

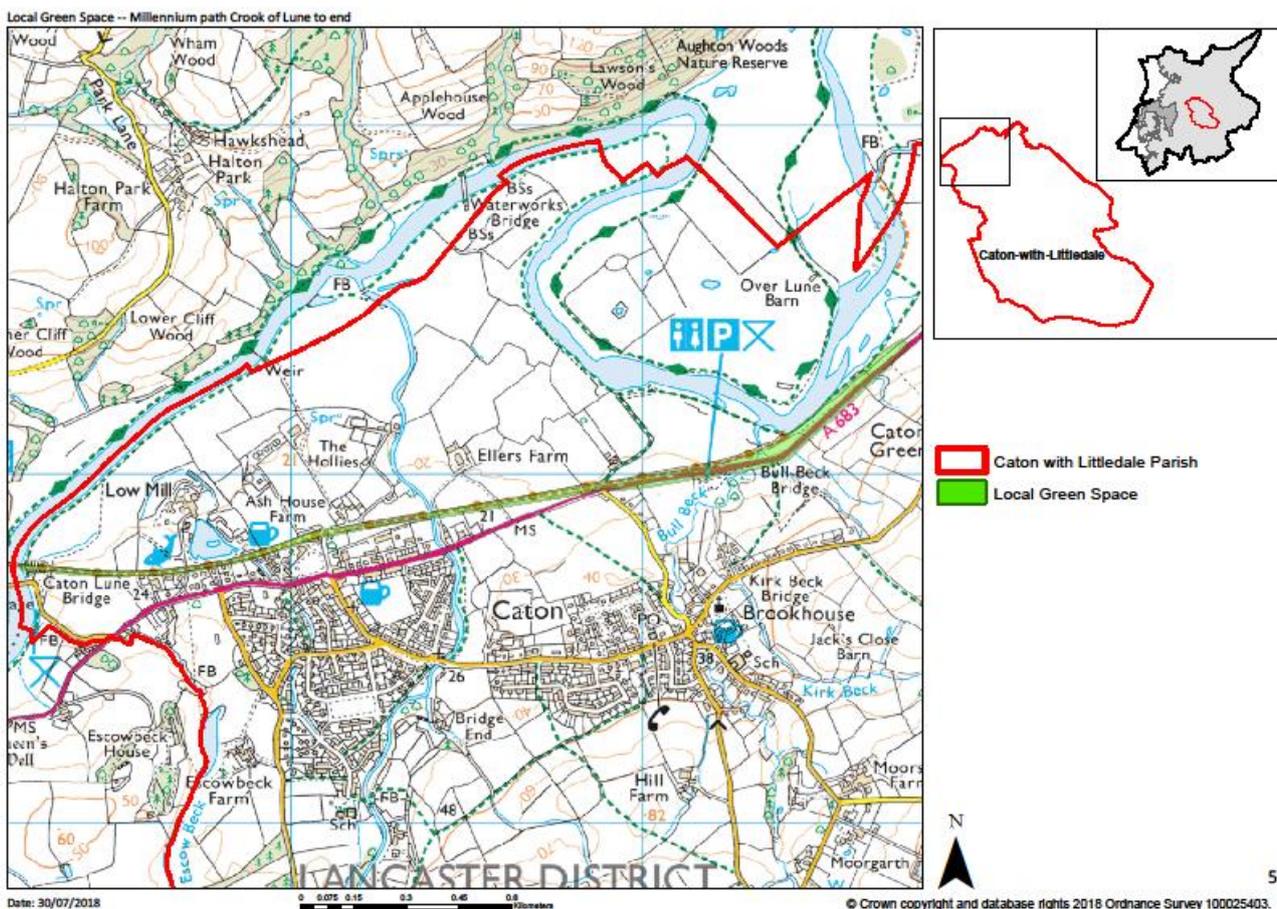
LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION: MILLENNIUM PATH IN CATON WITH LITLEDALE PARISH BETWEEN RIVER LUNE TO WEST AND PATH END TO EAST)

Millennium park (Caton with Littledale area of the millennium path)

Location and boundaries

The Millennium path follows the route of the railway line between Lancaster and Wennington, closed as part of the Beeching cuts to the network in 1966. Our section is our 'millennium park', between the eastern Claughton end where the path currently finishes and re-joins the A683; and the Crook of Lune bridge where there is access to the Crook of Lune picnic area. (see map, note eastern end has been altered for accuracy).

The land which forms part of the millennium path varies in width, with the widest parts adjoining Moor Platt traditional stone wall; and to the east of Holme Lane, where the path runs through a densely wooded area.



Dimensions

Grid refs 549655 to 522647S. Area 4.6 hectares 11.3 acres. Perimeter 6.2 km 3.8 miles

Ownership and maintenance

The Millennium path is owned by Lancashire County Council. It is a smooth tarmac surface, regularly cleared of leaves and mud, and sufficiently wide to allow easy passing of cyclists, riders, pedestrians, pushchairs, motorised scooters, dogs. The gradient is minimal. Rubbish including dog waste bins are regularly emptied. The path is multi-use for pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders, mobility scooters etc, but not to other, motorised traffic except to maintain the path and owned land. County responsibilities include: one metre on either side of the path should be regularly mowed or cut back; ditches cleared and fallen or potentially falling branches and trunks removed. There are closely spaced, regular benches especially between Station road and Holme Lane, mainly wooden, which require regular observation by the Parish Council for rot, and repairs.

Not an extensive tract of land

The millennium path between the Claughton path and the Crook of Lune bridge is not part of an extensive tract of land. Applying the criteria quoted for 2 applications for local green space to Lancaster City Council makes clear that our 'millennium park' differs in all major respects from these:

Lancaster assessment quotes from:

LG-5 Lancaster canal

'The site submitted consists of an extensive tract of land extending from the edge of Lancaster to the northern edge of Galgate. The extensive length of this area means that it is used by a wide range of people serving more of a district wide function than purely local, although it is acknowledged that it is a valuable asset for the local community

The area covers an extensive tract of land stretching from south Lancaster to north Galgate. It fails to provide clearly defined boundaries, with the area forming a linear corridor along the canal, which stretches across a range of character areas. Whilst there is no doubt that this area performs an important recreational function with an important landscape and biodiversity value, its designation as a Local Green Space is not viewed to be appropriate with this being inconsistent with the intentions of the NPPF. Alternative land designations are viewed to be more appropriate e.g. as a greenspace or wildlife corridor.'

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'The area forms a linear corridor along the beck stretching across the length of the village. Whilst there is no doubt that this area performs an important recreational function with an important landscape and biodiversity value its designation as a Local Green Space is not viewed to be appropriate with this being inconsistent with the intentions of the NPPF. Alternative land designations are viewed to be more appropriate e.g. as a greenspace or wildlife corridor.'

