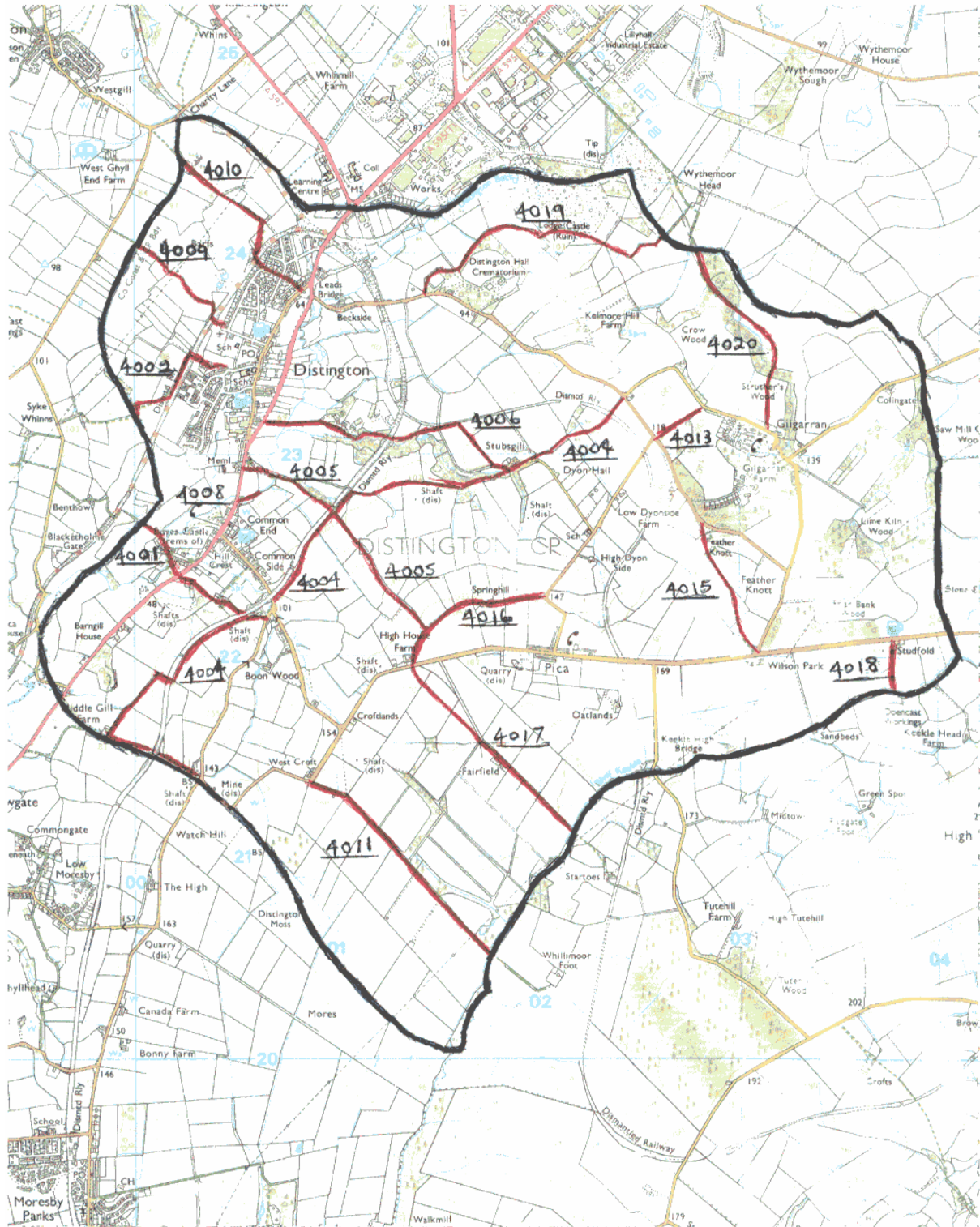


# Public Footpaths and Bridleways



## **7.12 Public Footpaths and Bridleways**

Distington has an extensive network of public footpaths, and during the course of producing this plan each path was inspected by Parish Councillors.

