


Footpath Number	Location and Description of Reported Problem/Resolved Problem	Ref. No.
FP5	<p>From Ferrier's Farm to Horne's Green ( a field margin path, leading to a cross-field path through some scrub and into a wood, then onto a well-kept grassed lane to the road)</p> <p>The waymarker posts have been replaced by the Parish contractor with new labels attached.</p> <p>The cross-field path is not kept clear so walkers have to push through standing crops. A 1metre wide corridor is the legal requirement. The scrubland is now impenetrable because of dense, shoulder-high thistles, nettles and brambles.</p> <p>This is an annual problem which is compounded by a spring creating a very boggy section.</p> <p>The path and its problems are under consideration by the County ROW department but the Parish Council is exploring the possibility of applying for a CIL grant to fund the installation of a boardwalk which could cost in the region of £40,000.</p> <p>The County ROW has put forward three options which will be discussed on site and then put to the Parish Council for their decision as how to proceed.</p> <div data-bbox="470 801 840 1294" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1050 812 1411 1295" data-label="Image"> </div>	<p>Ref: 2622806 Reported: 25.06.19</p>

	<p>FYI: The FP runs alongside Ferriers Farm. The last ecological report submitted just before closure of the consultation period for the proposed development of the Ferriers Barns requested further studies about bats, reptiles and greater crested newts before any work could take place (Amanda Turburville: Ecology and Natural Environment Officer BDC) No further reports were published but the barns and surrounding areas were extensively stripped of vegetation and builders (Ford Homes) were clearly at work inside the barns. This was reported with photographs to Braintree District Council and it appears that the current planning application has now been withdrawn.</p> <div data-bbox="398 563 1012 1029" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1093 515 1547 1133" data-label="Image"> </div>	
FP8	<p>From Bakers Hall Toxic Archery to Ferriers Cottage This footpath follows a field margin from the Colne Road down to a footbridge over a brook. The Parish contractor has been asked to strim back a section of this footpath which always becomes very overgrown during the summer months.</p>	

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FP21	Bakers Hall, Balls Road to the Cambridge Brook The Parish contractor has been asked to strim clear access to the dog waste bin at the start of this footpath.	
Byway 25	Essex Highways carried out extensive repairs on this byway last year at the Balls Road end. The residual damage to the Broad Oaks end of the track leading onto Colne Road was later partially repaired with some new surfacing. The remaining untreated section is becoming deeply rutted and muddy with frequent use by horse riders, cyclists and farm traffic so I have reported this again.	Ref: 2622803 Reported: 25.06.19
FP30	From Colne Road next to Parsonage Grove crossing the railway to The Paddocks. The Parish Council is still awaiting the outcome of the Network Rail Public Inquiry for Level Crossings Reduction in Essex regarding the fate of the above 'passive crossing'. It requires regular clipping to keep brambles and nettles at bay.	(Crossing E54)
FP33	From Colne Road up to the Mount Bures level rail crossing. An oak stand, donated by Robert Chambers, was installed at the entrance to the footpath. The Clerk arranged for a commemorative name plaque to be engraved. This has been mounted on the oak stand. Mount Bures Parish Council are now in the process of organising the memorial 'unveiling' ceremony with the family of Pauline Phillips.  When checking the Parish PROW, I have seen that some of the old road direction signs at junctions in the more rural parts of the parish are becoming quite dilapidated. One such fingerpost on the Colne Road pointing to Ravensfield Lane was reported to the Essex Highways Dept. Reference No. 2615854 (05.05.19) It was not considered a priority and will not be repaired in the foreseeable future. I will continue to check it periodically to ensure that it doesn't become a hazard.	

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FP11 Then FP4 (Mount Bures)	<p data-bbox="380 284 1070 319">From Bures Mill towards Lodge Hill Wormingford</p> <div data-bbox="398 347 864 970"></div> <p data-bbox="887 395 1693 539">The AONB have installed wooden kissing gates, three in all, to replace the stiles on the footpath across the meadows to Long Gardens. These will be much appreciated by dog-walkers!</p>	

Footpath Number	Location and Description of Reported Problem/Resolved Problem	Ref.No.
FP7	<p>From 'Beautiful You' to the rail crossing at Kings Farm Lamarsh.</p>  <p>Because the field is used to graze cattle, the AONB have replaced the previous wooden stile with a very substantial metal kissing gate. Unfortunately, Network Rail have replaced the two stiles either side of the railway line further along with new wooden stiles and 'guillotine' dog gates. This means the Stour Valley path is not entirely stile-free as the AONB had intended.</p>	

At this time of the year, nettles and brambles become a general problem along many of our paths. We continue to use the services of our Parish contractors to help keep the footpaths accessible as much as possible.

Jan Aries 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019