Millennium path between Claughton path end and Crook of Lune Bridge

Summary:

Negative indicators from other applications	Millennium path qualifying features
Serves wide range of people - more of a district wide function than purely local	Evidence that majority usage is local (with only small minority users from outside Parish or who use path beyond Crook of Lune bridge for commuting or tourism).
Fails to provide clearly defined boundaries	Boundaries are clearly delineated by physical termination of path (east) and Crook of Lune bridge (west) and hedge, fence wall boundaries to north and south
Range of character areas	Common character - flat, wide, well maintained path with frequent benches for rest; easy access for less able, wheelchairs and mobility vehicles; uniquely the designated path offers exceptionally beautiful long distance views across Lune Valley floodplain to hills north and dales east; wildlife sightings especially wading birds; access to footpaths along bank of Lune with exceptionally beautiful views.
Inconsistent with intentions of NPPF	On the contrary, the designated path plays a major role in local identity as very special and distinctive to local people and boundaries signify and are integral with the local green space which local people treasure and use intensively
Landscape, biodiversity, recreational asset value to local people fails to outweigh negatives above	Each adds to the above

Local Green Space defined primarily by local use: description

Patterns of local use:

Local use is confirmed by the high proportion of local users: parents and children; dog walkers; older people who want a short flat well maintained path which they can easily walk to from home or if less mobile park near with frequent benches to rest; mobility scooters and wheelchair users with carers living locally where flat easy well maintained traffic free wide paths are essential; runners of all ages using the 1.5 mile (3 m there and back) local length and circular route access roads (Holme Lane plus Brookhouse Road; local 'gentle peddlers' who cycle for fitness and health (eg for hip replacements!) and want to avoid traffic have 'do-able' route accessed by quiet roads in the parish; local people especially families cycling for local shopping at our well stocked Co-op in Caton.

Evidence sources: Results of 'stop and ask' informal survey; high proportion of personally familiar local users; frequency of social groups interacting informally on walks; local people walking and running in groups. Local people who run use the designated stretch of the path after work as well as in social groups during the day (eg parents after the school drop off).

How local people use our path:



Links with other local green spaces:

Designated path joins up walks through or past other local green spaces (Beckside; Fell View); Bowling Green; Station Field) for which designation is part of neighbourhood plan).

Links to the residential areas of Caton with Littledale (page of walks through parish booklet) (see *recreation section*)

Access to footpaths from the millennium path:

Able walkers and dog walkers use the gates and styles along our local length of the millennium path to access the many footpaths across fields and the banks on either side of the Lune (currently temporarily eroded on the north bank by flood damage). Views from these paths include not just a changing floodplain landscape through the seasons, and to the dales and Ingleborough to the east; but vast skyscapes and spectacular sunsets to the west.



Unique and exceptionally beautiful views:

High proportion of local users walk along the millennium path they love the quite exceptionally beautiful views across the Lune Valley floodplain to the hillsides to the north and to Ingleborough, Barbon and Middleton fells to the east, which are visible for almost all the path designated. (See *survey for neighbourhood plan*).

Conclusion: Our Parishes' part of the millennium path - our millennium 'park' - is **not an extensive tract of land**. It is physically clearly defined. The intensive use by local people reflects the unique character and features of our path and the high value placed on it by our local community for varied but specifically local purposes.

Our part of the millennium path is in very close proximity to the community it serves

It passes through Caton village centre and is within a quarter of a mile walk from Brookhouse down Holme Lane

Why our stretch of the millennium path is demonstrably special: NPPF Criteria

a) Beauty

This relates to the visual attractiveness of the site, and its contribution to landscape, character and or setting of the settlement. LGS would need to contribute to local identity character of the area and a sense of place and make an important contribution to the physical form and layout of the settlement. It may link up with other open spaces and allow views through or beyond the settlement which are valued locally.

The views from our stretch of the millennium path, especially east of the Station road, and from the riverside paths accessed by the millennium path, are quite exceptional and local people's appreciation is clearly demonstrated by respondents to the recent village survey. Not only are the views highly valued, but a reason for living here.

The images below are a few to illustrate why local people love this path.



As part of the celebration of opening the millennium park, works of art were commissioned, which form part of the diverse beauty, identity and sense of place.



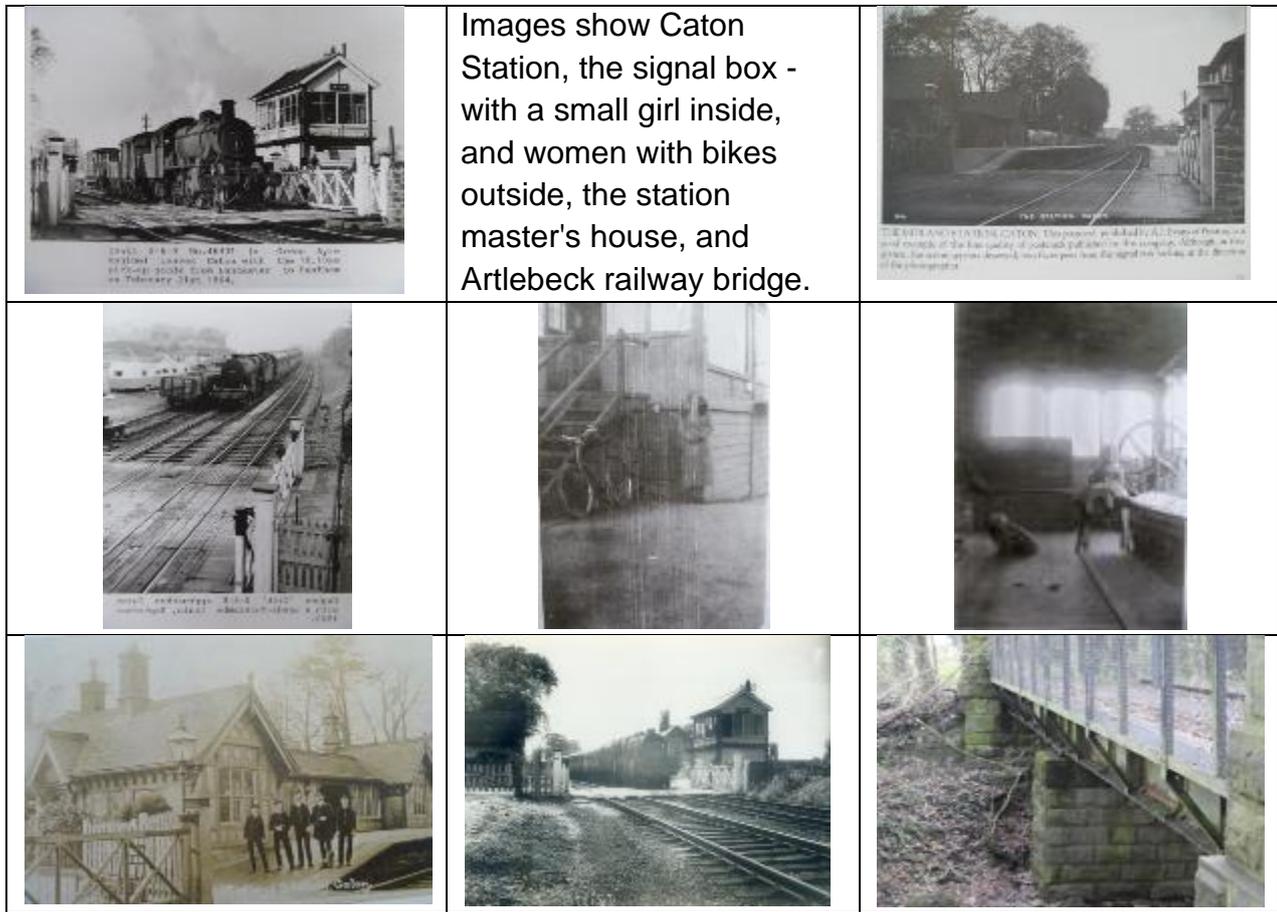
(b) Historic significance

The millennium path's historic legacy is threefold: Firstly, it follows the central way from near to far of world renowned landscape artwork; secondly it follows the route of an historic railway (now disused); thirdly it affords views of many of the historic artefacts of Caton with Littledale.



