

Kirkby Thore Parish

Footpath Survey - Spring 2014

The majority of paths and bridleways in Kirkby Thore Parish are in quite good condition, and usable by the average walker. They pose far fewer problems than many paths in other parts of the country. However, they are not suitable for disabled people. The condition of the paths can vary according to season and farming practices.

1 footpath is completely blocked (336019). Access along 336011 is very difficult due to overgrown stile and crops in field.

In this report problem areas are highlighted in bold print, and link paths in other parishes are shown in italics.

This is not intended as a guide to the paths, merely a report on their condition. All can be easily followed using the OS Outdoor Leisure Map, sheet 19.

A66 TO OUSENSTAND BRIDGE VIA RIVER EDEN - Path in 6 sections through 3 parishes - 2460m

No. 336001 - A66 to river Eden - 350m.

Footpath sign OK. Path in 1m gap between garden walls, then spring loaded gate with step down into field.

Field 1 – Crop field. Fair walking, but in wet weather it may be better to keep to higher ground to the right.

Gap through old railway embankment possibly wet and muddy in wet weather, but access OK over the old railway.

Field 2 - Pasture. Fair walking.

Kissing Gate, good.

No. 308013 in Bolton Parish - 380m.

Field 3 - Pasture. Path on 5m+ wide strip between fence and river. Walking fair. Flood debris on path.

Kissing Gate. Good

Field 4 - Pasture. Walking fair to good.

No. 336002 - 330m.

Stile – Good, but no current need to use as the fence has gone.

Footbridge over deep ditch - Good.

Field 5 - Pasture and rough ground. Walking fair.

Stile - Good, but no current need to use as the fence has gone.

Field 6 – Walking fair but ground prone to overgrown weeds in summer months.

Some recent river bank erosion has taken place so care is needed in wet weather.

Field gate, easy to operate.

No. 308014 in Bolton Parish - 630m.

Field 7. Pasture. Good walking.

No. 336003 - 170m.

Kissing Gate

Footbridge – Good

Stile. Ok but be careful with the handrail.

Stile. Good

Field 8 - Pasture. River bank fenced off. Fair walking.

Stile. Good.

No. 336004 - Sleastonhow Lane to the Troutbeck - 430m.

Footpath sign OK

Stone slab steps over wall OK

Field 1 – Due to herring fencing path deviates through gap in wall. Pasture. Good walking.

Field 2 - Pasture. Good walking.

Field gate OK. Waymarked.

Path crosses drive and large parking area in front of Hall. Tarmac.

Field gate OK. Waymarked.

Field 3 – Path continues through new gate in new wall surrounding garden to field gate and onto Hardcore track to the Troutbeck where it links up with No 336005.

Track continues over the Troutbeck to the A66 as path no 341029 in Crackenthorpe Parish.

The vehicular bridge over the beck was cleared away following flood damage. A temporary foot bridge is

still in place which may be removed if/when the land owner builds a new road /foot bridge.

No. 336005 - Main Street to the Troutbeck - 290m

Footpath sign OK

Starts through gap in stone wall, then in about one metre wide gap between garden hedges. Hedges require annual trimming to retain gap.

Kissing Gate OK but narrow.

Field 1 - Pasture. Good walking.

Field gate OK, or go through wicket gates and use path by river or use new stile and follow path by river leading to path no. 336004.

No. 336006 - Sleastonhow to Keld Syke, and thence to Long Marton - 280m.

Bridleway sign OK

Gate usually open

On concrete past farm buildings.

Gate usually open. Waymarks.

Tarmac track.

Gate. Usually open. Waymarks.

Stream, Keld Syke, in large diameter culvert.

Bridleway continues as No. 341023 in Long Marton Parish.

No. 336007 - Priest Lane to A66 near Lowmoor - 350m

Bridleway sign OK

Track OK but somewhat overgrown.

Field gate with long handle catch. OK

Field 1 – Pasture/ploughed. Good walking.

Field gate with long handle catch OK

Field 2 - Pasture. Good walking.
Field gate with long handle catch OK.
Bridleway sign at A66 OK.

No. 336008 - A66 (Telephone exchange) to Piper Lane (near recreation ground) - 320m.

Footpath sign obscured by hedge.
Gate to path easy to operate.
Field 1 - Pasture. Good walking.
Kissing gate OK
Field 2 - Pasture good walking.
Kissing gate is usable but the bottom hinge is weak.
Field 3 - Pasture. Good walking.
Kissing gate OK.
Path in 1m wide gap between hedge and fence. Hedge requires annual trimming.
Kissing gate OK.
Green track to Piper Lane - Good walking, but needs strimming in summer.
Footpath sign at road OK.

No. 336009 - Piper Lane (Blacksmith's yard) to path 336008 - 230m

Footpath sign OK.
Path through blacksmith's yard and behind house OK.
Kissing gate OK.
Field 1 - Pasture. Good walking.
Kissing gate OK. Leading to path 336008.

No. 336010 - Main Street to Recreation Ground - 160m.

Footpath sign at Main Street OK.
Good track between walls.
Wicket gate OK. Muddy in wet weather.
Field 1 - Pasture. Fair walking.
Kissing gate OK, giving access to path No 336008 and thence to Recreation Ground.

No. 336011 - School to Sandersons Croft - 480m.

