



LOST FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEPATHS OF INCE PARISH



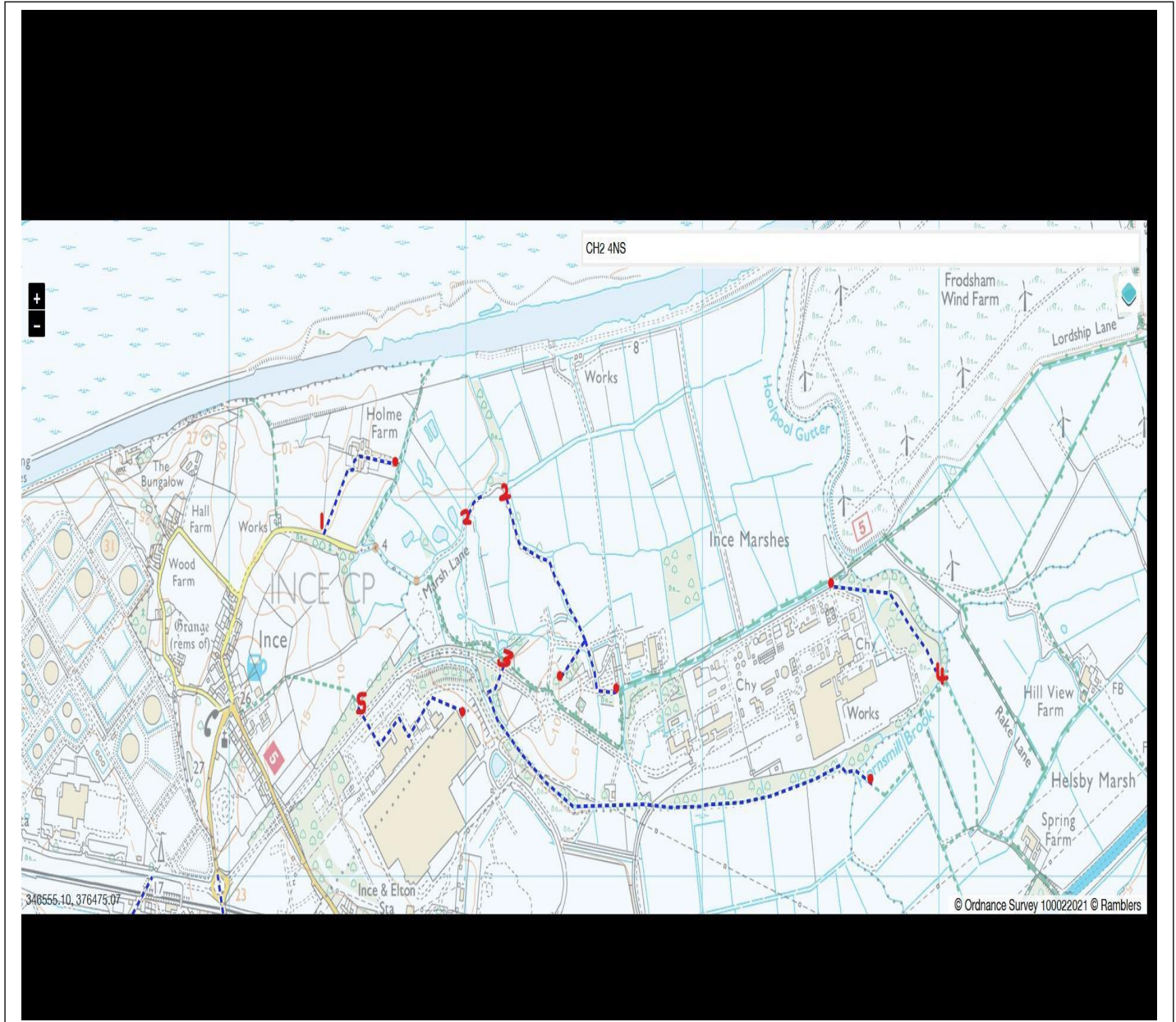
Ince Neighbourhood Plan Group

Ince Parish consists of the village centre and the marshes which lie Northeast of the village. Until the start of the 21st century the marshes were farmed by several farmers, mainly for dairy and beef. They were also enjoyed by walkers, cyclists, and horse riders as there were many footpaths and bridleways across the marshes, towards Helsby and Frodsham. These were used on a regular basis as they were considered safe (away from road traffic) and also the scenery and wildlife could be enjoyed.

Around 2000 the marshes were sold off to Peel Holdings who began planning to build across a wide area of the marshes. Also, around this time, Quinn Glass was built on the edge of the Parish boundary bordering on Elton Parish boundary. Many of the footpaths and bridlepaths have since been lost to walkers, cyclists, and horse riders although Peel built a restricted byway in way of compensation for land lost.

Whilst residents were grateful for the restricted byway this has not compensated fully for the lost paths. The map below shows where some of the footpaths and bridleways were (although there were many more). It would be considered supportive if these could be reinstated for the community in whose Parish they lie, and also the many other walkers, cyclists and horse riders who come in from other areas to enjoy their pastimes in a safe environment. Residents want to work closely with their industrial neighbours and hope they can be supported in return.

