

CATCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

FOOTPATH WALKS

BW6/2

This is a short path running south from the end of Poplar Lane to the Parish boundary at the A39. A firm track extends south from Poplar Farm terminating at two gates; the path is through the right hand gate (1). The path follows the western side of the hedgerow south to a stile (2) and ends on the verge of the main road (A39).

BW6/3

The footpath runs from Weares Lane easterly to the Parish boundary with Shapwick, initially along a track over a stile (1) and thence across three fields along the northern side of a hedgerow. Stiles (2) and (3) provide access to each of the fields, The path then passes through the hedge to the south side by way of a plank bridge (4) and a stile (5) and continues in an easterly direction. A further stile (6) with plank bridge (7) is at the Parish boundary. All stiles are in good condition but the plank bridge is rotten and hazardous. Historical Note: Although not used as such for many years, this footpath now provides the only access to what is known locally as the "Friends Burial Ground" or "The Quaker Plot". It is a well used route to and from Shapwick.

BW6/4

The footpath begins in Weares Lane, passing through the Children's Play Area and into a field via a gate (1) and a kissing gate (2). The path follows a generally easterly direction along the hedgerow, over a stile (3) continuing east for some 50m before turning north crossing a ditch and over a stile (4). The path continues north to a further stile (5) into Langlands Lane. A wide detour across this field is necessary throughout the wet season due to the knee-deep mud and farm slurry, which straddles the route of the path together with, at any time, assorted agricultural implements and coils of barbed wire. * Approaching the stile (5) users should beware of the broken concrete cover over what appears to be a cesspit.

BW6/5

The footpath exists as a continuation of Langlands Lane in an easterly direction to the Parish boundary with Shapwick. A poorly hung gate (1) gives access to a field where the footpath runs

along the south side of a hedgerow east to the Parish boundary which is crossed by way of a stile (2) and plank bridge (3).

BW6/6

The footpath starts from "Hugdole Lane"(BW6/20) by way of a stile (1) and runs diagonally across a field in a northeasterly direction to a stile (2) into a further field, thence in a straight line to the northeast corner. Here the path crosses a stile (3) and plank bridge (4), into a paddock following a hedgerow. Over a further stile (5) and plank bridge (6) into "Little Leaze Lane". BW 6/6 crosses the track, * over a stile (7) and continues north along the eastern side of a hedgerow. On the crest of the ridge footpath BW6/8 joins from the west while BW6/6 turns right (east) past a small spinney before continuing northeast, crossing Nidon Rhyne by means of a plank bridge (8). The path runs diagonally across the field, northeast to a concrete plank bridge (9) over Black Ditch, (Parish Boundary) to join Shapwick footpath BW29/9. * From this point the Official Definitive Map obtained from Somerset County Council shows the footpath crossing the track and continuing north along the western side of the hedgerow to the crest of the ridge. Successive footpath surveys by Catcott Parish Council have for many years suggested that the footpath is perhaps wrongly shown, particularly since the stile provided by Sedgemoor District Council is to a field on the eastern side of this hedgerow. This anomaly should be rectified. Either by changing the definitive route or for SDC to provide a bridge and stile in the designated location.

BW6/7

This path starts at the eastern end of Steel Lane passing between garden walls, where the width of the path is restricted by overhanging shrubs, to a kissing gate (1) and diagonally across a paddock to a stile (2) in the North East corner to join "Hugdole Lane" (BW6/20). The two paths run together for some 50m eastward before BW6/7 turns to the left over a stile (3). The path runs north across a field, over a plank bridge (4) and stile (5) turning immediately right. Over a further stile (6) then left, diagonally across the next field, passing through a builder's yard * and over a stile (7) into Little Leaze Lane turning right for a distance of some 25m. #From this point The Definitive Map shows the path running north between two hedges to the crest of Nydon Ridge, crossing BW6/8 and continuing north to Nydon Lane. # The initial section described has not been in use for over thirty years whilst with the proximity of BW6/20 the latter section is redundant. The preferred route from (7) is east to the junction with Hugdole Lane (BW 6/20). North on Hugdole Lane (crossing BW6/8 at the crest of the ridge). Joining Nidon Lane and rejoining the original route at a stile (8) on the right. The path continues north, crossing Nidon Rhyne by way of a concrete plank bridge (9) into Rhyne Drove.

