Footpath Report July 2023.

Summer is upon us, or is it ?. After the last few days when work was scheduled on clearing overgrown vegetation, the heavens opened and the monsoon began, unheard of. Still you can't stop a volunteer. Work continues.

Wigmore Loop to AY15 (Yatton Cottage and West under Leinthall Common.)

Working from Yatton Cottage and on up to the seat beneath the Iron Age Fort. I managed between showers, to clear the overgrown bracken using the larger wheeled strimmer. Further work is still needed on this path which entails pushing back the tall bracken along the edges before they fall back onto the path causing a problem. The Commons labour force were due to work on this section, however rain stopped play. No doubt this will be completed as soon as weather permits.

AY1. (Village Hall and West towards Covenhope.)

Part of this path has been cleared, but again rain stopped play and it was at this time that the strimmer chose to be unreliable. Hoping to complete this section using my own equipment on Wednesday, weather permitting.

AY5. (Ballsgate Common and around Pyon Wood to Yatton.)

Whilst assisting the Commons working group clearing paths on Ballsgate Common,I also worked on AY5. Near the Common end, there are two stiles that are not dog friendly, so some work is required on them.

I am still waiting for Hoople to put in a stile at the Yatton Lane end of

this Footpath. As mentioned before, Hoople has directed that any Paths that are on a roadside, with be worked on by their work force. I will keep in touch with them as a reminder and will keep you informed.

Strimmer. The issued strimmer which is showing it's age and is needing a repair, is currently at Buftons in Ludlow. This is the outlet that services all the saws, strimmers and provides any items needed, such as Strimmer cord, files and any other small tools needed.

They inform me that the strimmer can be fitted with a new rotor head, but due to it's age, any other parts are obsolete and no longer available. This includes a safety guard, the throttle controls and worn shaft. They can make it work by cobbling it together with a new rotor head, but can't guarantee for how long it will keep going. Cost for this would be under £75.00.

Attached is a very reasonable quote from Buftons for a heavy duty machine which would be required. There are lighter models however they won't stand up to the work load for long.

RRP £900.00 inc VAT, the quote is for £675 inc VAT. Obviously you need to discuss this proposal. I will continue the work using my own tools.

Fuel. A fuel receipt will be given to the Clerk on the night of the meeting complete with VAT Number.
The cost is £20.39.
That's all for now, let's hope summer returns and Walkers can once again enjoy the scenic Aymestrey footpath experience.