The list of footpaths as described on the definitive list.

<b>Path No</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
404001	Footpath	From Whitehaven-Workington Road at Sunnybrow North-westerly via Hayescastle, crossing Distington Beck and Ajam Beck to Parish boundary there joining path FP 413011 (Lowca Parish).

The footpath start where you pass through a gate and go through the farmyard to Hayescastle Road where you then cross a bridge over Distington Beck then over a two stiles into the fields. At this point you leave the Parish of Distington and into Lowca Parish (FP 413011), where one route goes straight on and connects directly to the cyclepath and the other follows the edge of the stream and eventually also crosses the cyclepath and in wet conditions it is very difficult to negotiate either of these routes.

Note. This footpath while within the Distington Parish Boundaries offers very little in terms of scenery as it is in a low lying area and surrounded by trees.

404002	Footpath	From end of Chapel Street, Distington at Hinnings, over disused railway embankment, thence south-south-westerly along side of embankment approximately 201 metres, thence south-westerly to Hallcat Gill and Parish boundary there joining path to Hallcat Farm (413012 – Lowca Parish) (Hallcat Path).
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To follow this footpath you have to walk up past the derelict Hinnings Farm and across the cyclepath via a bridge where you turn left walk along the top of the embankment of the cyclepath before entering a field via a stile and then up the field to the Parish Boundary.

Note. The view from this path is very good once you leave the edge of the cyclepath and walk up the field.

404003	Footpath	From Whitehaven-Workington Road at Sunnybrow south-easterly via Bottom Bank and Hillgill to and across railway to join FP 404004 near Swallow Hill (Bottom Bank Path).
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Taking this footpath you pass over a stile and climb steeply up a track by the former Bottom Bank Farm and through an arch under the disused railway and up past Hillgill to join the road at Swallow hill.

Note. Although fairly steep this path is quite easy to negotiate.

404004 Footpath

From Parish boundary at Middlegill Farm north-easterly to and over Cleator and Workington Railway thence north-easterly alongside railway, passing Swallow Hill to road at Stonefell Gate, continuing north-north-easterly along east side of railway, crossing FP 404005 (to The Green) thence easterly to Stubsgill thence east-north-easterly through Dyon Wood, crossing Rowrah Branch dismantled railway to road at Tithe Barn.

This footpath is very easy to walk, but heavy going when condition are wet. The only difficult section is where the path crosses footpath FP 404005 near to railway underpass, as the embankments are steep. Most of this footpath is on high ground and therefore the views can be splendid.

Note At present the section through Dyon Wood is impassable as there is a footbridge missing.

404005 Footpath

From Pica-Common Side Road at High House Farm, north-north-easterly approximately 183 metres joining FP 404016, thence north-westerly crossing FP 404004 on east side of railway, under railway continuing north-westerly to The Green, Distington (Stoney Lonning and Swinster Lonning Path).

Footpath very steep along most of its length and difficult underfoot while passing through woods above Beck Green. Once out of the woods and under the disused railway the views over the Solway Firth from the high ground are spectacular.

Note. The precise line of this footpath where it passes through the woods is difficult to follow because of many fallen trees and parts of the path slipping away. The underpass is washed away and dangerous to walk through.

404006 Footpath

From Levens Bridge- Carlisle Road, Distington, easterly across Distington Beck passing south of Prospect through small wood crossing railway thence easterly and south-easterly to join FP 404004 at Stubsgill Farm.



A great part of this footpath follows the lane by Prospect House, which is very easy walking, but on entering the woods the line of the path is difficult to follow because of fallen trees. After leaving the woods and across fields the views of both the Solway and the Lakeland Hills are well worth

the effort.

Note. It is impossible to follow the path through the woods and easier to use the disused railway.



404007 Footpath  
Distington south-westerly to Hillgill.

From road at Common Side,

This path is very narrow where it passes between the houses at Common Side but is easy to follow from there on.

404008 Bridleway From Whitehaven-Workington Road at Boot Bridge, Distington north-easterly to The Green.

This short path starts by going down a set of steps and a gate and is easy to walk along, as it is level going to the Green.

