

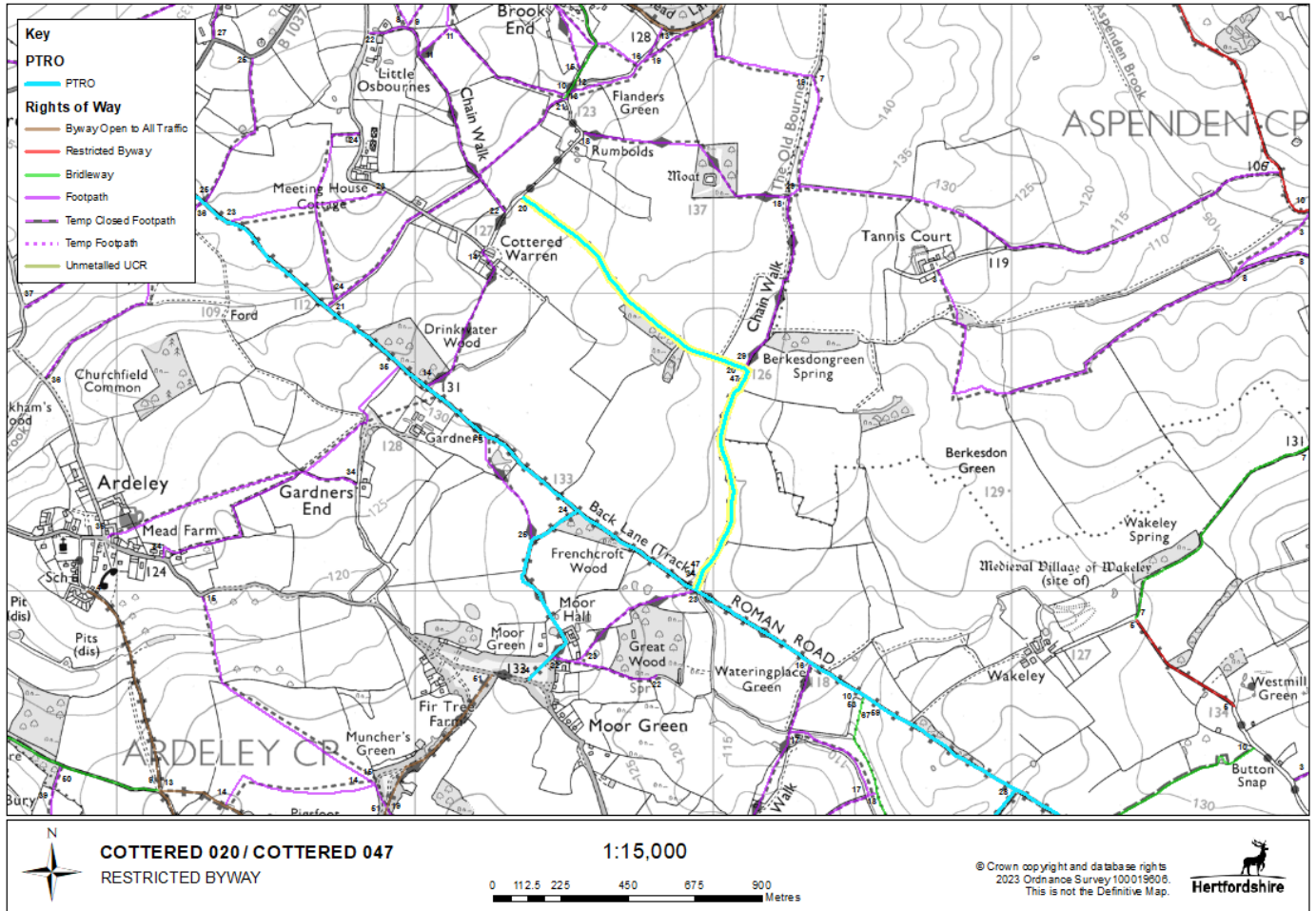
PTRO Review

Type: Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) & Restricted Byway (RB)

