

## **Wickham Market Parish Council**

### **Report by Footpaths warden to Full Council July 24 Agenda item FC24/56**

The Parish Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) are generally in good shape following work by SCC Highways and the Parish Warden. There were problems in late May/mid June 24 when fast seasonal growth in wet conditions lead to some PRoWs becoming overgrown. The volunteer Footpaths Warden was unable at the time to tackle issues but this has since been remedied.

It has been agreed to prioritise 'walk to school/shops' routes which include Little lane bridleway, George Lane footpath and connecting small paths, some of which are not PRoWs but which are well used.

The work carried out on the Little Lane bridleway in late 2023 has resulted in more horses using it which has created tensions between different groups of users. Work will continue to achieve the full 3.5m width recommended for bridleways which will hopefully ease the pressure.

There are a number of locations where property owners have allowed hedges or structures to encroach on the PRoW and it is intended to contact them in order to remedy the situation or seek enforcement.

It is hoped to create a series of walking guides for the Parish PRoWs to be published in the Parish News.

Finally the reporting tool for PRoW issues is that operated by Suffolk Highways at <https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk> and within the Parish email [footpaths@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:footpaths@wickhammarketpc.com).