Lost Pathways\bridlepaths in Ince Parish



to allow them a more direct route to the farm. It was never used by the public.

It would not be worthwhile to reinstate this path especially as there is an existing footpath alongside the farm leading to the canal. It would be more useful to ensure that this footpath (in green) is maintained by Peel, especially when they take over the lagoons on the right of the path, which they plan to do in 2021-2022. There needs to be clear access onto the canal.

2. The path\bridlepath from Middle Lane towards the Protosfactory on Lordship Lane

On the map the path\bridlepath is in two parts, but it is actually a continuation of the same road. This path can only be accessed by climbing over the double metal gates which have a PRIVATE ACCESS



ONLY sign on them. The path does not appear to start immediately after the gates but a little further up, just before Middle Lane.



The path, which is in fact the old tarmac lane, curves round between two ditches, flanked by willows. The path is now in some state of disrepair since being closed off by Peel but was used on a regular basis.



The path continues to the left bringing the Protos factory



into view and then in veers to the right again towards the road (newroad).



It then crosses over the new road and would have run past the old Grinsom Farm on the right (now demolished).



There is a spur off this path which runs a short distance across a piece of rough land towards the Kemira Road. This was once part of the Grinsom land but is now currently being bulldozed in preparation for building work.

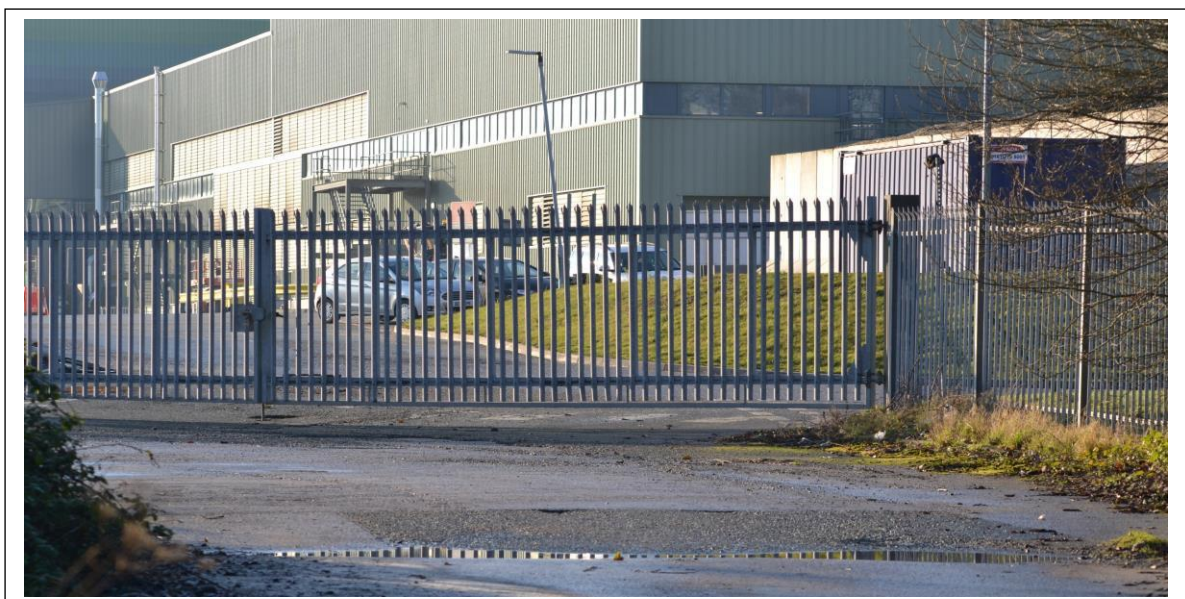


3. The path from the restricted byway towards Elton Lane

The start of this pathway cannot readily be seen from the group of trees on the restricted byway (bridlepath) due to the undergrowth.



The path crosses the Kemira Road and runs alongside Quinn Glass(ENCIRC).



It then joins the tarmac road which runs alongside the factory towards Elton Lane (in the Ince Parish). This lane once ran back towards Elton and could be accessed from there before ENCIRC cutoff access.





This path now becomes a dirt track which runs approximately a mile to Horns mill Brook. This was used on a frequent basis by walkers and riders alike but, due to the presence of a barrier, this is no longer accessible for horse riders.

4. Path across field to Lordship Lane

This path is a continuation of an existing footpath which runs parallel to Rake Lane. The path cuts across a field by the side of CFFertilizers and joins up with Lordship Lane. The main value in reinstating this path would be if it could be joined with path 3 to create a circular route joining up with path 2 (which it would have done in the late 20th century early 21st century. This was a path \bridleway used on a regular basis by horse riders and walkers alike.

5. Path across Kemira road bordering the ENCIRC factory



This path joins existing path (in green) across the fields to Crank's farm. Although the sign clearly states that there is a foot path there is no access to it other than climbing over a fence.

The path (in blue) crosses the Kemira road and turns left to closely border the factory where it appears to come to an abrupt halt. It looks as if it should join up with path 3 as it is very close to it. There does not appear to be any good reason to re-instate this path due to its proximity to the factory. However, the value would be in the creation of a link between this path and path 3 to create a conjoined path.