404009 Footpath From north-west end of Church Road, Distington, north-westerly to and over Gilgarran Branch railway, continuing north-westerly for 550 metres to Parish boundary east of Jubilee House continuing as FP 262003 (Harrington, Workington).

After crossing the bridge over the cyclepath, there is a series of stiles and the walk is generally gentle uphill until you reach the Parish Boundary. There are unrestricted views all around from the higher points of the footpath.

404010 Footpath From Barfs Road, Distington, north-westerly to and over Gilgarran Branch railway along north-east side of Barfs Quarries to Parish boundary continuing as FP262003 (Harrington, Workington).

This path crosses the cyclepath where it briefly leaves the line of the disused railway to avoid a deep cutting. The path then goes up the fields past the golf course via a series of stiles to join FP 262002, which is outside the Parish Boundary.

Note. Since the development of the cyclepath it is now easier to use that instead of this path as they both generally take the same route.

404011 Bridleway From road at West Croft, south-easterly to River Keekle at Parish boundary to join FP 401012 (Arlecdon & Frizington).

As this is a bridleway the surface is sound and easy to walk and as it passes up the fields the views all around are spectacular and uninterrupted.

404013 Footpath From Gilgarran- Tithe Barn Road, approximately 366 metres north-west of Gilgarran west-south-westerly approximately 275 metres to road near junction with Pica Road.

This path crosses between the Gilgarran Road via several fields to the Pica Road and as the gradient is flat it is an easy to walk.

404015 Footpath From road at Wilson Park north-north-westerly over Feather Knott to road near Gilgarran Tank (Feather Knott path).

This footpath is very steep where it joins the road at the Gilgarran end but the highest point gives a wonderful view over the Solway Firth and all around in every direction.

Note. This path is currently blocked at the Wilson Park end by farmer using it as a dump.

404016 Footpath From Stubsgill-Pica road approximately 275 metres north of Pica, westerly via Spring Hill Farm to join FP 404005 approximately 183 metres north of High House Farm.

This footpath follows the line of the farm lane and is therefore very easy to walk. The view over the Solway is unrestricted as this path follows high ground.

404017 Footpath From Moresby Parks-Pica road at High House Farm south-easterly via Fairfield to River Keekle at Parish boundary to join FP 401013 (Arlecdon & Frizington).

This is another path that follows high ground and has unrestricted views of the Solway and Lakeland Hills. The path crosses several fields before passing onto a farm lane and is quite easy to walk despite being a steady uphill all the way towards the Parish boundary.

404018 Footpath From road east of Pica and approximately 183 metres east of Wilson Park Farm, south-south-easterly to River Keekle at Parish boundary to join FP 401014 (Arlecdon & Frizington).

The path follows the line of the farm lane until it reaches the Parish boundary and is therefore easy to walk but as it is in a dip the views are rather restricted.

404019 Footpath From County Road at GR 0145-2380 northerly for 140 metres, then generally north-eastwards past Distington Hall, then generally eastwards approximately 850 metres along un-surfaced track to Distington Beck at Parish boundary, continuing as FP 260004 in Winscales Parish.

Passing through a gate adjacent to the walled garden this path is at first very comfortable to walk, but after passing the derelict Lodge Castle Farm the path becomes very difficult as it follows the edge of the landfill site and up to Wythmoor Head where the last section in the Winscales Parish is again easy to walk. The views of the Lakeland hills are quite spectacular from this path.

Note. The line of this path has been diverted to accommodate the landfill site and it is because of this that the path has become impossible to follow.

404020 Bridleway

From road at Gilgarran north-westerly to Crow Wood, thence north-easterly along south-east side of wood, over dismantled Gilgarran Branch railway to and across Distington Beck at Parish boundary, continuing as BW 260005 in Winscales Parish.

The first half of this path, from Wythmoor Head is very easy walking but as you approach Gilgarran the steep fields make it much more difficult especially in wet conditions.

Note. A section of the path is difficult to follow as some tree planting has made the route uneven.