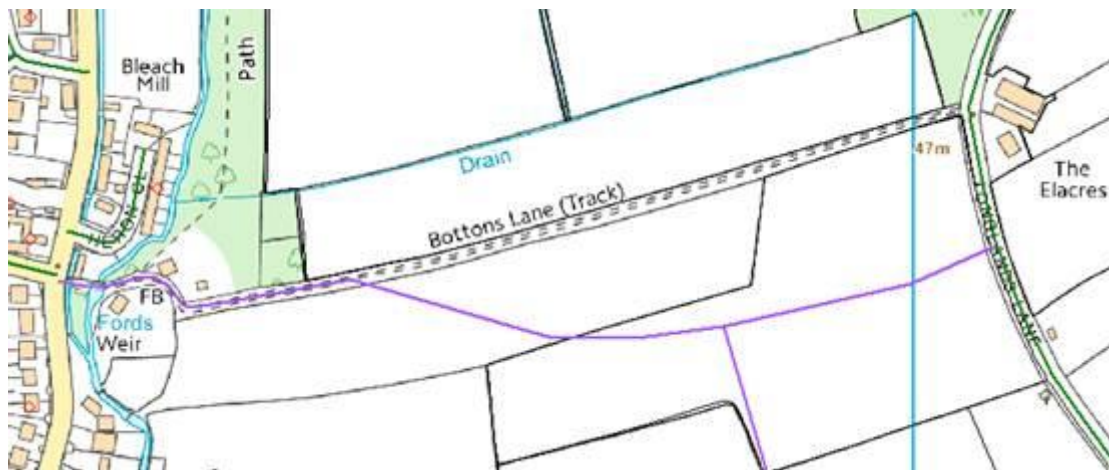


Bottoms Lane – July 2016

I have had several reports regarding the new gate at the bottom of Bottoms Lane so I thought the following report may be helpful to residents, walkers and horse riders who I know have used this lane for many years.

Below is a plan showing the legal status of paths in this area. The purple line indicates a public footpath, and the dark green lines indicate unclassified county roads (a light green line would indicate a bridleway). At present the lane is not classified as a bridleway and has no public rights of access.



Our Definitive Map Team are responsible for processing any claims that are made for a public right of way. The Principle Definite Map Officer is Penny Noake Penny.Noake@northyorks.gov.uk

A path can be claimed as a public right of way if there is evidence (this can be anecdotal from members of the community) that it has been used without interference for 20 years or more. If, following the legal process it is agreed that the public have gained the right of way then there is a Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) to add the route to the Definitive Map (the legal document that records all public rights of way). A claim for a public right of way can be made by an individual but may be more effective from a group, such as the Parish Council.

More details on how to claim a public right of way can be found on the NYCC website via this link

- http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/media/8836/Guidance-notes-on-making-a-DMMO-application/pdf/1.Guidance_Notes_UPDATED_Jan_2014.pdf

I used to sit on the small committee which dealt with these DMO's and the first thing to note, is that there is a huge backlog of work. I am sure many of us have both walked and ridden horses up and down this lane for over twenty years, so I am sure that the information could be collected. The positives would be that it would allow horse riders to access the bridleways and lanes at either side of the village without travelling through the busy village centre. However, it should be noted that if horses are permitted access then other forms of motorised vehicles would be too.

Janet Sanderson