**Checklist – Access to the building**

Is it easy to find your way to the church building?

Is the path level with no trip hazards?

Are the edges of the path clearly visible?

If there is a handrail, is it in good condition?

If you have a gate at the start of a path leading up to your church, consider how easy it is to open for people who may have painful conditions such as arthritis; are you able to leave the gate open, safely? If you do need to keep it closed, please make the handle as easy to open as possible for a person with disabilities.

What surfaces are there for people to walk on? Coarse gravel can make it impossible for wheelchairs to move and difficult for people who might have stability problems.

Here is a checklist of things to bear in mind when thinking about access to your buildings:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Item to consider | Check when complete/reviewed |
| Is there clear signage showing the way to the building’s entrance? |  |
| If there is a gate, is it easy to open or can it safely be left open? |  |
| Is the footpath to the entrance in good condition, with a suitable surface for both wheelchair users and people who might have mobility or stability problems? |  |
| If there is a handrail, is it in good condition? |  |
| Are the edges of the path clearly visible? |  |

**Further Information**

* Easy Access to Historic Buildings – A Historic England PDF – [click here](https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/easy-access-to-historic-buildings/heag010-easy-access-to-historic-buildings/)
* Disabled access to buildings, worship & ministry – A Diocese of Oxford YouTube Resource – [click here](https://youtu.be/s82ySbLAOXs)