BW6/8

A fingerpost is required for this path, which starts on the east side of The Nydon opposite BW6/11 and runs eastwards along a track to a stile (1). The path continues along the crest of Nydon Ridge along the northern side of a hedgerow and crossing three fields, Stiles (2), (3) and (4), onto and directly crossing, a track (BW6/20). Over a stile (5) and east again on the northern side of the hedgerow, over two further stiles (6) and (7) to join BW6/6, where a fingerpost would be of assistance.

BW6/9

The footpath starts in Manor Road, adjacent to the entrance to Catcott County Primary School, through the school car park and skirting the playground, through a gate (1), to a fenced track between the school Playing Field and a hedgerow to a stile (2) and plank bridge (3), at the Parish boundary with Edington (Footpath No. BW 14/9). The rerouted BW6/9 runs north from this point along the eastern side of the hedge (actually in Edington Parish) to join BW14/24. At this point BW6/9 turns east, over a stile (4) across a field over a further stile (5) into a track adjacent to Northbrook Farm to join Broadmead Lane.

BW6/10

From the junction of Broadmead Lane and footpath BW6/12, the path runs north through a gate (1) across a field and over a concrete plank bridge (2) (where footpath BW6/13 cuts west to the parish boundary with Edington). BW6/10 continues over the crest of Nydon Ridge where it is joined from the right hand side by footpath BW6/11. The two paths continue to the plank bridge over Nydon Rhyne (3).

On the northern side of the Rhyne is the start of footpath BW6/14 which heads west whilst BW6/10 crosses a field in a northeasterly direction through a gate (4), to join the surfaced "Head Drove" where a fingerpost indicates the path.

BW6/11

The path starts on the west side of The Nidon, opposite the end of footpath BW6/8. The path enters a field by way of a kissing gate (1). Crosses the field, through another kissing gate (2) into the next field, continuing west, over a stile (3) and crossing a further field, as far as a mature ash tree (4), thence diagonally northwest to join BW6/10 at a footbridge over Nydon Rhyne on the northern slope of Nydon Ridge.

BW6/12

From Broadmead Lane this short path runs west through a gateway (1) across a field to the western boundary of the Parish and over a stile (2) joining Edington footpath BW14/25).

BW6/13

This is a short path running west from a concrete plank bridge, (Footpath BW6/10). Crossing two fields via a debris strewn opening in the hedgerow (1), to a stile (2) on the western boundary of the Parish, (junction with Edington footpath BW14/26).

BW6/14

This path starts from BW6/10 on the northern side of Nidon Rhyne and runs west along the bank for some 50m before turning north along the line of an old ditch to a rhyne where a plank bridge (1) is provided for pedestrians use alongside the metal gate.

The path bears away northwest across two fields, over a stile (2), to a junction with Edington footpath BW14/12 at the Parish boundary. BW6/14 continues north along "Cattcott Walls", the western boundary of the parish. Stiles are provided at (3) and (4) and thence through a gate (5) to the surfaced "Broad Drove" at the parish boundary with Burtle,

BW6/15

The footpath runs from Manor Road, where two brick pillars indicate the original width of access, across the Tarry Field, through St. Peter's Churchyard and into Church Way. The path is of concrete within the churchyard and tarmac elsewhere, There are now three kissing gates in total. Long installed at each end of the churchyard and at what was the Manor Road end of the Tarry Field, (3), (2) & (1) respectively.

In 2003 the Tarry House garden fence was extended to the churchyard wall and a further fence was erected on the southern side of the path, effectively reducing the size of the Tarry Field itself. A gate, thereby made redundant, has been removed. It may be noted that the area of the Tarry Field has previously been reduced in a similar fashion.

BW6/20

This hard track, named as "Hugdole Lane", starts from the junction of Brook Lane and Hector Road, initially in an easterly direction. It is briefly joined by BW6/7 from the right and which branches off to the left (north). BW6/20 turns left at Hugdole Cottage, becoming a grassed track. 200m on, it bears sharply to the right (east) from which point it is deeply rutted in places. The track continues east for a further 300m before again turning north. Some 50m on from this turn, footpath BW6/6 branches off via a stile on the right. BW6/20 continues north, to the junction with Little Leaze Lane and possibly Nidon Lane. Proceeding north, the point at which Hugdole Lane becomes Nidon Lane is not clear.