# **Bardwell Parish Council**

Chairman: David Ruffles Vice Chairman: Andrew Smith

### Minutes of the meeting of Bardwell Parish Council

held via Zoom video conferencing on

## Tuesday 6th April 2021, commencing at 7.06pm

## This meeting was recorded

Present: Cllr David Ruffles (Chairman); Cllr Andrew Smith (Ward Councillor and Vice Chairman); Cllr John Babraff; Cllr Ali Compton; Cllr Peter Sanderson; Cllr Tony Stokes; Cllr Geoff Clough County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE (from 7.30pm) Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Pauline Smith Members of the public: 0

- To receive and approve (if accepted) apologies for absence: None
   Cllr Compton was experiencing internet difficulties and was therefore not present during all items.
- 2. To receive and approve (if appropriate) declarations of interest relating to matters to be discussed within this agenda. Cllr Smith has an on-going pecuniary interest at item 16.1 Finance: Approval of Clerk/RFO salary. No other interests were declared.
- To confirm minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021
   The minutes were unanimously approved as an accurate record.
- 4. Public Participation (20 minutes maximum): No members of the public were present.

## 5. Report from Suffolk County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

# 5.1 **Roundells (x2)** have been painted on the road.

- 1. Low Street driving towards Ixworth
- 2. Ixworth Road/Low Street coming into the village

# 5.2 **The Triangle** (The Green/bottom of Davey's Lane)

Cllr Spicer had suggested to the Trustees that they may wish to take the Triangle on under licence from Suffolk County Council. It is understood that the Trustees have declined the offer.

Cllr Spicer has suggested that this may be something that the parish council would wish to undertake.

**Q: What would this mean?** Suffolk County Council would not transfer ownership of the Triangle to Bardwell Parish Council, but it may be possible to take over responsibility of it under licence.

A licence would permit the parish council to make improvements; it (the pc) would also become responsible for ongoing maintenance at its (the pc's) own expense. There would not be any funding provided by Suffolk County Council.

Action for June meeting: Agenda item to consider the above.

# 5.3 Drain opposite Beech Farm

During Cllr Spicer's visit to Bardwell with SCC highways engineer Francesca Clarke, FC has noted damage to grip and drain in the vicinity of Beech Farm. The drain should have been dealt with during the latest works to resolve the fooding issues at The Green; it is likely that large vehicles have damaged the grip: she will discuss with Amanda Mayes (SCC flooding team) - possibly a wooden post could be installed to identify the grip location when repaired, to prevent future damage (subject to SCC permission/approval).

- 5.4 **Legion Rise** Broken Kerbstones and grills: Cllr Spicer and Francesca Clarke viewed damage, which is now identified on SCC Report-it site as being scheduled for repair. Report ref 313955 works ordered 25/03/21
- 5.5 **Low Street** blocked drains Did not visit with FR but aware that they have been reported.
- 5.6 **Bardwell Primary School** Parking restrictions. Cllr Spicer is sympathetic to the school's issues of taxis being unable to park outside the school gates due to parking restrictions, but cannot see a case for applying to alter the yellow lines. She is hopeful that an alternative solution can be found.

## 5.7 Locality Budget grants to Community Field Allotments

Bardwell Parish council expressed appreciation to both Cllr Spicer and Cllr Smith for their contributions towards sheds and bases for the allotments. Cllr Spicer has provided £994 from her locality budget and Cllr Smith £1,000.

## 6. Report from Ward Councillor Andrew Smith: No report

## 7. Chairman's report

**Facebook:** Following the concerns raised at the March meeting regarding bad language used on the Bardwell Community Covid-19 Facebook group page, the chairman confirmed that there have been no similar incidents since.

## 8. Dog fouling issues

8.1 **To note:** 4 signs reminding pet owners to clean up after their dogs, provided by West Suffolk Council at no cost to the parish, have been installed by the chairman.

# 8.2 To note: Review of dog bin provision.

The chairman confirmed that he will be meeting with Andrew Harvey (Compliance and Performance Officer, West Suffolk Council) for a site visit on 8 April, to discuss potential options included within WSC detailed response (attached) resulting from complaints re overflowing dog bins on occasions when they have not been emptied as scheduled.

