

**SOUTHERN WILTSHIRE AREA BOARD  
(31 January 2013)**

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**Progress report: Rights of Way project**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To update the Area Board on the progress of this project.

**Progress Report:**

There is a cross-parish footpath meeting scheduled for Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January. This meeting is planned to discuss the progress of the project including:

1. Setting out a schedule for the remaining kissing gate installations.
2. Discussing the Southern Wiltshire Walks guide and next steps
3. Discuss formalizing the cross parish group so that it can begin to operate in the new financial year.

A full update of the outcome of this meeting will be given at the meeting.

**Installing the gates**

At the last meeting the following update was given.

- 3 of the 5 wooden gates that are made locally and funded by the New Forest National Park have been installed in Landford.
- An order of 39 metal gates has been received to start us off.
- On 15 October and 19 November, new volunteers worked alongside South Wilts Ramblers and the Wiltshire Council Rights of Way team to install 8 metal kissing gates in Downton.
- 2 have been installed in Odstock.
- 4 gates have been delivered to Laverstock and installation will be coordinated by volunteers at the River Bourne Community Farm.
- 4 gates have been delivered to Redlynch and local volunteer will organise installation, with support from Rights of Way.
- The one gate for Coombe Bissett will also be installed shortly.
- This leaves: Alderbury (3) Downton (6), Winterslow (14), Grimstead (7), Whiteparish, Landford and Redlynch (wooden gates).

- Since the last meeting West Dean Parish Council have confirmed that they also require 2 gates.

**Volunteer recruitment:**

Our campaign to recruit volunteers is now well underway. We had a good turnout at our recent work days in Downton, working with the South Wiltshire Ramblers. People can sign up to get involved at:

[www.southernwiltshirewalks.weebly.com](http://www.southernwiltshirewalks.weebly.com)

Communities with volunteers with the right skills that want to start locally can contact the Rights of Way Team who will assist them.

We would like to recruit local tradesmen to help with the installations in return for some advertising in the walks publication. We are teaming up with the Ramblers who are assisting with volunteer training during their monthly sessions.

**Recommendation**

To note the above.

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