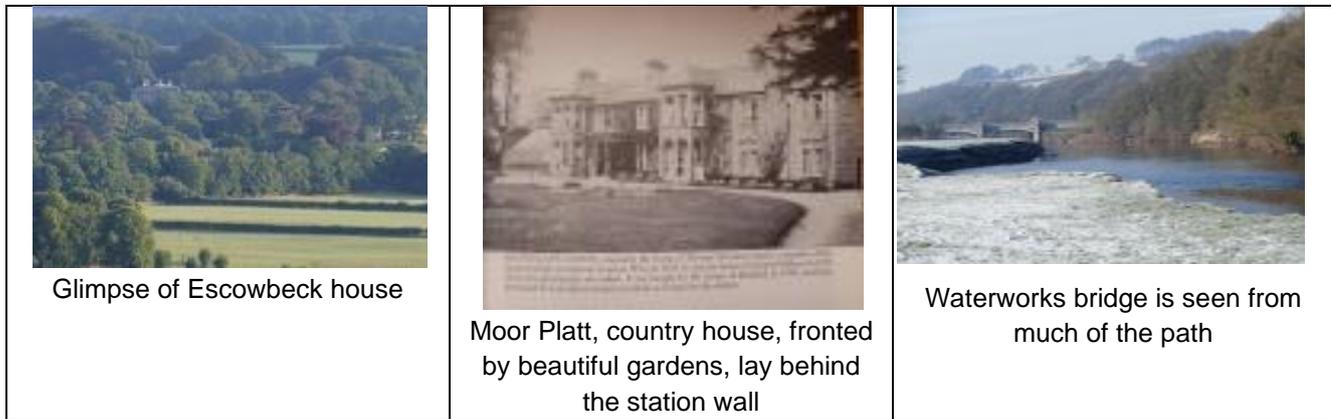
Joseph Mallord William Turner's famous painting of 1821, from the Crook of Lune eastwards 'towards Hornby Castle (on display at the Tate, London) was praised by poets Thomas Gray and William Wordsworth, and admired by Queen Victoria. It captures the beauty of the floodplain and undulating hillsides of the Lune Valley through which the millennium path passes, shortly before the railway was built.

Caton railway station was opened in 1850 on the "Little" **North** Western Railway. In 1852 the expanding Midland Railway took over the running of the Little North Western, though full amalgamation did not take place until 1871. The new port of Morecambe, built 1889, grew rapidly and attracted plenty of freight on the railway line from Wennington through Caton, but many more passengers than expected. They came for sailings to Ireland, and also to enjoy a sail around the bay, or across to Grange or Arnside (the main pier still stands, as the popular 'stone jetty'). People were pouring in on excursion trains within months of the opening. (Wikipedia)... Note, turning to the south along Station road, the stationmaster's house on the right, and on the left the former goods warehouse, now the Catholic church.



From the path there are views across the whole parish and the historic setting within the Forest of Bowland AONB (see Beauty section)





The millennium path, walking from west to east, passes:

- ❖ Low Mill to the north with glimpses of the mill bank which raises it above floodwaters
- ❖ South towards the stone mansion and landscaped grounds of Escowbeck House (glimpsed between the trees)
- ❖ North to the historic British Waterworks bridge built to transfer water from the Lake District to Manchester - on which successive high flood records are carved by the Parish Council, the latest from storm Desmond 2015
- ❖ The long stone rear wall of Moor Platt, built along the railway platform, which the little boys from the country house scrambled over to watch the trains
- ❖ The station legacy of the station master's house and the goods depot (now the Catholic church) and Station road, alongside the walled garden of Moor Platt, see the 1910 arrival of the 5th Lancashire regiment, and leading to the historic Station Inn.
- ❖ Vernacular style of some of the oldest houses in Caton including Patchett's and Ash House along Ball Lane
- ❖ The railway bridge over Artlebeck and stone bridges over Kirk Beck and Bull Beck
- ❖ The Lune Valley location of Caton army Camp (date unknown)
- ❖ Over Lune Barn, a traditional stone barn in the middle of the flood plain, but always above the surrounding waters
- ❖ Across the valley the ancient woods of Applehouse Wood; Lawson's wood; Burton wood. (Burton Wood is prominent on the skyline across the river. In previous times, this ancient wood provided charcoal for iron smelting. Oak bark produced tannin for the local leather tanning industry.
- ❖ From the millennium path beyond Holme Lane there are famous views towards Ingleborough, Barbon and Middleton Fells
- ❖ To the south, Caton Moor stands above the valley, sporting one of the earliest wind farms (although the present large turbines replaced the much smaller originals)



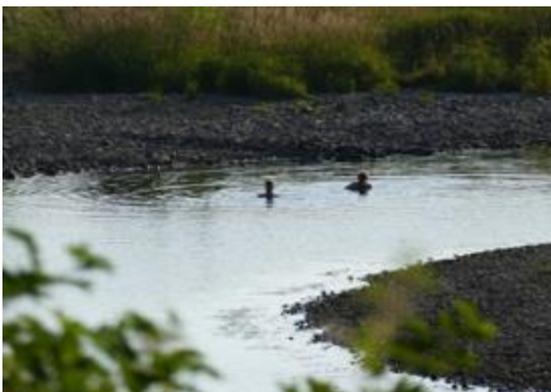
 <p>CATON CAMP and the old CHURCH PARISH, CATON. The old South Lancashire Regiment, which was the 5th (County) Battalion, was based at Caton from 1880 to 1914. The old Church, which was built in 1840, was destroyed by fire in 1914. The site of the camp is now a public house and is known as the 'Caton Camp'.</p> <p>Caton army Camp, in fields in the Lune Valley below Brookhouse</p>	 <p>Ingleborough is said to have been used as a main landmark by the Romans</p>	 <p>Ancient 'hanging' woods viewed across the Lune valley</p>
	<p>Left: View towards the dales ahead and Caton Moor to the south; right the site of one of the earliest wind 'farms' although the present turbines are much larger. A historical precedent, they were and are highly controversial in an AONB, both for appearance and site in ancient peat bog.</p>	

(c) Recreational value

Formal recreational use:

Access to the river from our millennium path is used in all sorts of ways:

The Anglers have a car park, with an anglers' hut in the corner, off Holme Lane where it crosses the A683. One or more cars are almost always parked there, indicating the popularity of the sport. Caton with Littledale licenses fishing rights on part of the Lune bank. Anglers may be seen in all seasons and weathers deep in the waters at the centre of the Lune. The expectation is to land fine Lune salmon. Large fish can often be seen breaking the waters of the river.



