

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL
(STOWMARKET FOOTPATHS 18(PART) AND 62)
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2025

The above order, made on 27 November 2025 under section 119 of the Highways Act 1980, will divert the following public footpaths at Walnut Tree Walk in Stowmarket as described in the order and as shown on the order map:

Stowmarket Footpath 18(part) – The entire width of that part of Stowmarket Footpath 18 commencing at Ordnance Survey grid reference (OSGR) TM04435889 and proceeding in a north westerly direction for approximately 29 metres to OSGR TM0441358913 to a new line commencing at OSGR TM04435889 at a junction with Stowmarket Footpath 62 and proceeding in a north westerly direction adjacent to a row of parking bays for approximately 27.5 metres to OSGR TM0441458911 then in a north north westerly direction for approximately 2.5 metres to join the existing route at OSGR TM0441358913.

Stowmarket Footpath 62 - The whole of Stowmarket Footpath 62 commencing at OSGR TM04435889 at a junction with Stowmarket Footpath 18 and proceeding in a north easterly direction for 11 metres to join Stowmarket Restricted Byway 55 at Ordnance Survey grid reference TM 04445891 to a new line commencing at OSGR TM04435889 at a junction with Stowmarket Footpath 18 and proceeding in an east south easterly direction for approximately 4.5 metres to OSGR TM04445889 then in a north north easterly direction for approximately 11 metres to join Stowmarket Restricted Byway 55 at the U4541 road (Walnut Tree Walk) at OSGR TM04445890.

A copy of the order and the order map and an explanatory statement may be obtained free of charge by contacting Sharon Berry via email at public.realm@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk. They can also be inspected at Stowmarket Library, Milton Road, Stowmarket, IP14 1EX between the hours of 8:30am and 6:45pm Tuesday, 8:30am and 5:45pm on Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30am and 6:30pm Friday, 8:30am and 4:00pm Saturday and 10:00am and 4:00pm Sunday or viewed at <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/public-rights-of-way>

Any representations about or objections to the order may be sent in writing to Mr N Christo, Head of Public Realm and Parking Services at the address below not later than 1 January 2026. Please state the grounds on which they are made. Please note that any such correspondence cannot be treated as confidential and may be inspected by any interested party. For further information please refer to Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council's Countryside and Public Realm Privacy Notice which can be viewed at <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/countryside-and-public-realm-privacy-notice-1> or contact dataprotection@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk

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If no representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, Mid Suffolk District Council may confirm the order as an unopposed order. If the order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the order.

Dated: 4 December 2025

N Christo
Head of Public Realm and Parking Services
Mid Suffolk District Council
Endeavour House
8 Russell Road
Ipswich
IP1 2BX

PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL (STOWMARKET FOOTPATHS 18(PART) AND 62) PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2025

This order is made by Mid Suffolk District Council ("the authority") under section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 ("the 1980 Act") because it appears to the authority that in the interests of the owners of the land crossed by the footpaths described in paragraph 1 of this order and of the public it is expedient that the lines of the paths should be diverted.

Mid Suffolk District Council has agreed to defray any compensation which becomes payable in consequence of the coming into force of the order, and any expenses which are incurred in bringing the new sites of the paths into a fit condition for use by the public.

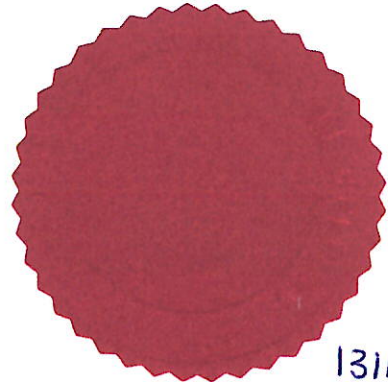
Suffolk County Council has been consulted as required by section 120(2) of the 1980 Act and Suffolk County Council has consented to the making of the order.

BY THIS ORDER:

1. The public rights of way over the land situate at Stowmarket and shown by bold continuous lines on the map contained in this order and described in Part 1 of the Schedule to this order shall be stopped up on the date of confirmation of this order.
2. There shall on the date of confirmation of this order be public footpaths over the land situate at Stowmarket described in Part 2 of the Schedule and shown by bold broken lines on the map contained in this order.

GIVEN under the Common Seal of Mid Suffolk District Council this 27th day of
November 2025

THE COMMON SEAL of)
MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT)
COUNCIL was hereunto)
affixed in the presence of:)



13115

Authorised Officer

SCHEDULE

PART 1

DESCRIPTION OF SITES OF EXISTING PATHS

Stowmarket Footpath 18(part) - The entire width of that part of Stowmarket Footpath 18 commencing at Ordnance Survey grid reference TM04435889 at point A and proceeding in a north westerly direction for approximately 29 metres to Ordnance Survey grid reference TM0441358913 at point B; this being the route shown between points A – B on the order map.

