

Parish Path Wardens 2022/2023

Lesley Thompson and Bob Roberts started as Path Wardens some six months ago. The previous incumbent, John Boulton, had provided comprehensive and detailed reports for several years but had decided to stand down for health reasons.

A large part of the work so far has concerned the East/West rail project and the consequent closure, diversion and reopening of several well used paths. At the time of the meeting the path near the Church which leads to the Bicester Ring Road then on to Bicester has reopened although there are still works to be completed. The new path from the top of Station Road to the new footbridge is also open as are the diverted paths on the far side of the railway although there are some final works to be completed.

The other task we have started is to walk all the paths in the parish to ensure that they are well way-marked as well as cutting back the inevitable brambles. This work will continue throughout the year.

Lesley has attended a Path Wardens training day organised by Oxfordshire County Council Countryside Access department who are our main contacts within local government. We regularly exchange e-mails and work with members of the team and we have established good relationships with them.

Our future plan, in addition to maintenance, is to promote use of the footpaths in Launton by organising a circular walk with a provisional date of July 22nd.