Swimming: Young people especially enjoy a walk to the 'dub', which is a safe-ish shallow curve of the river Lune, just off the millennium path, for a swim in the warm long days of summer.



Boating:

Canoes may be seen on safer stretches alongside the millennium path

Keeping fit: The path is also used extensively for outdoor exercise for local people: for example, a group of local mums go running there every day, or do outdoor exercises, on a circuit from Caton.

Plans for a trim trail along the path edge to the west of Station road include affordable outdoor classes for people of all abilities from our community and for personal coaching especially for those who cannot afford gym membership or have no transport from the village to gyms in Lancaster.

Informal 'recreational' use

The main recreational value of the millennium path for local people is informal - sociable physical exercise which also serves a dual purpose of accessing village facilities:

The path is inextricably part of the practical everyday lives of local people. Local people from Caton with Littledale parish daily or frequently use the local green space for exercising dogs; for a wheelchair friendly and traffic free surface to get fresh air; to walk where there are plenty of seats as required; for access to walks by the river Lune. Families with small children learning to ride a bike are a common sight. The path is somewhere safe for prams and pushchairs and for toddlers to run, or ride trikes.





It is a social scene. While walking along the path friends meet and greet each other and villagers. But it is also functional. Daily jobs and journeys are healthily and pleasantly done without cars. Many people carry shopping bags. Some cycle, carrying panniers. They may be going to the surgery, or to the local chemist and cutting car use for collecting prescriptions; attending events at the Victoria Institute; for Brookhouse and eastern Caton residents shopping at the centre of Caton - with access to shops, surgery, chemist; Victoria Institute, cafe, tennis club.



As a walk to the centre of Caton it is relatively sheltered from the prevailing westerly winds, and although the path borders the flood plain it has yet to be flooded, possibly because of the careful siting of the railway.
(left below the millennium path, the fisherman's hut by the 'dub' almost submerged in storm Desmond)

A local resident wrote: 'The assessment document explains how green spaces have a recreational value. But there is more to this than sport. It does not really draw out the health benefits that they provide, especially for older folk who 'don't do sport'. I walk around the village three or four times most week. Indeed, one of the great joys of living here is being able to walk through countryside and green spaces to get to shops and collect prescriptions. It is especially good in spring when the curlew and the oystercatcher - two more Red Listed species - are calling as they fly back and forth between the moor above and the river below. All sorts of zigzag routes and circles are possible, linking green spaces, paths, alleys, and roads.'

It is very noticeable how many people take their dogs out for walks. Some go around a single green space, while others do circles, sometimes linking via Holme Lane. This walking provides regular exercise. The contact with other people is especially important for those that live alone. There are also those without dogs. "Oh no", one said to me, striding on up the hill, "I don't take the bus. I need the exercise."

Over the last decade, there has been a growing pile of official and thinktank reports exploring the potential of preventative health approaches. These stress the benefits that flow from regular walking or exercise, and from contact with other people. The argument is that people are then less likely to get heart attacks or suffer from depression; and more likely to stay away from doctors and

hospitals. In short preventative health strategies have a positive role to play in helping to reduce demands on the NHS.

I don't know of a measure or indicator for 'dog walking activity'! But it does seem to be the case that a good range of green spaces around the villages helps provide an environment that encourages older people to take regular exercise and to stay healthier.'

Access from the millennium path to footpaths:

Our millennium path links to many well-worn local footpaths which are highly valued as a very special part of living in the parish.

The most popular local paths accessed from the millennium path to the west: Multiple footpaths start and end on the millennium path, running along the riverbanks and through fields, the well-worn tracks showing the popularity with people from our parish. To the north and east the views of the Lune Valley looking towards Ingleborough are greatly appreciated by local people (see survey for neighbourhood plan). For other local landmarks, such as Low Mill see historical section.

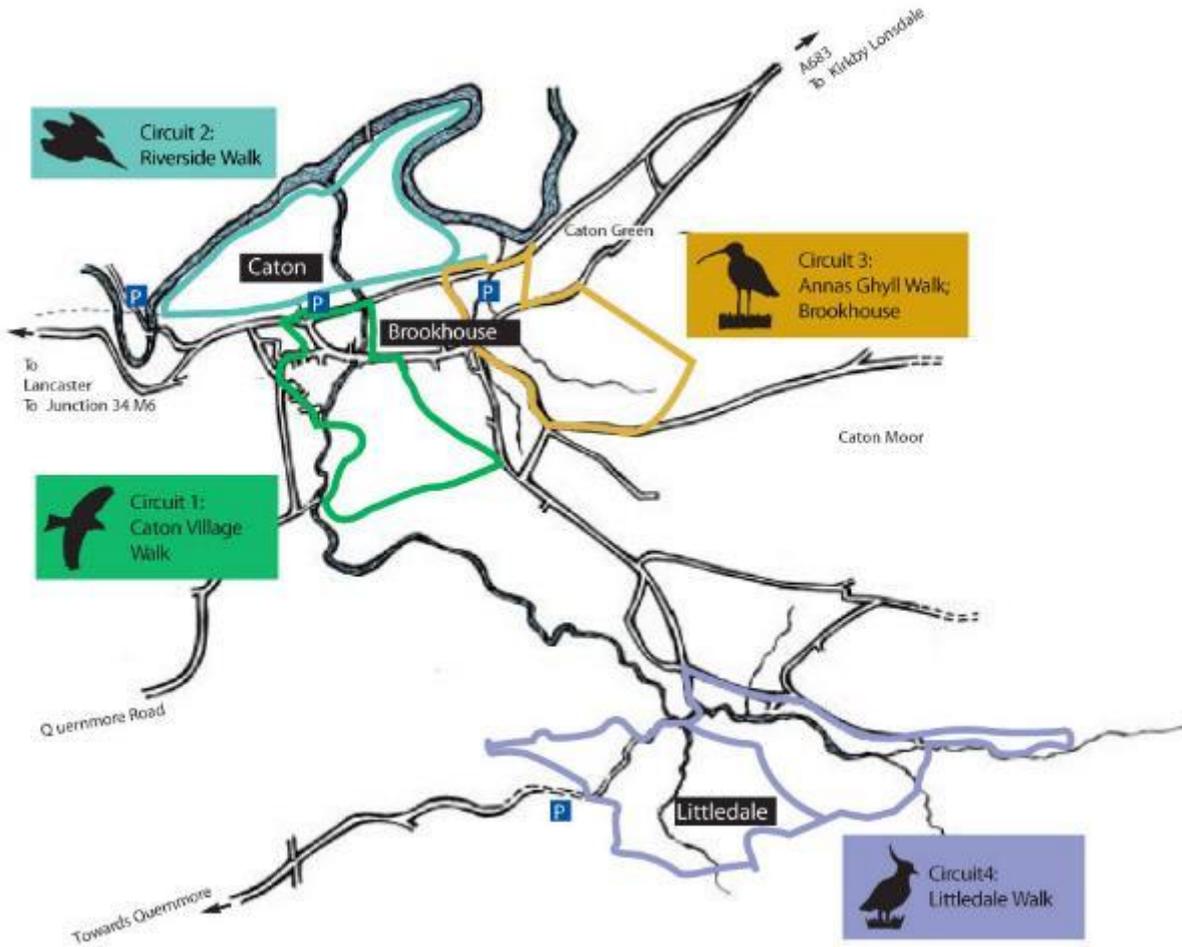
The most popular local paths accessed from the millennium path to the east: Holme Lane crosses the A683 and then the millennium path and continues as a track leading to a path to the north over fields to an iron bridge built to convey the main water supply towards Manchester (see historical section); and then easterly along the Lune in an extensive loop around the oxbow of the Lune, with breathtakingly beautiful views towards the dales and to the south, Caton Moor. Further east gates and stiles join to the millennium path and provide further access to paths around the Lune, to fishing land, and to the 'dub' - popular for swimming. Dogs can also be seen jumping in the Lune after sticks.