Footpath sign at road.
Stile. No long upright for hand support. Waymarked.
Field 1 - Crop field. **Walking virtually impossible.**
Stile broken and fence removed and no path indicators.
Field 2 - Pasture. **Waymark required pointing to next stile.** Good walking.
Stile. No long upright for hand support.
Path crosses farm track.
Stile built into hedge. **Overgrown and impossible to use.**
Field 3. Pasture. Good walking.
Ladder stile leads over wire fence to Sandersons Croft. **One hand support missing.**
Footpath sign OK.

No. 336013 - Town Head to Milburn road via British Gypsum and Low Abbey - 2690m
Path follows British Gypsum road. Tarmac path on left to Sandersons Croft, then on right to BG Works. The latter is only 1m wide, OK so long as hedge is kept trimmed and not allowed to over grow the path.

Footpath sign at BG Works entrance with waymark pointing left to Hale Grange path.
In works area access to grass path between wooden fences is via the new metal gate, then between hedge and fence with a 'pallet gate' halfway along the path. Waymarked. Good walking.
New footbridge over British Gypsum rail track.
Cross double track main line. Good visibility.
Wooden ladder stile over railway fence very steep and difficult to use if with dogs.
Field 1 - Pasture. Good walking.
Stile. Good, but hedge may need trimming annually. Waymarked.
Field 2 - Pasture. Good walking.
Stile. Good.
Field 3 - Pasture. Good walking.
Stile. Good.
Field 4 - Pasture. Good walking.
Stile. OK. Waymarked.
Path crosses tarmac road to Low Abbey.
Gap in stone wall. OK.
Field 5 - Pasture. Good walking. Excellent views of the Pennines.
Field Gate. Muddy in wet weather. Waymarked.
Field 6 - Pasture. Walking OK.
Stile OK. Waymarked.
Grass covered track.
Field gate leading to road. OK. Footpath sign OK.

No. 336014 - Hale Grange to British Gypsum - 1050m.

Footpath sign OK. Access to field through slot in stone wall.
Field 1 - Rough pasture. Walking fair.
Stile OK.
Short length of concrete track.
Stile. OK.
Field 2 - Rough pasture. Walking fair.
Stile good.
Field 3 - Rough pasture. Walking ok.
Stile, leading into British Gypsum land. Rough path between ditch and high fence
Track between high fence and ditch, rough in parts.
Track ends at padlocked gate, but path continues between high fence and ditch and over small bridge. **(One of the foot rails of the bridge has broken)**
Path continues between high and low fences on rough ground with steep cross fall in places.
Footpath sign at road into British Gypsum OK.

No. 336015 - Kirkby Thore - Long Marton road to Long Marton via Stamphill Farm - 420m.

Bridleway sign OK
Field gate open.
Tarmac track to and past Stamphill Farm.
Field gate. Need to dismount for riders.
After gate Bridleway follows hard core track left over stream where it becomes No. 341028 in Long Marton Parish.

No. 336016 - From No. 336015 towards Long Marton - 70m

Hardcore track under railway bridge.

Field gate, open.

Hardcore track.

Field gate. Easy to open with long handle catch.

Hardcore track over conveyor and down to stream and over stile, where it becomes No. 341022 in Long Marton Parish.

No. 336017 - School to British Gypsum road (Fell Lane) - 1040m.

Footpath sign at road OK. Path is on hardcore track between hedges known as Green Lane.

Lane turns 90 degrees towards Gypsum Road through field gate that is usually open.

Path crosses farm track, sometimes wet and muddy.

Path continues straight ahead onto field (slight deviation from original path route) via gates - one which has a handle catch.

Field 1 - Ploughed field. Path on 2m wide grass strip. Good walking.

Kissing Gate OK leading to road. Footpath sign to 'Gullam School' OK.

No. 336018 - Newbiggin Road to Hale Grange - 910m.

Bridleway sign OK slightly obscured by hedge.

Field gate removed.

Field 1 - Path on 4 metre wide fenced grass strip at side of ploughed field. May need strimming in summer. Ok Walking.

Field gate **with long handle catch missing**.

Field 2 - Path on 5 m wide grass strip fenced off from rest of the pasture. May need strimming in summer. V. Diff walking due to long grass, nettles and thistles.

Field gate easy to operate but dismount required.

Field 3 - Grazed pasture. Good walking.

New field gate requiring dismount - **currently tied up**.

Short lane leading to road with Bridleway sign.

No. 336019 - Maiden Way to Milburn, with No 452003 Newbiggin Parish and No 346001 Milburn Parish

No. 452003 Newbiggin Parish. 10m.

Footpath sign to Milburn OK

Stone wall stile damaged and impossible to access due to condition and wire mesh fence over top of wall.

There is a field gate about 30m away, however this is now tied closed.

Field 1 - Pasture good walking.

No. 336019 - 240m.

Field 1 continued. Line of path beside new post and wire fence. Good walking.

Small stile built into fence about 2/3rds of way along for some reason.

Stone steps over wall which is in a state of disrepair.

In open woodland with large pond but **no sign of path, no waymarks, and no bridge** to cross the river and link up to -

Path No. 346001 in Milburn Parish.

No 336012 was deleted in 2001

Kirkby Thore - Long Marton road (by railway bridge) to path number 336013 at British Gypsum

GR 6517 2633 to 6483 2667

This path is now closed, but British Gypsum have been asked to reopen it on a permitted path basis.

Full survey in April 2008

Partial updates to May 2011, April 2012, May 2013, May 2014

Last update Oct 2014