

**NOTICE OF MODIFICATION ORDER  
SECTION 53 OF THE WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981**

**DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE PARISH OF BACTON  
IN THE DISTRICT OF MID SUFFOLK**

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL (PARISH OF BACTON)  
MODIFICATION ORDER 2025**

The above order made on 19 March 2025 if confirmed as made, will modify the definitive map and statement for the area by adding a public footpath at Pulham's Lane from the southern end of the unclassified road at Ordnance Survey grid reference 60550,26704 (point I) to a junction with footpath 14 at Ordnance Survey grid reference 60534,26664 (point B); adding another footpath from footpath 13 at Ordnance Survey grid reference 60585,26702 (point C) running alongside the railway line to a junction with footpath 14 at Ordnance Survey grid reference 60552,26642 (point D); and adding another footpath linking these from Ordnance Survey grid reference 60539,26675 (point F) to Ordnance Survey grid reference 60561,26659 (point E), as shown on the order map.

A copy of the order and the order map and an explanatory statement may be obtained by email or post, free of charge by contacting David Last by telephone: 01473 264770 or email: [david.last@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:david.last@suffolk.gov.uk). They can also be viewed at <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/public-rights-of-way-in-suffolk/making-changes-to-the-definitive-map-and-statement> or inspected at Bacton Post Office, Shop Green, Wyverstone Road, Bacton, Stowmarket, IP14 4LG. Opening times: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 09.00 to 13.00 and 14.00 to 17.30, Wednesday and Saturday 09.00 to 12.30. Sunday closed.

Any representation or objection relating to the orders must be sent in writing to the Definitive Map Manager, Rights of Way and Access, Suffolk County Council, Phoenix House, 3 Goddard Road, Ipswich, IP1 5NP. Objections should be received not later than 19 June 2025, and applicants are requested to state the grounds on which they are made. Please bear in mind that such correspondence cannot be treated as confidential and may be inspected by any interested party. The Rights of Way and Access Privacy Notice can be viewed at: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/about/privacy-notice/rights-of-way-and-access-privacy-notice/>

If no representations or objections are duly made to an order, or to any part of it, or if any so made are withdrawn, Suffolk County Council, instead of submitting the order to the Secretary of State (or part of it if the authority has by notice to the Secretary of State so elected under paragraph 5 of Schedule 15 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) may itself confirm the order (or that part of the order). If an order is submitted to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in whole or in part, any representations or objections which have been duly made and not withdrawn will be sent with it.

Dated: 8 May 2025



**Nigel Inniss**

Monitoring Officer and Assistant Director Governance, Legal & Assurance,  
Suffolk County Council, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, IP1 1BX

**THIS IS AN EXPLANATORY STATEMENT AND DOES NOT FORM PART OF THE ORDER**

**WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981**

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL (PARISH OF BACTON)  
MODIFICATION ORDER 2025**

Public footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways and byways open to all traffic are recorded on definitive maps and statements. These maps and statements provide conclusive legal evidence of the existence of public rights. Suffolk County Council is responsible for the definitive map and statement and has a duty to amend them when evidence suggests that they are inaccurate or incomplete. Such amendments are made by means of modification orders under section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. These orders do not come into effect until confirmed, and if there are any objections the County Council must refer the order and objections to the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in Bristol.

The County Council has made a modification order under Section 53 to add footpaths as detailed in the order. The order simply recognises the public rights that the authority believes exist. The order does not create any new public rights.