	<p>Popular circular route riverside paths accessed from the millennium path</p>	
	<p>Well worn paths with stunning views towards Ingleborough</p>	

	<p>Left skating ice across a frozen pool in the floodplain Right family walk</p>	
	<p>Left dogs and walkers enjoy a circular route right views towards Kirkby Lonsdale</p>	
	<p>Left spring lambs by the Lune Right letting off steam on a riverside walk</p>	
	<p>Left view over Caton and Brookhouse from Lawson's meadow accessed from waterworks bridge; right eastern dales from riverside</p>	

Linkages to residential areas and historical features:

The other linkage is from the millennium path to roads where the community live, with the millennium path forming part of circular routes which are accessible for almost everyone and are used by a very high proportion of the local population for regular walks.



From: Four circular walks within the Parish (The Birds of Caton-with-Littledale project involved the community in the special wildlife of the parish. As part of the project, local artist, Sue Flowers was commissioned to involve the community in the design of three pieces of artwork: a new parish sign, a new gateway to Caton Community Primary School, and a parish wildlife walks booklet. Sue has worked with the children and teachers at the school, local community representatives, the Parish Council and Caton-with-Littledale footpath group to design the wonderful pieces of artwork.)

(d) Tranquillity



Whether at a busy time of day for dogwalkers, runners, families etc, the prevalence of trees, leaves, berries, undergrowth, dappled sunlight and distant views fosters tranquillity, and many people have their favourite benches to sit quietly at through the seasons - at least when the weather is dry!



Access to fun and tranquil location where you can be yourself and quietly explore natural things

(e) Richness of wildlife

Our path includes small streams, stone walls, overgrown areas of brambles, wild raspberries, nettles, H. balsam, and common wildflowers; small shrubs, including goat willow, elder, wild rose, ivy; and many species of trees, alders, downy birch, witch elm, ash, hazel predominating to the east (with oak, sycamore, elder, beech, hawthorn). Between Holme Lane and Station road accesses there are younger trees, many recently planted, including in addition rowan and some cherry species. Overhanging Station road and nearby south west of the path, some fine and protected beeches are a main feature.

	<p>Left tree lined eastern path; right by Artlebeck bridge a scramble of bramble - wildlife sanctuary</p>	
	<p>Left berries and a plethora of seeds provide birds with food; right sand bank punctuated with nest holes</p>	

A Brookhouse resident commented:

*' The greatest value of green spaces for wildlife comes when they have a **mix of habitats** - including short/mown grass, grazing pasture, flower meadows not mown till autumn, bramble patches/understorey, hedges, dry stone walls(insects) and trees of different sizes. They all add together. The Parish Woods by Artle Beck behind Fell View have a good mix. The best example of this diversity is the Millennium Cycleway Green Space. If the green space is limited to the tarmac strip its wildlife value is limited to watching/listening to wildlife. It doesn't help protect the long term future of the adjacent habitats where the insects, butterflies and the birds all thrive. Skylark, starling, song and mistle thrush, redwing and fieldfare, house and tree sparrow, lesser redpoll and grey wagtail on the becks below are all there, and they are all Red Listed. Also occurring are Amber Listed species: dunnock, bullfinch, treecreeper, willow warbler, and kingfisher + dipper on the becks/R. Lune. This is apart from all the more common, Green Listed, hedgerow and garden birds - tits, finches, robins and so on.'* He goes on to say: *' the winter wildlife spectacular that can be seen from the Eastern end of the Millennium Cycleway. In the right conditions in winter you can look northwards, across the River Lune and there are hundreds and hundreds of gulls, waders and wildfowl feeding along the river and on the wet meadows. Even in very cold or windy weather, the Cycleway provides ready access that is dry underfoot to see hundreds of Red and Amber listed birds. And there are the otters - not sure whether they're a secret?'*

Community action to promote pollinators:

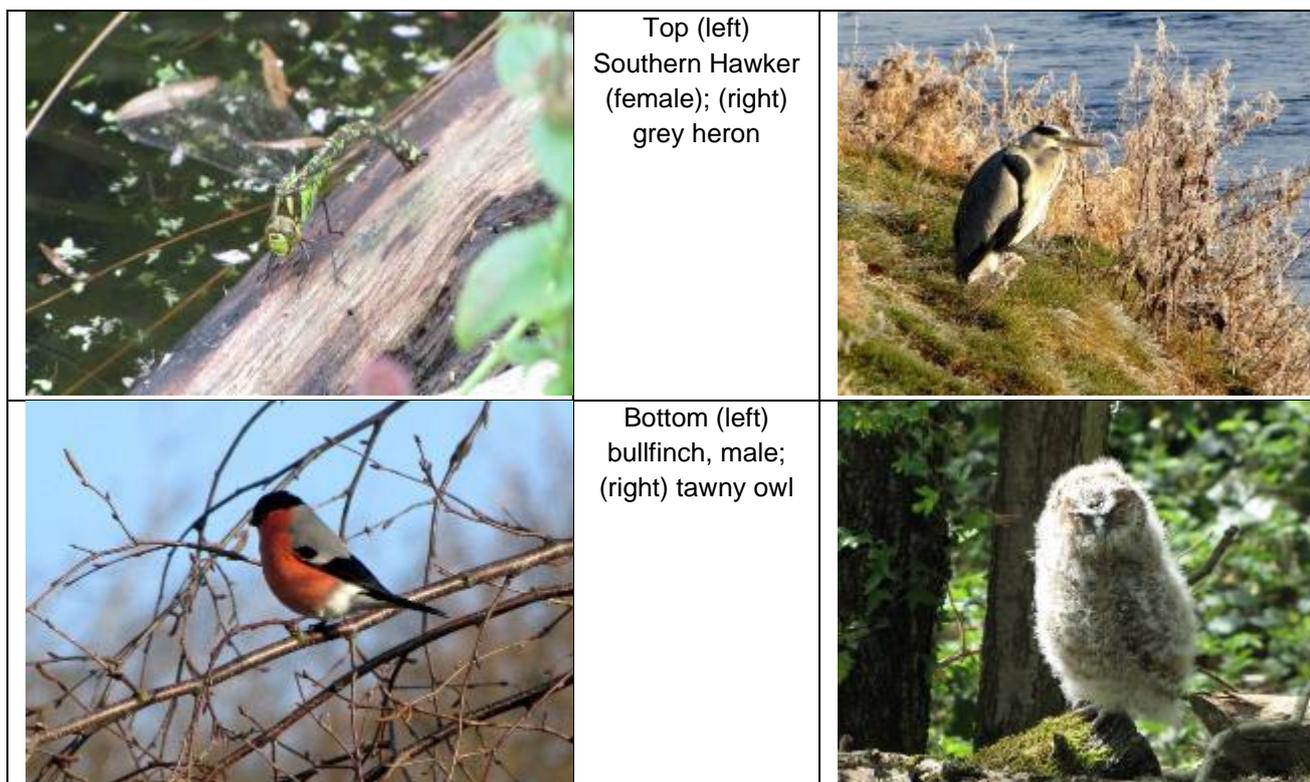
Wildflowers which attract and feed pollinators have been seeded by volunteers from the local community - led by Caton Scouts - on three areas of land beside the millennium path, after clearing of the scrub by a volunteer with agricultural equipment. This project has given the young people great enthusiasm for planting other 'pollinator patches' elsewhere in the village. The heavy use of the millennium path has increased the awareness of other people not directly involved, especially when the wildflowers form an attractive blaze of colour in the first summer after planting.

