</li> </ul>
050	H3 (Langley end)		Top spring wood to Langley Castle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Many flooded bits, especially sheep fields and round gates</li> </ul>	

052	J3		Elrington - Hexham/Allendale Road (B6305) (byway)	Good	
034	H5	J4	Branchend on B6305 to 050 track near Threepwood farm	- footpath disc not visible from Threepwood – Castle track going West	- additional footpath disc
033	H4		Langley end of track 050 – just up from – to B6305	- coming from B6305 down towards Langley Castle, not clear where to go once through gate from field to plantation.	- better signs
020	G7		Garden Station to A686 through Langley Woods	Ok – but just leads to main road	
021	G6		Continuation of 020 to Langley Road		
022	G5		B6305 to Garden Station Cafe	broken sign from main road, but lack of effective sign after that – we were confused and bore right – think should have headed towards white gate? (but looked private?)	- new/more signs needed
018	G4		Langley Road (B6295) (round Langley Dam/lake)	Good sign off road, but not obvious to go to left of the camping pods (we went right). There's a good picnic bench!	- sign near pods would be useful
019	G3		Cart's Bog Road (A686) to Langley Road (near Garden Station cafe turn) - come up behind Langley Furniture making place	Good – lots of industrial heritage interest. Styal at top from field to furniture works is broken	- mend stile
024	E1 *(if go right at end can soon go left and drop to		'River Tyne Trail' – where Land Ends Rd goes up, go straight on to Lees Farm and on to Moralee bank road	Good sign at start and into Lees Farm – then not clear how to proceed through farm – needs a sign showing to left.	- needs more signage through farm

	Allenbanks on John Martin trail)		<p>Good signs out of farm. Then not clear at all!</p> <p>Over the stile, I guessed, rightly, that head to corner of woods. Gate there clearly marked – but again – not sure whether to stay left at fence line or follow farm tracks down to right. I did latter. Turns out should've gone sort of in between. Clear sign over a wall as approached farm a bit off and below – Tedcastle. But signs for John Martin Trail to right and Tyne River Trail. I headed up left and came out an unsigned gate onto road – which was fine as I was going that way – but would have been better to go other way and drop towards Tedcastle and join their track out to road – also that would be better if going on to Allen Banks. Good views of Haydon Bridge.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- needs sign pointing diagonally up to left just after leave farm</li> <li>- sign on stile diagonally up to right needed</li> <li>- clearer signs approaching Tedcastle</li> </ul>
049	G8	Castle Farm (near Langley castle) By Way down to Land Ends Road	good	
023	G1	From the bottom of steep hill coming up to the road with castle farm on – up to Castle farm road bit further along – basically behind the wood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All the stiles are rotten, broken and slippery</li> <li>- probably would be overrun by brambles later in year (this was Jan)</li> <li>- some half fallen trees in woods</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- stiles to repair</li> <li>- trees to be made safe</li> </ul>

063	G2		Continues 023 on other side of road – East Deanraw to Carts Bog Road by right fork	Good at E. Deanraw end. - Very boggy sections at top end – not nice to walk - styal very slippery	- stile needs sorting
047	F4	M5 (or use 063)	By way – West Dean raw – south – the road that comes down to Cartsbog Rd (the right fork)	Good	
020/013	F3		Back from Harsondale to road up from Carts Bog	Good	
048	F1	M1	By Way – West Deanraw towards the horse drawn farm	good	
?	F2	M2	Harlow Field/Silly Wrea to Harsondale	Good	
	* (can drop from here down to Staward Peel on John Martin trail)				
?	M3		Harsondale to High Staward (then go along broad towards Catton, turn left towards Folly Farm to start back on footpath	Harsondale Cleugh is spectacular, though steep. Gates and stiles all good and well marked – except no sign on first ladder from road	- sign on first ladder from road to field by the farm
016	M4		Folly Farm to Langley Dam	Good – though easy to get lost on the bog land after the woods down from Catton trig point. Keep left ish. Spectacular views of all the surrounding valleys at the top. Ladder at end of final filed before the drop to the dam is hard to get at due to damaged/open bog being flooded. Not sure if much can do about that.	- would be good to have a path along roadside to connect to Langley Dam footpath, as it's a main road.
051	E2		From Moralee bank road to bottom of the steep road down from Castle Farm road – by way	Good sign at top. Bottom of track gets quite boggy in deep ruts. Just follow tracks. Sign clear at bottom end.	