The evidence that has been considered may be consulted free of charge at the following locations:

**By prior appointment at the offices of the County Council, Phoenix House, Goddard Road, Ipswich, IP1 5NP:**

- Formal application dated 9 August 2017 from Mrs Wendy Ford
- Secretary of State's direction letter dated 7 August 2024
- Ordnance Survey Old Series 1 inch to 1 mile map 1837
- Google Earth Images
- Highways Act 1980 Section 31(6) statement and plan from The Orwell Settlement Trustees received 15 October 2024. (Record ID 9441)  
<https://www.suffolkpublicrightsofway.org.uk/register/statement-declaration/>
- Highways Act 1980 Section 31(6) statement and plan from The Bellway Homes Ltd received 30 January 2024. (Record ID 10104)  
<https://www.suffolkpublicrightsofway.org.uk/register/statement-declaration/>
- Highways Act 1980 Section 31(6) declaration from The Orwell Settlement Trustees received 15 October 2024. (Record ID 10159)  
<https://www.suffolkpublicrightsofway.org.uk/register/statement-declaration/>
- Smith family landowner information dated 2 October 2024, 4 October 2024 and 10 October 2024
- Email from Orwell Settlement Trustees dated 17 September 2024
- Email and attached information dated 25 November 2024 from Birketts for their client Orwell Settlement Trustees
- Email dated 6 December 2024 from Winckworth Sherwood solicitors with attached information from Bellway Homes
- Landowner information form from Mr T Mark dated 19 September 2024
- Email dated 25 October 2024 from Steve Day for Network Rail
- User evidence
- Letter dated 23 January 2025 received from Birketts on behalf of Orwell Settlement Trustees
- Letter dated 24 January 2025 was from Winckworth Sherwood on behalf of Bellway Homes

**By prior appointment at The Hold, Suffolk Archives, 131 Fore Street, Ipswich, IP33 2AR:**

- Hodskinson's Map 1783
- Bryant's Map 1824/5
- Greenwood's Map 1825
- Bacton Tithe Map and Apportionment 1839 (ref: FDA8/A1/1a,b)
- Railway Plans 1844/5 (refs: 150/2/5.151, 150.35 and 150/2/5.152)
- Ordnance Survey 25-inch 1st and 2nd County Series Map, 1884 and 1904 (sheet 46/3)
- Hartismere Rural District Council Highways Records – January 1929 (ref: 306/11)

Objections or representations relating to the orders must be made in writing by 19 June 2025 to the Definitive Map Manager, Suffolk County Council, Phoenix House, 3 Goddard Road, Ipswich, IP1 5NP. The Rights of Way and Access Privacy Notice can be viewed at <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/about/privacy-notice/rights-of-way-and-access-privacy-notice/> To be relevant, objections or representations should relate to the question of the existence or status of rights of way. Other objections or representations (eg relating to privacy, security or amenity) are not relevant to the evidential test.

The County Council is willing to discuss the concerns of those considering objecting or making representations relating to the order, and you may contact David Last at the above address, by telephone on 01473 264770 or email [david.last@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:david.last@suffolk.gov.uk)

The right of objection to an order is a statutory right, but it should be exercised in a reasonable manner. The costs involved in dealing with objections to orders are normally awarded against objectors only in cases of unreasonable behaviour.

If there are no objections to the order, or if all objections are withdrawn, the County Council will confirm the order, and the definitive map and statement will then be modified. If there are any objections which are not withdrawn, the County Council must refer the order and objection/s to the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, who will appoint an independent Inspector to consider the order and hear the objection/s, normally by holding a public inquiry. The Inspector may confirm an order, with or without modifications, or may decide that an order should not be confirmed.

**WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981**

**DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE PARISH OF BACTON  
IN THE DISTRICT OF MID SUFFOLK**

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL (PARISH OF BACTON)  
MODIFICATION ORDER 2025**

This Order is made by Suffolk County Council under section 53(2)(b) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 ("the Act"), because it appears to that authority that the Definitive Map and Statement for the parish of Bacton in the district of Mid Suffolk require modification in consequence of the occurrence of an event specified in sections 53(3)(b) namely, the expiration, in relation to any way in the area to which the map relates, of any period such that the enjoyment by the public of the way during that period raises a presumption that the way has been dedicated as a public path.