Watching wildlife:

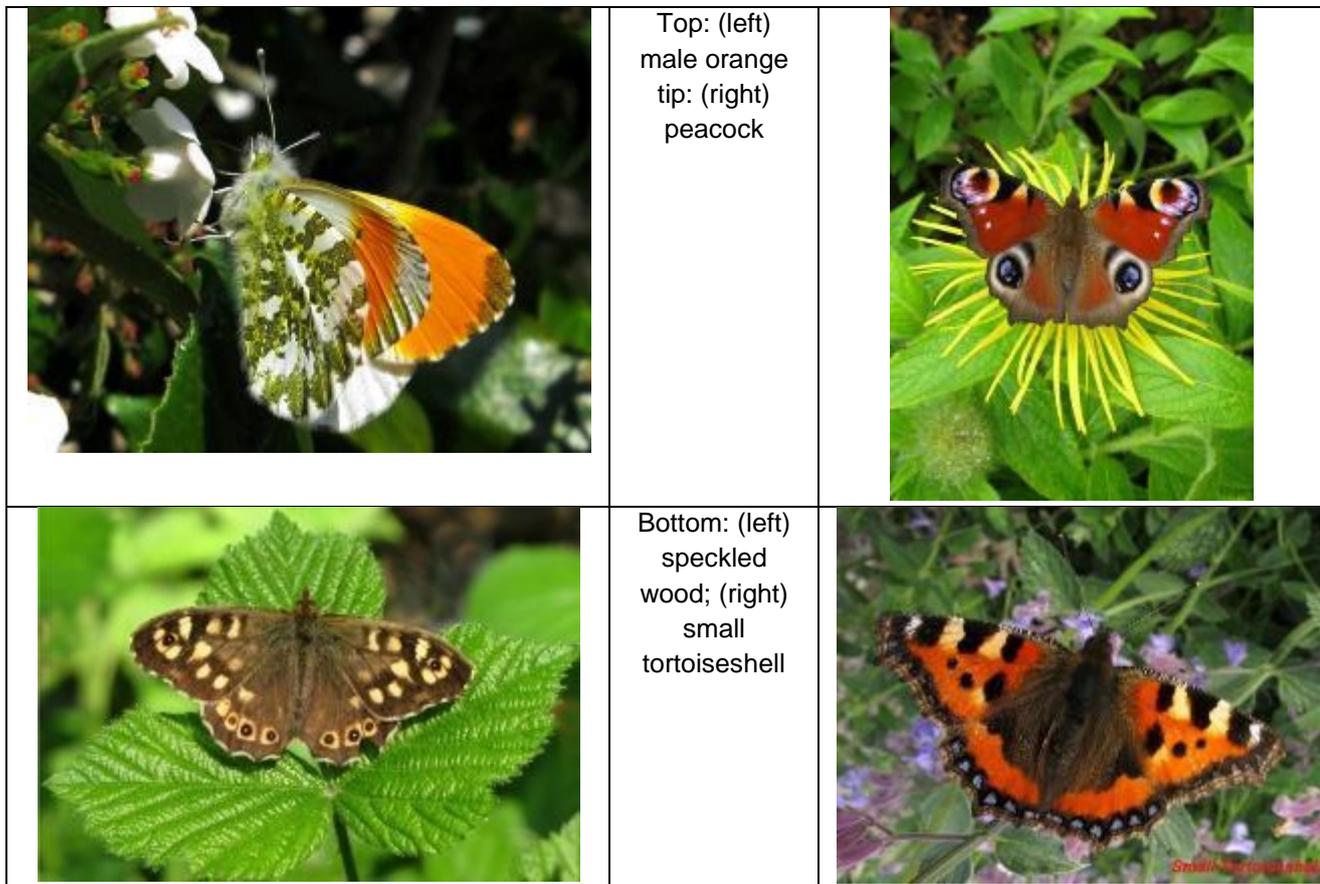
Many local people and families walk and cycle, specifically to enjoy watching birds especially on the quieter stretch of the path beyond Holme Lane to the east. Wading birds are prolific, many of them rare, with overwintering curlews among the most popular. The paths are also popular for observing other wildlife. (see recreation section) (see wildlife section)



From the west area of the path, a local resident, also a wildlife photographer has sent some images of wildlife near the path (thanks to Steve Graham: all his images are copyright):



