## **MEMORANDUM**

From: Heather Dale (Parish Path Warden)

In these difficult times, parishioners are escaping from the pain of 'lock down' by taking to the foot paths as a means of healthy exercise. It has become apparent that many of the stiles in the parishes of Broadwas and Cotheridge are in need of attention. Many have wooden parts which have rotted due to damp. Also wire netting has been attached to them at lower levels, probably to stop stock exploring parts they should not go. This precaution has meant that dogs accompanying walkers cannot use the stiles. It is the legal obligation of the tenant or landowner to maintain the stiles to allow access for walkers. Their dogs are allowed on public rights of way if under control.

Worcester County council has adopted a policy of supplying free replacement gates to replace such stiles as long as they are in the position defined in 1949. The Countryside officials require to check the position of such stiles for replacement. Installation is required by the tenant or landowner.

The county has a website with public access to the interactive map with public rights of way:

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20237/public rights of way

Contact about replacement for stiles may be made through me or directly with W.C.C. Countryside department may be made by using the

email: countryside@worcestershire.gov.uk

or telephone 01905 845617

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