The authority has consulted with every local authority whose area includes the land to which the Order relates. The Suffolk County Council hereby order that:

1. For the purpose of this Order the relevant date is 1 March 2025.
2. The Definitive Map and Statement for the parish of Bacton in the district of Mid Suffolk shall be modified as described in Part 1 and Part 2 of the Schedule and shown on the map attached to the Order.
3. This Order shall take effect on the date it is confirmed and may be cited as the Suffolk County Council (Parish of Bacton) Modification Order 2025.

Date: 19 MARCH 2025

The common seal of  
SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL  
was hereunto affixed  
in the presence of:



An authorised Officer of the Council



## SCHEDULE

### PART 1

#### Modification of Definitive Map

Description of footpaths to be added:

There shall be added to the Definitive Map for the parish of Bacton a footpath from Ordnance Survey grid reference 60550,26704 (point I) to Ordnance Survey grid reference 60534,26664 (point B) as shown on the attached map.

There shall be added to the Definitive Map for the parish of Bacton a footpath from Ordnance Survey grid reference 60539,26675 (point F) to Ordnance Survey grid reference 60561,26659 (point E) as shown on the attached map.

There shall be added to the Definitive Map for the parish of Bacton a footpath from Ordnance Survey grid reference 60585,26702 (point C) to Ordnance Survey grid reference 60552,26642 (point D) as shown on the attached map.

### PART 2

#### Modification of Definitive Statement

Particulars of footpaths to be added:

There shall be added to the Definitive Statement for Bacton the following particulars:

#### **Bacton footpath 37**

Commencing at a junction with the unclassified maintainable highway that is known as Pulham's Lane at Ordnance Survey Grid Reference (OSGR) 60550,26704 (point I) and progressing in a south south-westerly direction for 315 metres to a junction with footpath 38 at OSGR 60539,26675 (point F); continuing for 187 metres looping to the east and south around a pond feature to terminate at a junction with footpath 14 at OSGR 60534,26664 (point B).

Width: 3 metres

(Based on an average of the widths stated in user evidence, which fits within the existing boundaries of Pulham's Lane).

#### **Bacton footpath 38**

Commencing at a junction with footpath 37 at Ordnance Survey Grid Reference (OSGR) 60539,26675 (point F) and progressing in an east north-easterly direction as a field edge path north of a moat feature for 83 metres to OSGR 60548,26676; changing to a south-

easterly direction around the moat and continuing as a field edge path for 230 metres to terminate at a junction with footpath 39 at OSGR 60561,26659 (point E).

Width 1.5 metres

(The widths stated in the user evidence mainly relate to when the wider field margins were in place as part of the government scheme, not before. Therefore in the absence of any other evidence this is the minimum width that the highway authority would seek to be reinstated following disturbance or obstruction, as set out in the Highways Act 1980 Schedule 12a).

