

When using a public right of way

Please remember:

It is your right to pass and re-pass along a right of way and, if practical, you may take a pram, pushchair or wheelchair.

The countryside is where farmers and others earn their living. Please exercise your rights with courtesy and consideration for rural activities.

You must keep dogs under close control. In the spring take extra care to avoid disturbance during lambing and to ground nesting birds.

Cyclists and horse riders only have the right to use bridleways and byways. Cyclists should give way to horse riders & walkers. Horse riders should give way to walkers.



Please remember the Countryside Code

Respect – Protect – Enjoy

Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs

Leave gates and property as you find them

Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home

Keep dogs under close control

Consider other people



Produced by Rock & Rennington Parish Council, with the support of the following:

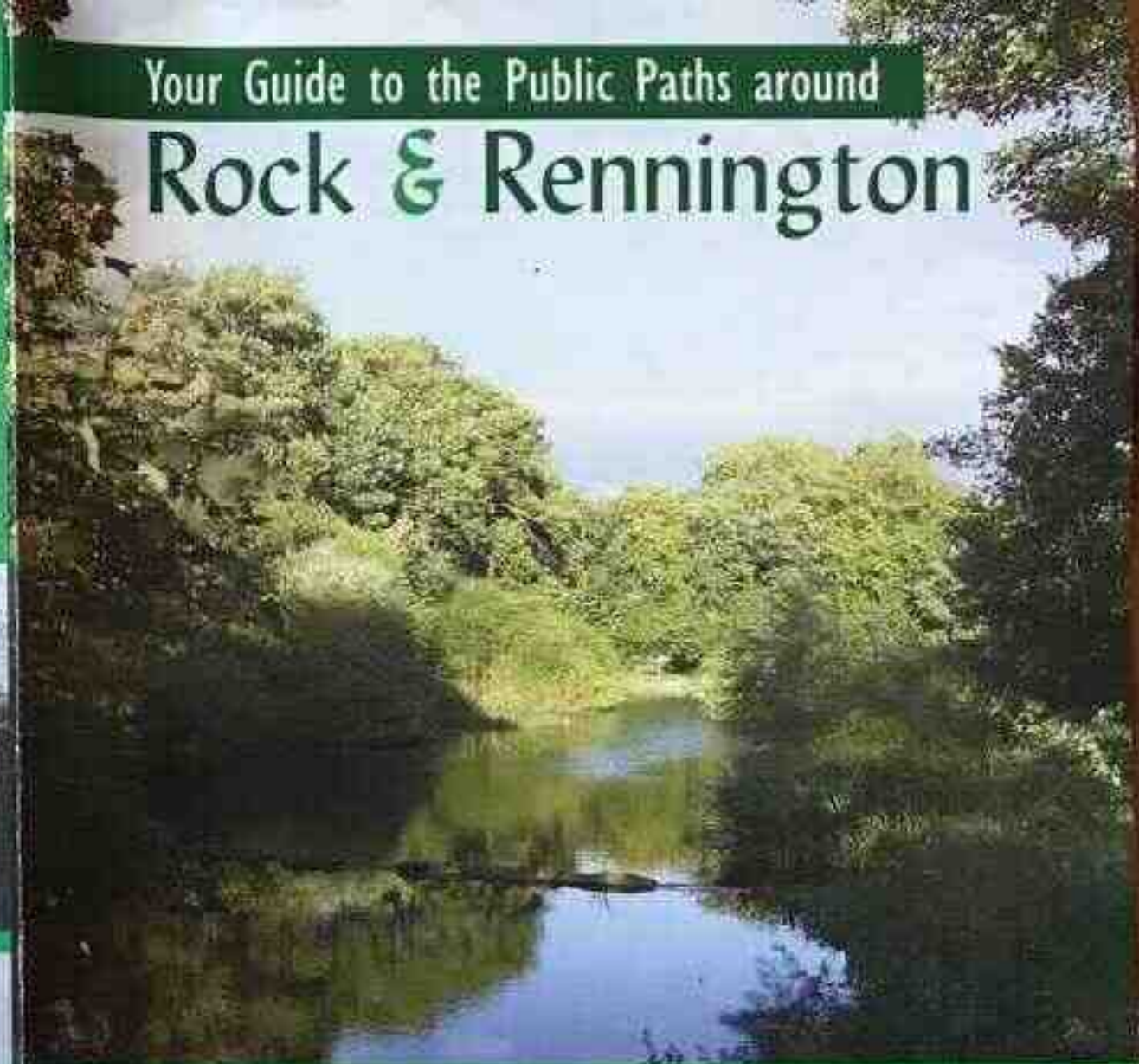


NORTHUMBERLAND
COUNTY COUNCIL



If you have any queries or you wish to comment on, or discuss the work of the Council's Countryside Section, please contact us at County Hall, Morpeth on (01670) 533 000

Your Guide to the Public Paths around Rock & Rennington



The Parish of Rennington has a rich network of rights of way, enabling you to explore the countryside on your doorstep through a short stroll or a longer circular walk or ride. There is a farm trail in Rock Village, and although not on public rights of way, it is normally open to the public. This leaflet highlights the network in and around the parish and complements the ongoing work of Northumberland County Council to improve and promote public paths in Northumberland. Footpaths and bridleways are a free and valuable resource, which are as much for local people as they are for the more serious walker, horse rider or cyclist. Why not take advantage of your local paths and enjoy the health benefits of fresh air and exercise, as well as the pleasure of exploring our beautiful countryside?

