


Footpath Number	Location and Description of Reported Problem/Resolved Problem/ Items of Interest	Ref. No.
	Very little to report on footpaths in the Parish on this occasion. Due to COVID-19 restrictions most works are still pending.	
Parish Paths Partnership Scheme (P3)	Shirley Anglin, PRoW and Localism Officer has been in contact to reassure the Parish Council that she is still hoping to attend a meeting to explain the P3 Scheme in more detail. This will be arranged for later in the year subject to Shirley's availability. No further news on this.	
FP1,3 &4	These three truncated footpaths lead into Ferrier's Pits but have never been extinguished in the hope that at least one of the paths might be re-opened with a diversion order. Nik Leeson (PRoW Essex County Council) started investigations prior to COVID-19 as to whether there would be funding to create a safe path around the Pits. Funding from Essex Highways highly unlikely. No further progress on this matter.	
FP1	The surviving section of FP1 leads off Bombose Lane around the perimeter of Bombose Farm. The entrance to the footpath is marked by an old concrete fingerpost which is set deep in a roadside hedge. It may be possible for the Parish contractor to cut the hedge back to reveal the fingerpost but it would be better to re-site the post in a more visible position on the verge. Permission to do this has been sought via the Devolution Scheme. Awaiting a decision.	
FP5	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) No confirmation of the proposed diversion as yet due to the COVID-19 restrictions. Walkers have continued to use the lower woodland walk but over the summer the brambles and undergrowth have become more difficult to navigate. Unfortunately, the Parish Council has no authority to access this section of the walk to carry out any clearance so it is largely up to walkers 'to clear as they go'. There is no signage in place to indicate the proposed diversion around the headland but some walkers are using it to avoid the overgrown section.	

Footpath Number	<p>Awaiting an update from the Definitive Map Team.</p> <p>Location and Description of Reported Problem/Resolved Problem/ Items of Interest</p>	Ref. No.
FP13	Footpath off Fishpits Lane opposite Polstead Farm leading along Lamarsh Park A fingerpost has been requested under the Devolution Scheme. Awaiting permission to proceed.	2652997 02/03/2020
FP14	Footpath from Ravensfield Farm to Polstead Farm Damaged old-style concrete fingerpost. Awaiting permission to replace under the Devolution Scheme.	2652994 02/03/2020
BWY 25	<p>Track leading from Balls Road to Broad Oaks Colne Road opposite Pricketts Hall Farm</p> <p>Not surprisingly, this track has remained dry throughout the summer with no extensive flooding to report. There has been some attempt to level the rutting from farm vehicles in places but where the mud has dried rock-solid, the uneven sections require some care. The track is regularly used by horse riders which adds to the deterioration of the surface in wet conditions. I will continue to monitor and report again to Essex Highways if necessary. It appears to still be a 'live' issue on the interactive reporting tool.</p>	Ref: 2663642 Defect no: 3388148

Footpath Number	Location and Description of Reported Problem/Resolved Problem/ Items of Interest	Ref. No.
FP30	<p>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'.</p> <div data-bbox="421 499 846 1066">  </div> <p>The developer of the adjacent 'Tenterfield' site has cleared much of the barbed wire and unruly hedge that flanked the full length of the footpath and has erected a wooden fence to mark the perceived boundary of the site. There have been concerns expressed by two residents that the footpath is now particularly narrow. No recent action has been taken to establish if the developer has exceeded the actual boundary. Members should consider whether to consult with Essex Highways on this matter or to further discuss the issue with the developer. This photo is taken looking towards the railway crossing. A request has been made for the Colchester Road end of FP30 leading to the Paddocks to be resurfaced. A section of this has already been resurfaced.</p>	Crossing E54
FP33	<p>Phillips Path. Colchester Road to Mount Bures level crossing A request has been made for an official Essex County Council finger post to be erected at the Colchester Road end of the footpath. Awaiting approval to proceed.</p>	
	<p>As a point of interest, there have been some comments about cyclists using PROWs. It is not an offence to cycle on a public footpath but doing so without the permission from the landowner is likely to be considered as trespassing. However, it is an offence to cycle on a public footpath if a Traffic Regulation Order or a no cycling by-law is applied.</p>	

Bures Hamlet PROW report (September 2020)

	<p>A new free walking initiative called 'Finding Your Feet' has made a tentative start in the village. This provides an opportunity for new walkers to join a small socially distanced group for gentle strolls around Bures. It is primarily intended to help those needing the opportunity for low impact exercise and some social interaction after the COVID-19 lockdown. This takes place currently every Wednesday afternoon from the Bures Common for one hour, led by Jo Bryant, an Engagement Officer for Braintree District Council. Posters are on display around the village and it has been advertised on Beautiful Bures (Facebook).</p>	
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Jan Aries September 2020