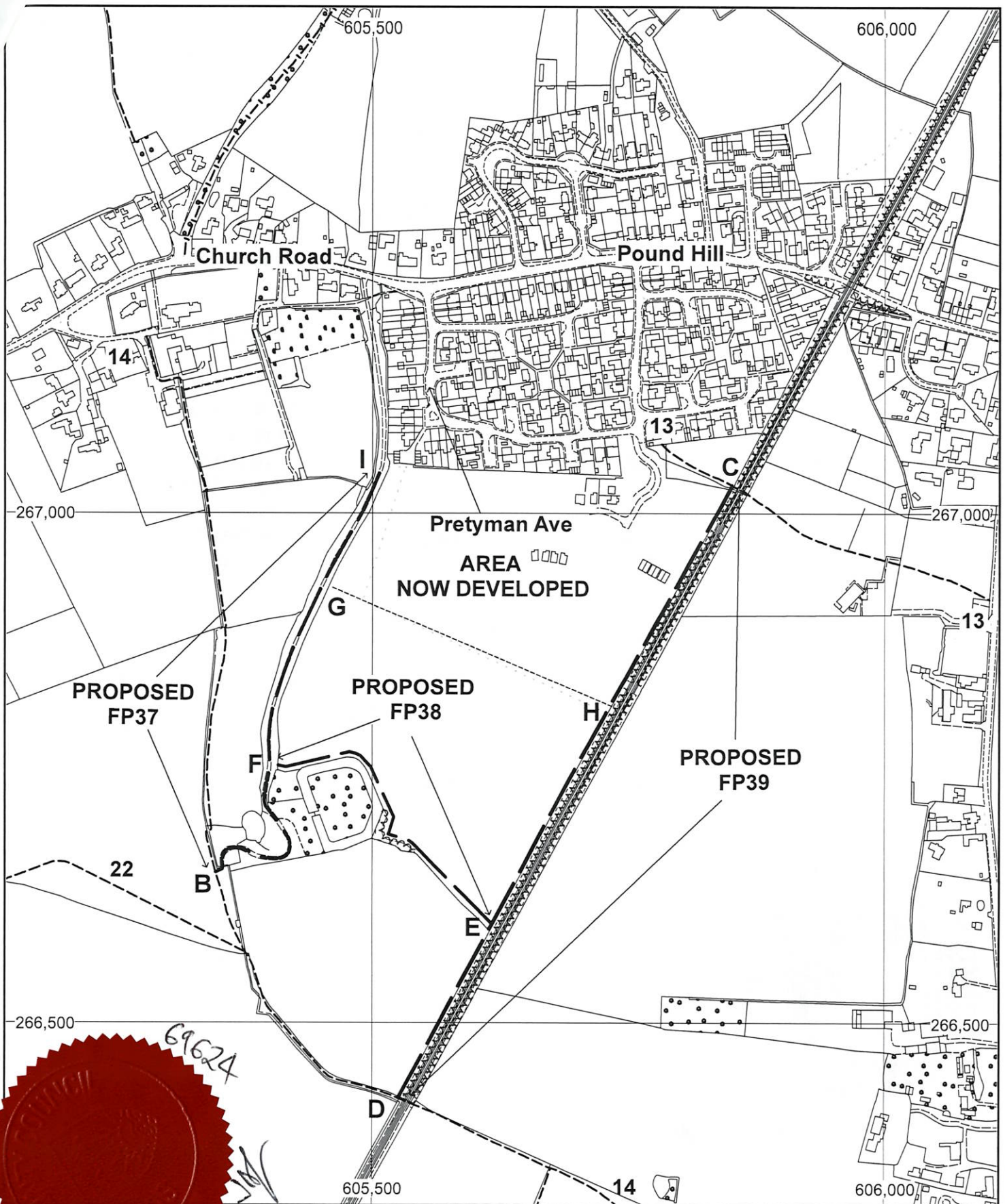
### **Bacton footpath 39**

Commencing at a junction with footpath 13 at Ordnance Survey Grid Reference (OSGR) 60585,26702 (point C) and progressing in a south-westerly direction for 490 metres parallel to the railway line fencing, to a junction with footpath 38 at OSGR 60561,26659 (point E); and continuing for 194 metres to terminate at a junction with footpath 14 at OSGR 60552,26642 (point D).

Width 1.5 metres

(The widths stated in the user evidence mainly relate to when the wider field margins were in place as part of the government scheme, not before. Therefore in the absence of any other evidence this is the minimum width that the highway authority would seek to be reinstated following disturbance or obstruction, as set out in the Highways Act 1980 Schedule 12a).





### Proposed Bacton Footpaths 37, 38 and 39



**Suffolk**  
County Council

Executive Director of Growth, Highways and Infrastructure  
Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, Suffolk. IP1 2BX

- Existing Public Footpath
- - - - - Existing Bridleway
- Claimed Public Footpath



Scale: 1:5,000 at A4

DRAWN BY: DL

DATE: 14/03/2025

File reference: .....

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