Maintaining rights of way

It is the County Council's responsibility to:

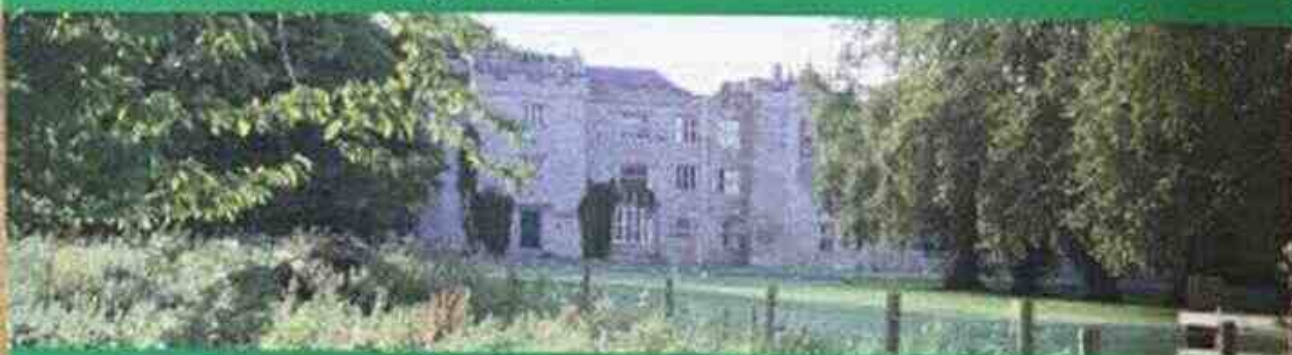
Assert and protect the public's right to use rights of way.

Signpost and waymark routes.

Maintain the surfaces of most routes and control natural vegetation growing on them.

Maintain bridges and stepping stones.

Survey rights of way and investigate complaints.



Where possible Northumberland County Council will work with landowners and farmers to resolve problems. The County Council may provide labour and materials to get jobs done, such as installing stiles and wicket gates. However, enforcement and legal action can also be taken to ensure that rights of way are open and available for use.

It is a landowner's or farmer's responsibility to:

Maintain stiles and gates on routes in a condition suitable for use.

Keep paths free from obstructions and overhanging vegetation.

Never plough a right of way running along a field edge.

Reinstate routes across fields after ploughing and keep these routes free of encroaching crops to legal minimum widths – for a footpath, 1m across a field, 1.5m on field edge, for a bridleway, 2m across a field, 3m on a field edge.

Never keep dairy bulls older than 10 months in a field with a right of way and ensure that beef bulls are accompanied by cows or heifers. Dangerous animals must not be kept in fields with rights of way.

Never endanger the public using a path.

Never deter the public from using a path, this includes erecting misleading signs.

Obtain consent from the County Council before erecting fences or walls across a right of way.

Never unlawfully divert the route of a right of way.

Types of rights of way

There are four types of public rights of way:

Public Footpath

Access on foot only

Public Bridleway

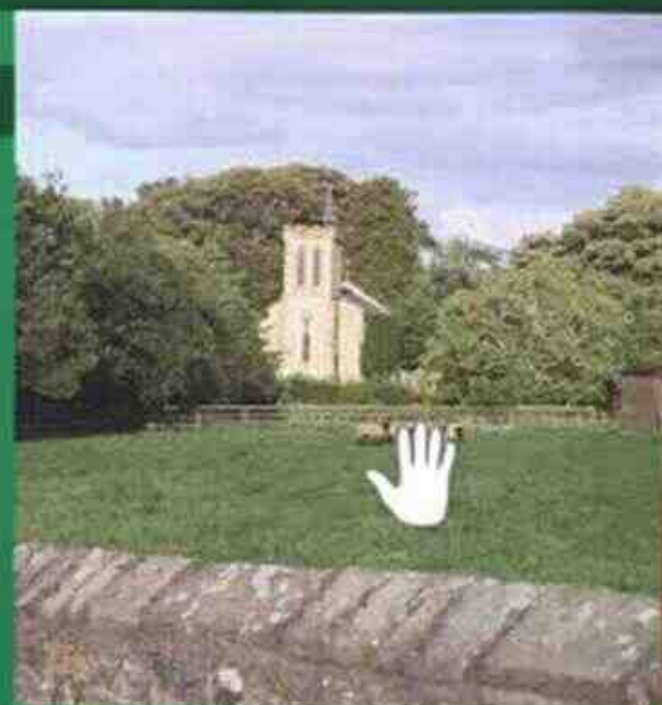
Access on foot, horseback and bicycle

Restricted Byway

Access as a bridleway plus any non-mechanically propelled vehicles

Byways Open to All Traffic

Access to all users, but mainly used as footpaths or bridleways



A guide to circular heritage trails around Embleton is available from local outlets.