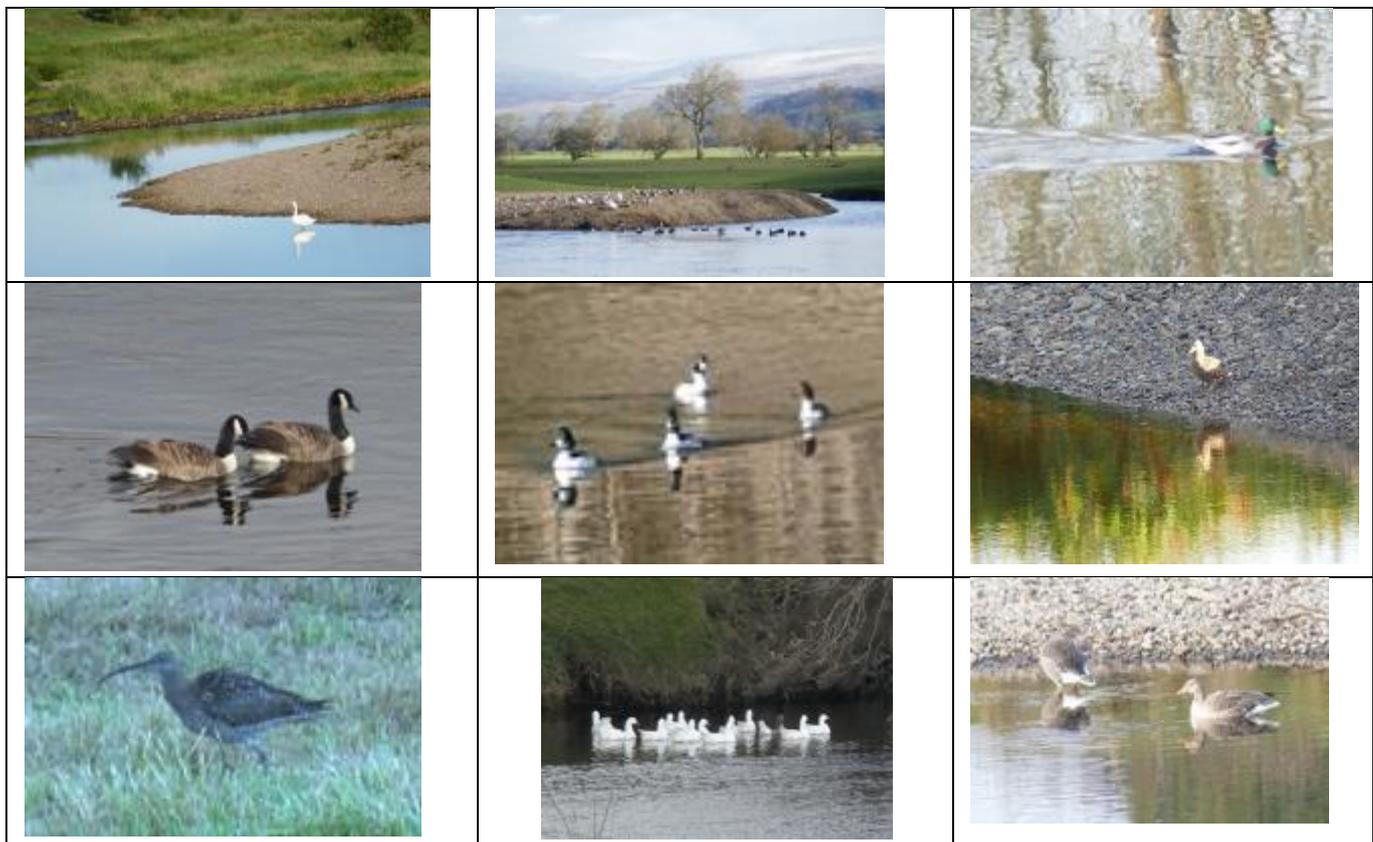
A well-known photographer of birds, who has lived all his life in Brookhouse, described how the undergrowth along the sections of the path west of Holme Lane encourage foraging butterflies. He has provided images of four, one of which is rare, and a springtime visitor. (Thanks to Tom Wallace for images)



The area of the Lune floodplain, with meanderings and gravel and sand banks, which can be closely observed from the path beyond Bull Beck access paths, is an outstanding location within the UK for sightings of wading birds. Many local people go there just to bird watch, but keen amateurs help with the regular monitoring which takes place (among others) from an access point from the millennium path to the Lune bank. Detailed data has been kindly provided to establish how significant is this area of the Lune valley: (see table below)

Below are images taken on daily walks on the millennium path east of Holme Lane. These include Oystercatchers, Little Egret, Mallard, Brent geese, and Curlew, and a bank and river full of wintering birds.





Below is a report of all 111 species seen by Jean Roberts along our stretch of the Lune and Millennium path. Jean has also sent the Waterways Survey that the Lancaster and District Birdwatching Society has been doing for about 50 years. It is a systematic survey based on 5-9 visits done along sections of the Lune during the breeding season plotting locations and behaviour of birds in order to work out breeding territories. This is the most accurate information we have for breeding pairs of birds along that stretch of the Lune. (electronically and separately attached

Species	Conservation		When	Breeds	Comment
	status	Local status			
WILDFOWL					
Little Grebe		Wintering	Winter	N	Seen in winter or after flooding when displaced from elsewhere. Can occur in flood pools or on the main river.
Great-crested Grebe		Post breeding dispersal	Autumn	N	Occasionally when young grebes are dispersing after the breeding season
Cormorant		Feeds	All Year	N	Anywhere along the river
Grey Heron		Feeds	All Year	N	Anywhere along the river
Mute swan	Amber	All year	Summer	Y	
Greylag Goose	Amber	Resident	All Year	Y	200-400 on the flood plain in winter, family groups seen after the breeding season.
Canada Goose		Resident	All Year	Y	100+ on the flood plain in winter, ones and twos in the breeding season
Bar-headed Goose		Seen once	Winter	N	Seen in winter 2017 with the Greylags
Barnacle Goose	Amber	Occasional	Winter	N	Sometimes with the Canada Goose or Greylag Goose flocks in winter
White-fronted Goose		Occasional	Winter	N	In small numbers (less than 10) with the greylag flock in

					winter
Pink-footed Goose	Amber	Annual	Winter	N	With the greylag flock in winter
Shelduck	Amber	Breeds	Spring and summer	Y	Nest in rabbit holes on bank east of Burton Wood
Wigeon	Amber	Occasional	Winter	N	
Teal	Amber	Wintering	Winter	N	Historical records in the 1990s
Mallard	Amber	Resident	All Year	Y	Common anywhere along the river
Pochard		Rare	Winter	N	Once a decade
Mandarin Duck		Escape		N	Has been seen on the river below Burton Wood
Goldeneye	Amber	Wintering	Winter	N	Quieter parts of the river
Goosander		Feeds	All Year	Y	Present all year. Creches of juvenile Goosanders seen in some years.
BIRDS OF PREY					
Osprey	Amber	Passage	Spring and autumn	N	Singletons fly up the river and occasionally fish.
Buzzard		Resident	All Year	Y	Nest in Burton Wood so seen calling and displaying in spring and seen flying over at other times of year.
Peregrine		Flyover		N	Seen when it used to nest in Claughton Quarry. None recently
Sparrowhawk		Resident	All Year	Y	In the woods
Kestrel	Amber	Feeds	All Year	Y	Seen flying over during good vole years
GAME BIRDS					
Pheasant		Released	All Year	N	
Moorhen		Becoming scarcer	All Year	Y	Less common than they used to be because of increased flooding on the river and the presence of mink and otter
Coot		Resident	All Year	N	
WADERS					
Oystercatcher	Amber	Breeds	All Year	Y	Large flocks in late winter/early spring. Nest on shingle.
Snipe	Amber	Passage	Autumn	N	Used to be found in the vegetation on the shingle upstream from the waterworks bridge.
Lapwing	Red	Breeds	Spring and summer	Y	Nest in the fields by the Lune eg near the tennis club, where there is a pool, ploughed land, where cattle graze. Not found where dogs are walked (disturbance).
Curlew	Red	Feeds	Winter	N	Feed in the fields e.g.169 Curlew on the inside of the meander in Jan 2018
Greenshank	Amber	Annual	Autumn and winter	N	By the river. Occurs on passage. One or two birds winter on the Lune.
Ringed Plover	Red	Breeds	Spring and summer	Y	On passage in March and April usually. Breeds on shingle further upstream
Little Ringed Plover		Passage	March and April	N	
Redshank	Amber	Breeds	Spring and summer	Y	Seen along the edge of the river.
Green Sandpiper	Amber	Wintering	Winter	N	Occasionally in winter
Common Sandpiper	Amber	Breeds	Spring and summer	Y	Nest by the river
GULLS AND TERNS					
BH Gull	Amber	Feeds	All Year	N	On the river and on the flood

