Appendix A Ridgeway Erosion- Brunel Bridge Update 12/10/26

I am out of the office until 05/10/26

Steve Tabbitt,
Team Leader Public Rights of Way Access Officer OCC

As Ian has alluded to, we understand that responsibility for maintaining the surface beneath the structure spanning the footpath may rest with Network Rail. However, Network Rail's current position is that responsibility lies with the Environment Agency. Our Team Leader, Steve Tabbitt, is currently seeking clarification regarding ownership and maintenance responsibility for this section.

In the meantime, whilst Oxfordshire County Council may not be responsible for maintaining the surface beneath the bridge, we recognise our duty of care to the public, particularly given that it forms part of a National Trail. I will arrange to visit the site next week to reinstate the hazard tape and will discuss with our Delivery Team whether more substantial barriers can be installed to better protect users from the erosion holes.

James Bradford
Public Rights of Way Access Officer OCC



I am aware of the erosion as are Oxfordshire Councils Rights of Way team. The last thing I heard was that they're pursuing for the environment agency to take ownership of this issue but I am meeting with a member of the rights of way team tomorrow,will be better informed myself then and can update you further.

Best regards,

Ian Black (He/His)
The Ridgeway National Trail Project Officer
Working for the Ridgeway Partnership