

# PUBLIC FOOTPATHS: WHICH DIRECTION TO TAKE

## Is It Back To P3 - Or Forward To The Ombudsman?

After meetings with Fiskerton PC and a joint meeting with representatives of Notts County Council, Rolleston seems to be no nearer to getting its footpaths properly maintained..

Now the PC must decide whether to return to the Parish Paths Partnership scheme (P3) or take the issue to the ombudsman on the grounds that, whether in or out of the scheme, Notts CC has a statutory duty to cut and maintain certain footpaths in the parish.

Problems arose some two years ago when the county council decided to change the P3 rules.

Previously, parish councils had surveyed their footpaths and reported any maintenance to be done to the NCC, who then undertook the work and administration

Then the county council decided that parish councils - in effect, the clerk - should be responsible for contracting and overseeing the labour, with all the paperwork and red-tape that entails.

Rolleston parish council stated that they wished to remain in P3, but under the original agreement. However, the NCC refused to accept those terms and deemed us to have left the scheme.

Since then, many of our footpaths have fallen into a disgraceful and even dangerous state of maintenance and repair.

At a recent joint meeting at Rolleston village hall, the NCC representatives pleaded lack of funding for footpath maintenance, but admitted P3 members were being given priority treatment.

The parish council will now have to decide on what further action to take

## SIEGE WALK, FLOWERS AND CRAFTS

This bank holiday weekend is a big one for events in Rolleston.

Have you got your "groat" for the **Siege Walk** (celebrating the 360th anniversary of the siege of Newark) followed by our **Big Barbecue Party**?

There will be some very tired village legs either walking from Lincoln to Newark and/or Newark to Rolleston, so do go and give them support as they cross the river at the Bromley on Sunday afternoon, and then enjoy the Big Barbeque organised at the village hall in the evening.

All proceeds go to the Village Hall Fund.

This Saturday sees the opening of the three-day **Flower Festival** in the parish church. It's open from 11am until 4pm each day and admission is free. Well worth a visit.

Finally, a **Craft Fair** in the village hall on Bank Holiday Monday will have over 21 stalls competing for your cash. Open from 11am until 4pm and, again, admission is free.

Proceeds towards the installation of toilets in the church

## WHEN "ROBBIE" MET . . . ROLLESTON



It was a complete sell-out and standing room only when a Robbie Williams (look-alike and sound-alike) tribute singer recently entertained guests from Rolleston and many of the surrounding villages at a special dinner in aid of village hall funds

## 'TIS THE SEASON FOR AGM'S

Seems to be the season for annual village meetings.

The Annual Parish Meeting takes place at the village hall on May 8, at 7.30pm to which a number of representatives, including local county and district councillors, the Parish Map Group, the Friends of Rolleston and the Village Hall Management Committee, have been invited to give reports.

This will be immediately followed by the Parish Council AGM . . .

. . . And on Friday, May 19, the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee will be held at 7.30pm in the hall

One of its tasks is to elect a new committee to be responsible for the ongoing management of the hall.

Says current chairman Cheryl Warwick; "This task needs to be carried forward by members who are committed and enthusiastic"

Anyone interested in standing can e-mail or telephone Cheryl (cheryl.warwick@rollestonvcn.net or 816524) or drop in at the hall between 10.30am and 12.30pm on May 7.

It would also be helpful if you could give your details to Pam Rishardson, Secretary, (701654) in advance of the AGM.

This issue of the Rolleston Crier is to be my last. I have enjoyed writing and producing it, but it is now time for someone else to take over.

We all have different opinions and attitudes, and I have genuinely tried hard to reflect the general thinking of the community as a whole and to remain neutral at all times. Whether I have succeeded is for others to decide. However, I am proud to have been associated with our little newsletter and wish whoever takes over every success

Peter Bowman