

Users of the footways. Children, mothers with pushchairs and toddlers, pedestrians & joggers, and users of invalid carriages.

With regard to sites 1 and 2 the Group was advised to contact the landowner, Mr C.A. Palmer-Tomkinson, who asked that contact be made with his farming partner, Mr Anthony Cooper. A site meeting was held with Mr Cooper 15.09.2007 and work was put in hand that day. Also the Group met Mr Peter White, Superintendent Department of Highways at Mountsorrel. This meeting took place on site on 18.09.2007 to progress matters discussed with Messrs. Marsh and Sirrell.

### **Results.**

Overgrown footways. The overgrowth has been cut back to the full width of the footway.

Verges beneath hedgerows. The hedge on Wanlip Lane has been cut back and that on Rectory Road laid. The verges beneath these hedgerows, and adjacent footways, have been cleared of all cuttings and accumulated debris by parish volunteers, which will enable contractors to cut these verges. Contact: Charnwood County Council, Customer Service Centre. Tel: 01509 622111.

Answers received and action taken.

### Hedgerows.

- 1) All landowners are responsible for the maintenance of hedgerows to the boundaries of their property where hedgerows meet with public footways, pathways and roads. Whilst 'DEFRA Cross Compliance' gives guidance when this might be done, for the benefit of wildlife and the environment, there is an overriding duty of care by landowners towards members of the public.
- 2) Landowners are responsible for the removal of all cuttings etc. from public footways, pathways and roads.
- 3) No such guidelines are in force to limit the depth of hedgerows where, in the absence of defined boundaries, they form boundaries. However, such hedgerows must not encroach upon public footways, pathways or roads.

### Footway maintenance

- 1) The bend of Rectory Road/Wanlip Lane has been resurfaced.
- 2) A programme of regular cleaning of the village has been reinstated - litter picking every 4 weeks, road sweeping every 12 weeks, and sweeping of footways when required to be determined by the contractor or by a parishioner. Contact: Mrs Sarah Ritchie, Waste Management Officer. Tel: 01509 632523
- 3) The start of the footway on Rectory Road has been extended in a straight line with a reduced gradient to meet the entrance of the driveway of 51 Rectory Road.

### Horses on footways.

The Group was advised that there were no legal restriction to riding horses on the verges and the removal of dropped dung. However, there is a responsibility of duty of care by the horse owner or owners and riders towards the public at large. It was suggested that in the case of dropped dung, the Parish could write to the owner/owners of horses pointing out, that in the interest of public health, such droppings be removed.

This concludes the Group's remit in respect of items 37 & 38.