					plain (especially during slurring)
Mediterranean Gull	Amber	Winter	Winter	N	Single birds seen in winter flocks of feeding Black-headed Gulls especially after slurring
Common Gull	Amber	Passage	Spring	N	On passage in March
LBB Gull	Amber	Feeds, passage	All Year	N	Larger numbers when moving inland to breeding grounds, otherwise ones and twos
Herring Gull	Red	Occasional	Winter	N	With flocks when slurring taking place
GBB Gull	Amber	Occasional	Winter	N	Single birds.
Black Tern		Rare passage bird	Spring	N	Seen once flying upstream. Occur during ESE winds in spring and in thundery conditions.
Common Tern	Amber	Rare passage bird	Spring	N	
DOVES					
Feral Rock Dove		Resident	All year	N	Seen near the bridges where they roost
Stock Dove	Amber	Resident	All year	Y	
Woodpigeon		Resident	All year	Y	In the woods
Collared Dove		Resident	All year	Y	Seen on rooftops
OTHER					
Tawny Owl	Amber	Resident	All Year	Y	In the woods
Swift	Amber	Feeds	Summer	Y	Seen flying over for insects. Breed at Low Mill and in buildings in Caton and Brookhouse.
Kingfisher	Amber	Scarce resident	All Year	Y	Nests upstream from Waterworks bridge where a tributary stream comes down from Aughton Wood.
Green Woodpecker		Scarce resident	All Year	Y	Nests in Shire Oaks Wood (wood east of and adjacent to Burton Wood). Occasionally heard.
GS Woodpecker		Resident	All year	Y	In wooded areas
Sand Martin		Breeds	Spring and summer	Y	Nests in vertical sandy banks of the river, especially on the outer bend of the meander
Swallow		Feeds	Spring and summer	Y	Seen flying over the river for insects. Breeds on ledges in older barns and buildings.
House Martin	Amber	Breeds	Spring and summer	Y	Seen in flight. Nests on buildings in Caton.
Grey Wagtail	Red	Breeds	Spring and summer	Y	Nests near bridges eg one year nested under the Millennium footpath bridge over the stream that goes into the main river
Pied Wagtail		Breeds	Spring to autumn	Y	Feeds on insects among the shingle banks. Larger numbers seen in autumn on passage.
White Wagtail		Passage	Spring and autumn	N	Feeds on insects among the shingle banks
Meadow Pipit	Amber	Breeds and passage	Spring to autumn	Y	In the fields of the floodplain
Dipper	Amber	Resident	All Year	Y	In winter seen where Bull Beck meets the Lune. In the breeding season nests under bridges.
PASSERINES					
Wren		Resident	All Year	Y	Seen where there is plenty of undergrowth eg along the millennium path

Dunnock	Amber	Resident	All Year	Y	Seen where there is plenty of undergrowth eg along the millennium path
Robin		Resident	All Year	Y	Seen where there is plenty of undergrowth eg along the millennium path
Redstart	Amber	Occasional	Spring and summer	Y	Heard occasionally at the bottom of Burton Wood
Blackbird		Resident	All Year	Y	Seen where there is plenty of undergrowth eg along the millennium path
Fieldfare	Red	Passage and winter	Winter	N	In tops of tall trees or feeding on the ground.
Song thrush	Red	Resident	All Year	Y	In wooded areas
Redwing	Red	Passage and winter	Winter	N	Often seen in trees and fields south of the waterworks bridge.
Mistle thrush	Red	Resident	All Year	Y	
Sedge Warbler		Breeds	Summer	Y	Summer visitor. Nests in scrubby bushes on edge of river
Whitethroat		Passage	Spring and summer	Y	Not common.
Garden Warbler		Passage and breeds	Spring and summer	Y	In dense bushes
Blackcap		Breeds	Spring and summer	Y	Summer visitor. Nests along the Millennium path.
Wood Warbler	Red	Passage	May	No longer	Favours areas of old woodland
Chiffchaff		Breeds	Spring to autumn	Y	Some winter but occurs mostly in the breeding season in wooded areas
Willow Warbler	Amber	Breeds	Spring and summer	Y	In wooded areas
Goldcrest		Resident	All Year	Y	Prefers conifer trees
Spotted Flycatcher	Red	Breeds and passage	Spring to autumn	Y	Seen on passage in autumn in trees near the river. Nests at Crook o Lune
Pied Flycatcher	Red	Passage and breeds	Spring and summer	Y	Nests in Burton Wood but not seen elsewhere
LT Tit		Resident	All Year	Y	Often in trees by the Millennium path
Coal Tit		Resident	All Year	Y	Prefers conifer trees
Marsh Tit	Red	Scarce resident	All Year	Y	Nests in Burton Wood and occasionally seen elsewhere along the Lune
Blue tit		Resident	All Year	Y	Very common along the Millennium path
Great Tit		Resident	All Year	Y	Very common along the Millennium path
Nuthatch		Resident	All Year	Y	Found where there are oak trees. Not common but occur along the Lune.
Tree creeper		Resident	All Year	Y	Seen in the trees by the Millennium path and the trees around Bull Beck car park
Magpie		Resident	All Year	Y	
Jackdaw		Resident	All Year	Y	Common
Raven		Flyover	All Year	N	Seen flying across the valley, more so if nesting or roosting in Claughton Quarry.
Rook		Resident	All Year	Y	Feeds in the fields of the floodplain
Carrion Crow		Resident	All Year	Y	Common on the floodplain especially when the farmer feeds the sheep and lambs
Jay		Resident	All Year	Y	Seen where there are oak trees
Starling	Red	Winter, passage,	All Year	Y	Feeds in the fields of the

		breeds			floodplain
House Sparrow	Red	Resident	All Year	Y	Near houses
Chaffinch		Resident	All Year	Y	Common along the Millennium path
Greenfinch		Resident	All Year	Y	
Goldfinch		Resident	All Year	Y	Common along the Millennium path
Siskin		Passage	Winter and spring	N	Seen in winter and on passage in the tops of alder trees.
Redpoll		Passage	March and April	N	Seen on passage in spring feeding at the tops of alder trees
Bullfinch	Amber	Resident	All Year	Y	Seen in the trees by the Millennium path and the trees around Bull Beck car park
Reed Bunting	Amber	Breeds	Spring and summer	Y	Nests in vegetation by the river eg opposite the Bull Beck/Lune confluence

Summary:

Our stretch of the millennium path is demonstrably special to local people from our parish on all NPPF criteria and 'other'.

Contribution to Community Sustainability:

One of the basic conditions for neighbourhood plans is achieving sustainable development. The social, community, economic and environmental benefits of green spaces help to make local places sustainable. From Locality toolkit

Our special part of the Millennium Path contributes to quality of place. Quality of place is a key factor in attracting investment, jobs and growth to an area. It is also important in making our parish an attractive place to live, work and spend leisure time. So, our special part of the Millennium Path has real economic value to the surrounding area, in addition to creating community well-being.