

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

**DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE PARISH OF BLYTHBURGH
IN THE DISTRICT OF EAST SUFFOLK**

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL (PARISH OF BLYTHBURGH)
MODIFICATION ORDER 2026**

The above order made on 11 February 2026 if confirmed as made, will modify the definitive map and statement for the area by adding a public footpath from the A12 at Ordnance Survey grid reference 64527,27543 (point A) through the old station yard to footpath 17 at Ordnance Survey grid reference 64503,27537 (point B), 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. 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 Southwold Library, Old Hospital Hub, Field Stile Road, Southwold, IP18 6LD. Opening times: Monday closed, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 10.00 to 13.00 and 14.00 to 18.00, Saturday 09.30 to 13.00 and 14.00 to 17.00, Sunday 11.00 to 16.00.

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 14 April 2026, 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If no representations or objections are duly made to an order, or to any part of it, or if any so made are withdrawn, Suffolk County Council, instead of submitting the order to the Secretary of State (or part of it if the authority has by notice to the Secretary of State so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Food and Rural Affairs in whole or in part, any representations or objections which have been duly made and not withdrawn will be sent with it.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: 3 March 2026



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
DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER**

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.

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

The evidence which the County Council has considered may be consulted free of charge at the following locations, or extract copies of most items can be emailed upon request to David Last (contact details below).

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

- Formal application dated 25 February 2025 from Blythburgh, Bulchamp & Hinton Parish Council
- Emails from Ian Reed (Trustee of the Halesworth to Southwold Narrow Gauge Railway CIO) dated 22 September 2025, 4 October 2025, 6 October 2025, 15 October 2025, most with attachments
- Email dated 9 October 2025 from Harry Young of Britten Pears Arts (BPA) based at Snape Maltings
- Email dated 10 October 2025 from Kenneth Penrose with attachments
- Email dated 17 October 2025 Andrew Comben, Chief Executive of Britten Pears Arts (BPA)
- Landowner information form dated 4 October 2025 from Sir Charles Blois
- 14 user evidence forms

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

- Blyth Valley Railway Plans 1866-7 ref: 150/2/5.78b
- Southwold Railway Plans 1875-6 ref: 150/2/5.79
- Blyth Valley Railway Plans 1876 ref: 150/2/5.80B
- Southwold Railway ext. to Kessingland 1900 ref: 150/2/5.82
- Blythburgh Parish Survey Map ref: 518/5
- Blythburgh Parish Survey File ref: 473/4
- 1979 Review material

Objections or representations relating to the order must be made in writing by 14 April 2026 to the Definitive Map Manager, Rights of Way and Access, 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 irrelevant 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, email at david.last@suffolk.gov.uk or by telephone on 01473 264770.

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 objections to the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, who will appoint an independent Inspector to consider the order and hear the objections, normally by holding a public inquiry. The Inspector may confirm the order, with or without modifications, or may decide that the order should not be confirmed.

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

**DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE PARISH OF BLYTHBURGH
IN THE DISTRICT OF EAST SUFFOLK**

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL (PARISH OF BLYTHBURGH)
MODIFICATION ORDER 2026**

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 Blythburgh in the district of East 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 February 2026.
2. The Definitive Map and Statement for the parish of Blythburgh in the district of East 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 Blythburgh) Modification Order 2026.

Date: 11 FEBRUARY 2026

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



JAJ
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 Blythburgh a footpath from Ordnance Survey grid reference 64527,27543 to Ordnance Survey grid reference 64503,27537 as shown on the attached map.

PART 2

Modification of Definitive Statement

Particulars of footpaths to be added:

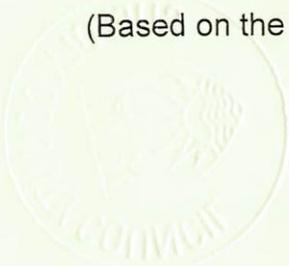
There shall be added to the Definitive Statement for Blythburgh the following particulars:

Blythburgh footpath 26

Commencing at a junction with the A12 road at Ordnance Survey Grid Reference (OSGR) 64527,27543 (point A) and progressing for 66 metres in a generally north westerly direction along a track to the Old Station Yard car park at OSGR 64524,27548; changing to a generally south westerly direction and continuing for 243 metres, initially through the car park and then on the alignment of former railway track bed and terminating at a junction with footpath 17 at OSGR 64503,27537 (point B).

Width: 2.5 metres

(Based on the metric average of the widths quoted in the user evidence).





Suffolk
County Council

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

DRAWN BY: DL

DATE: 06/02/2026

File reference:

--- Existing Public Footpath
- - - Proposed Public Footpath



Scale: 1:1,250 at A4

PROPOSED PUBLIC FOOTPATH
A12 TO FP17
OLD STATION YARD
BLYTHBURGH

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