	(via top of Morilly Bank, then back along Lands End Rd)			
001	M1	Military Road – north (nr Repeater Station) – Sewing Shields, Milecastle 35	good	
004	D3	Military Rd – Milecastle 36	Mostly good	- needs new marker at the Vallum
005	D2	Stanegate to Military Rd	The section of walk from Beamwham to Moss Kennels probably requires a map as the path is non existent in places and faint in others. A few boggy patches but only one really bad which was just south of Grindon Mill Hills.	- needs new markers near Beamwham and Grindon Mill - needs new tread on stiles near Grindon Mill and to Military Road.
006	D1	Haresby Rd to Stanegate (continuation of 005) (via Seldom Seen farm)	Unpleasant path. Boggy. Gates hard to operate.	- needs sign at back of Seldom Seen farm to find path if going South. - ideally, better gates!
055	C1	By way- Haresby Road (cont of 006) – minor road at bottom	Fine – I actually did this as extension to Chesterwood loop.	
008	C6	By way (in parts) – along minor road of 055 – turn right at bottom – Whitechapel – A69	I did this following 007. Nice path. In reverse, the track at Prior House would not be clear – could do with sign.	- sign at Prior House
022	C5	From A69 near 008 - north	Probably not Haydon Parish	
021	C4	Connects 007 and 022		
007	C3	Down from Haresby Rd – West of where byway 055 went down	Clear sign on gate. Not clear where after that. There are some old steep wooden steps over a wall – but go on to gate instead and straight on – as I did the ladder and the field on other side is unnavigateable almost and v boggy. Signs reappeared and clear from then to Prior House. Nice track.	- sign near stile to divert? - add marker to gate straight on down field (if don't go over ladder)

026		Military Rd – Houseteads loop both ends on Military Rd	Probably not parish	
054	C2	Haresby Road	fine	
025?	A5	Whinnetely Farm along minor road	Good – more signs in farm to north so know you’re going right way would be good, as feel like trespassing. Good signs once turn corner at bottom of farm. Good path then along Honeycrook Burn, nice.	- Sign at north end of farm leading you through farm
503/025	D4	Back of Housesteads	Probably not Parish	
503/015	D5	Byway to Stanegate (W end)		
026	A4	from end of 025 – see A5	Good path along Honeycrook Burn, nice.	
027	A6	Off to left just beyond old people’s home	Sign down at start. Otherwise, clear	- put sign back up
062	A3	Chesterwood west – minor road at bottom	Lovely path – but new sign needed on the gate in Chesterwood, especially as feel like going into a private drive!	- new sign on big gate in Chesterwood
028	A2	North Bank to Chesterwood East	Ok – muddy at Chesterwood end. Horses, but ok.	
040	B3	Haydon Old Church – Stephenson bank	Ok – but could miss old church if didn’t know it was there! Not clear where path went	- Better signs
039	B2	Stephenson’s bank (quite low down) – just before Plunderheath	Good at bottom end. Signpost fallen at top (North) by road.	- New sign/or sign back up
053 and 015	K1	By way – new Alston Road – to Stanegate	Good. Think 015 is the footpath off, which is also good	
533/013 and 520/041	K2	From Stanegate to New Alston/North Road cross roads	Did in reverse. There are no signs between Haydon Fell (derelict house), and around the edge of Haydon Fell Plantation. To the East of the woods, at the bottom of a dip with double	- Signs and stiles needed after go onto path at Settlingstones end up as far as Haydon Fell derelict cottage.

			gates (sheep gathering area?) is very muddy. Then went up and over field – the wall at the top had only a broken and difficult to get through gate – no fastening - and no stile or signage. Dropped down to Settlingstones farm – no sign where I came out, but suspect I was slightly east of where should have been.	
036, 067	L2	Anchor – measuring station along river to Anchor	good	
038	L1	A69 – Spa well		
046	L3	? somewhere near Martins Close		
037	B1	Picnic table side of river		- ramp to under railway to aid wheelchair/buggy?
029	A1*	*B4	Church Street – North Bank – just right onto road to old church	Very boggy at Catholic church end - yard needs sorting
030	A7	Back of school where school farm was	Nice path.	
071	A8	Where bridge over rail line to school is		