Name: Cottered RB 020 & Cottered BOAT 047

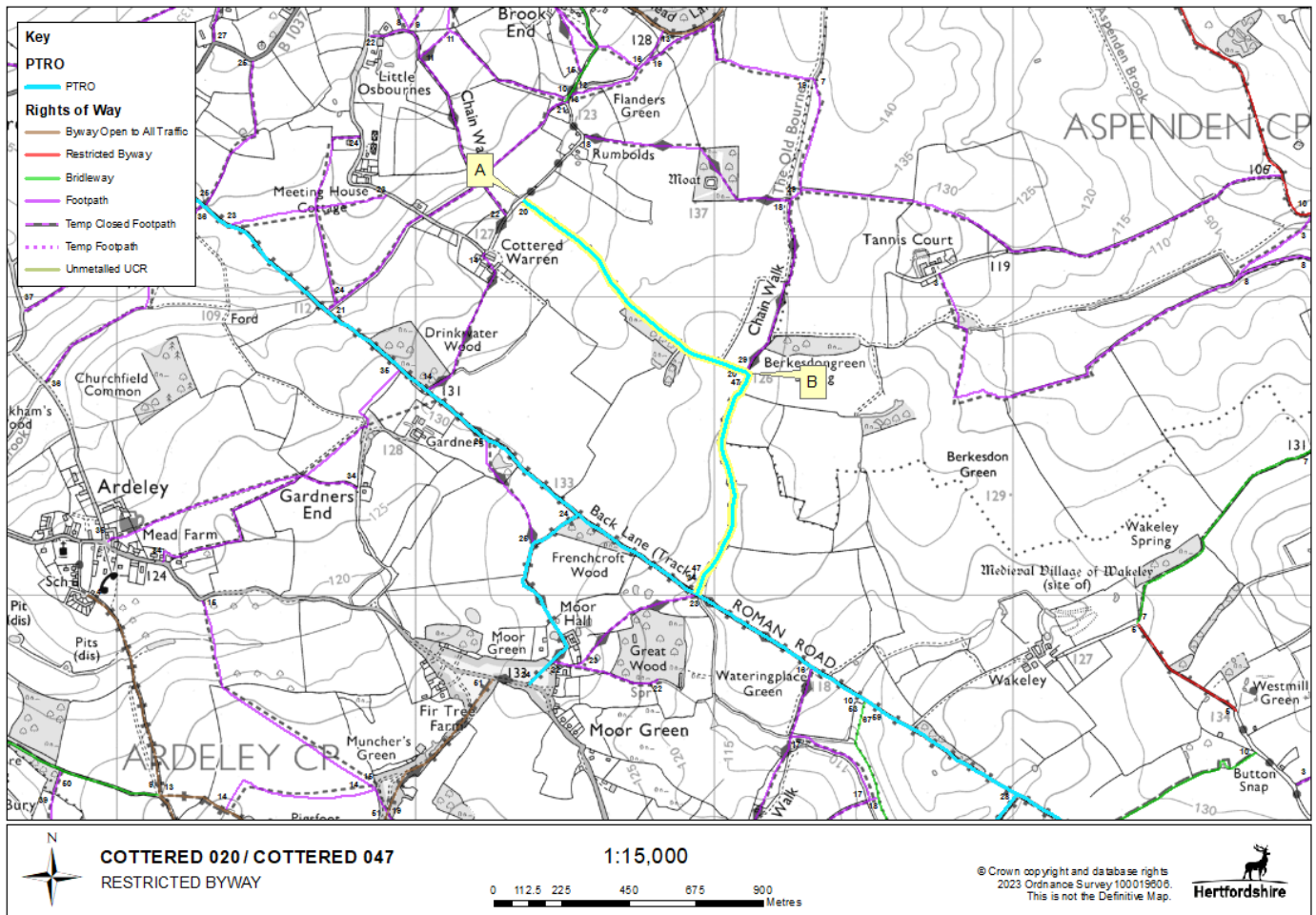
Location: Cottered

Location map



PTRO Review

Route map of path condition



Effectiveness of the existing order

The PTRO provides for gates and barriers at each end of Restricted Byway 20 to stop parallel axle vehicles to the junction at the northern end of Cottered 47. Unauthorised vehicles, both motorised and horse drawn are excluded. Motor bikes may still potentially gain access.

The PTRO is not supported by signs, the southern end of Cotted BOAT is not subject to a barrier. or signage related to the PTRO.

Public safety issues

RB 20 is concurrent with a farm track, good granular compacted surface used as a farm access track.

A gap and barrier allow access for walkers, cyclist and equestrians, excludes parallel axle motorised traffic at the junction with BOAT 47.

The route of BOAT 47 is unsuitable as parallel axel motor vehicle could not pass without causing damage and the soft natural surface is immediately adjacent to the Old Bourne water course (EA controlled).

The path surface is subject to a high clay content soil and is prone to winter poaching at current levels of equestrian use. This reduces its load bearing capacity in relation motor vehicular use. Little opportunity exists for drainage improvements in this area without compromising the natural vegetative margin of the water course concurrent with the public right of way.

The route is used predominantly by vulnerable non-motorised users.

Physical evidence of level of use

The farm track is used by motor vehicles.

The natural grassy surface has evidence of vegetation and a worn trod line that shows use by cycle, horse, and foot traffic.

No data exists on numbers, approx. 6 users a day has been quoted by a user of this ROW.

Surface condition

Granular concurrent farm tract RB 20

Week natural grassy surface prone to standing water in winter and poor natural drainage. BOAT 47

Improvement suggestions

Continued maintenance of granular surface RB 20.

Continued mowing and siding up of natural surface.

Structures & Signs

Signs are in place at the junction with the access from the carriageway at time of my last inspection.

Barrier allows walkers, cycle and equestrian access, potential motorbike access through this gap.

Comments

Ref To comment on use of Ardeley BOAT 10.

RB 20 is a Restricted By way, so no public motor vehicle access is allowed. The PTRO restricted all vehicular access so this review does would allow the PTRO to be removed to allow horse drawn vehicles whilst still excluding all motorised traffic.

BOAT 47 This route is vulnerable due to the nature of the natural surface; it is unsuitable to motorised vehicular traffic due to the potential damage by powered wheels and related danger to vulnerable none motorised users in the limited space between the edge of the water course and hedge banks.

The BHS and British Driving Association have indicated they would wish to drive this route as the PTRO refers to all vehicles not just motor vehicles. Horse drawn access may with limited numbers and unpowered wheel action be less damaging to this natural surface.

The Trail Riders Fellowship have indicated they would like access to this route, I would refer to my comments on BOAT 10 which connects, limited access through a permit system may be possible, although the weak natural surface will be very vulnerable to powered wheel activity. However, as they have no access on to RB 20 the route would be a cul de sac and be of little value, presenting a problem and danger at the northern turning point.

Parish comments desire PTRO to remain on BOAT 47. The PTRO could be removed on RB 20 as it is protected by its RB status, and it would allow horse drawn vehicles access.

J Bartlett
RoW Enforcement Officer
Aug 2020