

HALFORD ROAD FOOTPATH Jackie and I had a conversation after we'd both, independently, walked the route again this last week. The kerb, obviously, is a good indicator of where the footpath should be and, as Ian points out, there are obvious signs of the tarmac, which we all noticed when we met together, last year. Jackie and I are of the same opinion as Ruth, which is to have a staged plan with the church to Rookery Lane as a first 'priority'. Our rationale for this is that footfall for this area would be greater, certainly in the immediate future e.g. school trips to church, Sunday services, Weddings, Funerals, Church Fete – obviously once some sort of normality returns to our daily lives. With regard to the path which, kerbing suggests, runs from Rookery Lane to The Friend's Meeting House there would need to be significant hedge cutting/removal in areas – specifically from the wooden door (no 3) down, to enable the path to even see the light of day. Referencing the school parking – you may remember I was 'put in my place' at a PC meeting by a parent, who lives on Halford Road, who said that parents rarely parked there, The PC also received a letter from a parishioner vehemently against any clearing of the path. Whilst these two instances should not preclude us from putting forward a proposal for PC consideration, it may be useful to wait on this second phase until school fully reopens and then monitor it's use over a period of a week or so – at arrival and pick up times. This would give us a clearer picture of its use rather than simply relying on word of mouth. Jackie is happy to pursue 'Phase 1' but is concerned that with the financial situation, due largely to the pandemic, WCC Highways may consider they have more pressing issues e.g. potholes, repairs to existing pavements etc. to give due consideration to the project as a whole. Izzi had also expressed her interest in this item and was interested to meet with those involved, at some stage, to enable her to fully understand the 'project'. We suggest that once the social distancing rules are relaxed, sufficiently, to allow for a site meeting we contact Izzi to ascertain her thoughts from a WCC perspective. Ian has supplied a number of photographs showing the area involved which can be viewed on his email thread 'Old tarmac path down Halford Road posted on 18/2/21