Stowmarket Footpath 62 – The whole of Stowmarket Footpath 62 commencing at Ordnance Survey grid reference TM04435889 at point A at a junction with Stowmarket Footpath 18 and proceeding in a north easterly direction for 11 metres to join Stowmarket Restricted Byway 55 at Ordnance Survey grid reference TM 04445891 at point C; this being the route shown between points A – C on the order map.

PART 2

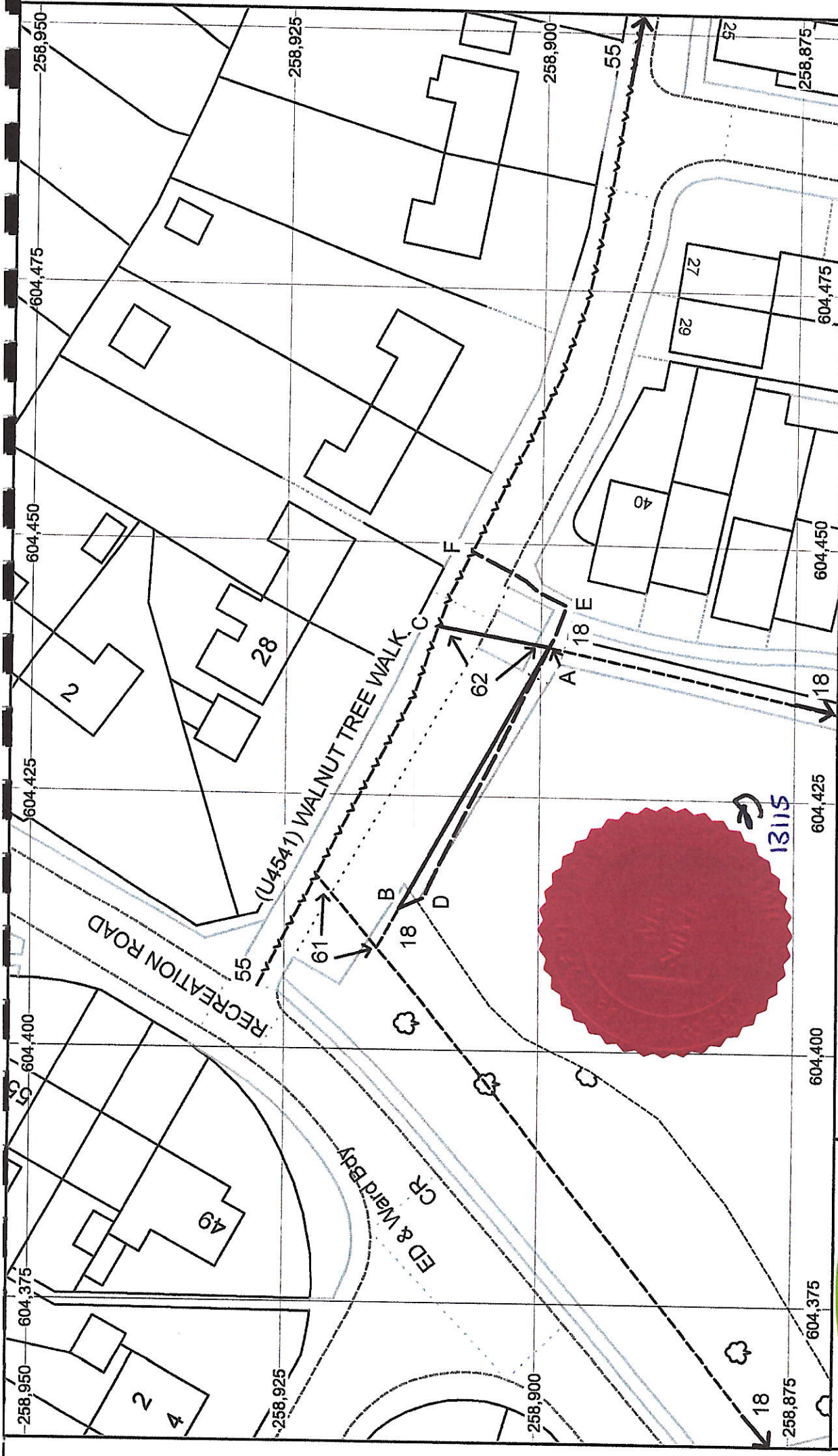
DESCRIPTION OF SITES OF NEW PATHS

Stowmarket Footpath 18(part) - Commencing at Ordnance Survey grid reference TM04435889 at point A at a junction with Stowmarket Footpath 62 and proceeding in a north westerly direction adjacent to a row of parking bays for approximately 27.5 metres to Ordnance Survey grid reference TM0441458911 at point D then in a north north westerly direction for approximately 2.5 metres to join the existing route at Ordnance Survey grid reference TM0441358913 at point B; this being the route shown between points A – D – B on the order map.

