

CROSS COMMON - MAINTENANCE WORK TO BRIDLEWAY NO. 45

Confirming the work has been awarded to Horizon Civil Engineering. They are the company who constructed the original build. They have given a start time for the **second week of January**.

The work would be like for like replacement of the original surfacing material. VOG have also removed an invasive species from the edges of the bridleway and have organised a contractor to inject the stems to kill off the plant. There was a large patch of Himalayan Honeysuckle which is non-native and invasive amongst other species. Though not as destructive as plants such as knotweed, it does not belong in our woodlands and they took the opportunity with money available to them to remove it before it was too late.

Boggy area on the Common near Bridlepath entrance - [REDACTED] suggests that adding some stone for the time being in the worst patch will at least get us through this winter. (From a practical standpoint, James would not use woodchip. Being something that is organic, it will naturally break down and return to mud and would not alleviate the boggy issue).

If VOG do not use a geotextile layer under this point, it would allow grass to grow though so after a good season, it should start to look fairly natural again and not a square patch of stone, whilst retaining some strength to not become boggy. What I would say though, is that we cannot beat mother nature. If water coming on to the common from somewhere, and not just rainfall, the bog will likely reappear adjacent. Only time will tell though.

Request from resident to install a gate - [REDACTED] has also suggested he could help with installing a gate across the Common? He would be happy to pop back to measure what width would be most suitable. If a gate were installed DPCC could put up a 'polite' sign on the gate such as such as "please, no horses past this point" or something along those lines.

Horses. Have written to a local horse rider who uses Cross Common to notify them of the works and to discourage them from cantering on the Common. [REDACTED] has also written to her.