

Footpath Number	Location and Description of Reported Problem/Resolved Problem/ Items of Interest	Ref. No.
	<p>Generally, all footpaths in the Parish and beyond are being subjected to heavy use and poor weather conditions resulting into a deterioration of all surfaces, even those which have been previously reliable and usually accessible.</p>	
	<p>The Quiet Lanes Suffolk Team (QLS) Project is well underway. To recap, Quiet Lanes offer a safer environment for non-motorised travellers and can help to protect our rural environment. They are not intended to be used as a traffic calming measure. The initiative seeks to encourage motorists to <b>expect and respect</b> other road users.</p> <p>Criteria for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single track lane</li> <li>• No line markings or footpaths</li> <li>• Less than 1,000 vehicle trips per day</li> <li>• Average speeds of less than 35mph (many motorists drive at speeds greater than this on unrestricted roads).</li> </ul> <p>To date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Edmunds Lane has been approved. Highway poles for entry/exit signs already in situ.</li> <li>• The Arger Fen Road is divided into three sections. The Dead Lane to Gazley Gate section has been approved but the lower section of the Arger Fen Road from the Nayland Road to Dead Lane is undergoing a traffic survey to ensure the average speed of vehicles is less than 35mph. The northern section is in the Parish of Assington and has been approved. Highway poles along the route already in situ.</li> <li>• Hollow Lane has been submitted for consideration but no decision has been confirmed at the time of the report. Highway poles already in situ.</li> </ul>	

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	<p>No other lanes in the Parish complied with the selection criteria. Once Hollow Lane and Arger Fen are decided, a public consultation process will commence. This will involve leaflet drops to all households, raising public awareness via Facebook, the press and the Parish Council website, and holding a public meeting. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December, 40% of all Suffolk Parishes (192) have engaged with QLS, nominating 399 lanes, a total of 507 km. The entire initiative county-wide should be completed by October 2021.</p>	
<b>FP2</b>	<p><b>Bures/Sudbury Road lay-by to Dorking Tye.</b> The crossfield section of this long footpath was ploughed up in the autumn. Walkers have managed to tread in a rough route across the field. The Access Team are only able to provide a skeleton service to deal with priority issues so an unsatisfactory cross-field path is not going to receive any official action during a COVID lockdown.</p>	
<b>FP3</b>	<p><b>Bures/Sudbury Road lay-by to Assington Road via Corn Hall.</b> An extensive field margin of maize for pheasant cover has made it very difficult to locate the exit from the crossfield path. A corridor has now been walked through the maize and the stems are now weather-beaten and far less obstructive.</p>	
<b>BWY5</b>	<p><b>Footpath leading from the end of the Croft to the kissing gate on Sudbury Road.</b> Concerns have been raised by an elderly resident who relies on this footpath as the only access to her property. Volunteers have dug the verges back to widen the path to allow better access for a walking rollator. <b>Cllr Finch may update at the meeting about plans to resurface this byway.</b></p>	<p>Ref: 284156 21/07/2020</p>
<b>FP7</b>	<p><b>Leading to Fysh House Farm (and FP8) up from Claypits</b> The damaged sign asking dog owners to clean up after their dog leading up to Daisy's Wood has been replaced.</p>	

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<b>FP9</b>	<p><b>Fysh House Farm to Over Hall Cottages.</b>                      Concerns about safety over the stile and the footbridge crossing the brook at the foot of path leading down from St Stephen's Chapel were reported a year ago. At the time the stile was deemed compliant with standards. There was no budget at the time to carry out any improvements but the situation was to be monitored. It might be appropriate, when circumstances allow, to create some buttress steps or similar off the stile onto the footbridge. Currently it has become a very muddy, slippery slope descending onto the footbridge.</p>	Ref: 267447 27/01/2020
<b>FP11</b>	<p><b>Follows the valley along the Assington Brook to the ford at the foot of Arger Fen.</b>                      The Access Team inspected the makeshift gate from the Arger Fen Road onto the path in December 2020. The officer attempted to contact the landowner whose responsibility it is but no further progress has been reported.</p>	
	<p><b>Macmillan Mighty Hike.</b>                      This fund-raising event is booked to take place on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2021, all being well. It will start at Kentwell House and finish at Flatford Mill, covering a distance of 26 miles. There is to be a shorter hike of 13 miles, finishing on the Bures Sportsground.</p>	
	<p>Ciaran Griffin (Voluntary Footpath Warden Little Cornard Parish Council) approached Bures St Mary Parish Council to start some preliminary discussions about the creation of a footpath to link the two parishes. <b>No progress to report.</b></p>	

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