Width: Varying between 1.8 metres and 2.5 metres

Stowmarket Footpath 62 - Commencing at Ordnance Survey grid reference TM04435889 at point A at a junction with Stowmarket Footpath 18 and proceeding in an east south easterly direction for approximately 4.5 metres to Ordnance Survey grid reference TM04445889 at point E then in a north north easterly direction for approximately 11 metres to join Stowmarket Restricted Byway 55 at the U4541 road (Walnut Tree Walk) at Ordnance Survey grid reference TM04445890 at point F; this being the route shown between points A – E – F on the order map.

Width: Varying between 1.64 metres and 2.5 metres



MAP REFERRED TO IN THE MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL (STOWMARKET FOOTPATHS 18(PART) AND 62) PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2025 - HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 SECTION 119



Scale: 1:500 at A4

- Footpath to be diverted (A-B) (A-C)
- Proposed footpath (A-D-B) (A-E-F)
- Unaffected Footpath
- Unaffected Restricted Byway



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

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

PUBLIC PATH ORDER

Under the Highways Act 1980, county and district councils have the power to make orders to create, extinguish (close) or divert public rights of way. A notice that such an order has been made has to be advertised on the site of the path in question and in the local press. This provides an opportunity for objections or representations to be made to the proposed change.

The District Council has made an order to divert part of Stowmarket Public Footpath 18 and the whole of Stowmarket Public Footpath 62. This statement has been prepared to explain various aspects of the order.

The order has been made in the interests of the owners of the land crossed by the footpaths and of the public. The reasons for the diversions are summarised below:

The proposed diversions will regularise the realignment of the public footpaths which has already taken place to enable the redevelopment by Mid Suffolk District Council of the old Middle School site off Walnut Tree Walk for affordable housing. The housing development was approved under planning reference DC/19/02484.

Stowmarket Public Footpath 18

Walnut Tree Walk has been widened to allow for increased vehicular traffic. This has necessitated the car parking for the recreation ground being moved slightly further south which means that the new car parking bays for the development slightly encroach upon the legal width of Footpath 18.

The parking bays are provided for use by visitors to the recreation ground. Two of the new bays at the eastern end are allocated for social housing use. The proposal is to divert Footpath 18 around the new parking bays.

The legally recorded width of the footpath to be diverted is 2.5 metres. On the ground this comprised a 1.8 metre wide tarmac surface from the back of the parking spaces with the remainder being grass, which ran without differentiation into the recreation ground space. This is replicated by the new route, i.e. a 1.8 metre wide tarmac path with the remainder being grass surface flowing into the recreation ground. The legally recorded width of the new footpath varies between 1.8 metres and 2.5 metres.

There is a yellow hatched area between the parking bays and the footpath to discourage cars from overhanging onto the footpath.

Stowmarket Public Footpath 62

Footpath 62 needs to be diverted in its entirety to accommodate a new stay for the electricity pole. The existing stay already obstructed the line of the footpath to some degree prior to the development.

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The redevelopment required significant utility works, and the contractor advised that there was only one appropriate location for the stay. It would be inappropriate for the public to walk underneath the stay, as it would constrict height, present a tripping hazard and potentially be dangerous.

The new route follows the back of parking bay No. 2, which is allocated for social housing, to join the new footway that has been provided alongside Walnut Tree Walk outside the new development. The footpath has been constructed to Suffolk County Council estate road specification and will be formally adopted as highway maintainable at public expense in the longer term.

The existing legally recorded width of the footpath is 2.5m. The new route varies in width between 1.64 metres and 2.5 metres.

The Council is satisfied that the order complies with the legal grounds and tests laid down in the Highways Act.

It considers that the proposals are in the interests of the owners of the land and of the public, that the order does not alter any termination points of the footpaths other than to other points on the same paths or highways connected with them and which are substantially as convenient to the public, that the proposed routes will not be substantially less convenient to the public as a consequence of the diversions and that the proposals will not have an adverse effect on public enjoyment of the footpaths as a whole.

The order will come into effect only after it has been confirmed. Making and advertising the order simply provides an opportunity for objections or representations to be made.

Objections or representations relating to the order must be made in writing by 1 January 2026 to N Christo, Head of Public Realm and Parking Services, Mid Suffolk District Council, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, IP1 2BX.

The Council is willing to discuss the concerns of those considering objecting or making representations relating to the order. Please contact Sharon Berry by emailing public.realm@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk. The right of objection to an order is a statutory right, but it should be exercised in a reasonable manner.

If any objections are made and not withdrawn then the council will have to refer the order to the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for determination. An Inspector from the Planning Inspectorate will then hear the objections at a public inquiry or hearing, or in writing if the objectors agree. The Inspector can confirm an order, confirm it with modifications, or refuse to confirm it. If no objections are received the Council will be able to confirm the order itself but it has no power to modify orders.

N Christo
Head of Public Realm and Parking Services
Mid Suffolk District Council

4 December 2025