Discussion highlighted that implementing the proposals as identified within the survey would involve a financial outlay for the parish council. However, this would be mitigated by the improved situation resulting from increased capacity of the proposed bins.

**Resolution:** The outcome of the site visit on 8th April and how/whether to progress changes will be an agenda item for discussion and decision at the May meeting.

## 9. Highways matters

9.1	To confirm that previously discussed highways matters have now been resolved or work is scheduled.	
	Quaker Lane:	Tarmac has ben laid along road edge abutting grassed verge.
	Quaker Lane:	Blocked drain outside Trezells - works ordered 23 March 2021 ref 308620
	Legion Rise/Quaker Lane	: Drain and kerb stones - work has been confirmed as ordered
	Low Street:	Pothole ref 309679 - 29 March 2021 work completed
	Low Street:	2 x 30mph roundels have been painted on the road. It is too early to determine whether these have/will have any significant impact on traffic speed. A comment was received that they seem smaller than others seen elsewhere.
9.2	New or outstanding high	ways matters requiring attention.

# Low Street: Blocked Drains (x2) report no.301297 outstanding

Spring Road:	Drain severely damaged report no.304262 outstanding

# Village generally: The chairman considers that all of the gully's require clearing.

### Action clerk: Submit request to SCC

**Various locations:** Road markings The Green, Spring Road: Slow signs that were previously painted in the road have become worn/barely visible. Likewise various give way signs to be checked for similar issues.

# Action/Clerk: Submit request for reinstatement to SCC

# 10. Traffic Calming/Speeding

10.1 **To note** the installation of the 30 mph (x2) roundels on Low Street

It is too early to determine whether these have had/will have any significant impact on traffic speed.

A comment was received that they seem smaller than others seen elsewhere.

Cllr Sanderson expressed the view that roundels should also be installed on Spring Road.

10.2 **"A Conversation about Speeding**" was held via Zoom on 8<sup>th</sup> March, presented by the Police and Suffolk County Council. During the presentation details were provided of a 2 year project during which ANPR cameras will be temporarily installed in appropriate village locations across the county.

A recording of the presentation is publicly available, together with associated documents, at: <u>https://www.salc.org.uk/2021/03/10/a-conversation-about-speeding-2</u>

Cllrs who had viewed the presentation considered it to be worthwhile.

Cllr Compton has submitted a request for Bardwell to be included in the 2 year ANPR project and is hopeful that the application, which will require the approval of Suffolk County Councillor Joanna Spicer, will be successful. If successful Suffolk Roadsafe representative will meet with Cllr Compton to establish an appropriate location site.

The data extracted from automated number plate recognition cameras purchased by SCC is for education purposes not enforcement: the speed data cannot be cannot be used as evidence to prosecute in court. However, advisory letters will be issued to speeding motorists. The data will also be used to determine whether additional resources are required in areas to reduce speeds.

# 11. Suffolk Quiet Lanes Project

Stanton Parish Council has submitted a number of roads/lanes to be designated as Quiet Lanes. Bardwell Parish Council is asked to consider whether it will support the submission of those lanes, which continue beyond the Stanton parish boundary into Bardwell:

- Wyken Road and Glassfield Road cross the parish boundaries of Stanton and Bardwell
- Davey's Lane within the parish of Bardwell continues on from Wyken Road
- Knox Lane within the parish of Bardwell continues on from Glassfield Road
- With the exception of Knox Lane (30mph) the others are covered by the national speed limit (60mph).
- Overall, councillors do not see any merit in designating the identified roads/lanes as Quiet Lanes and had dismissed consideration of the project following information received during the latter part of 2020.
- See attachments relating to Quiet Lanes Q&A together with views expressed by Councillors.

**Proposal:** That Bardwell Parish Council should proceed to the consultation stage but with a maximum budget of £100.00. This is on the understanding that Bardwell Parish Councillors see no merit in this project (for the Bardwell areas identified). However, in view of the fact that the submission has been made (by Stanton Parish Council without consulting Bardwell Parish Council) it is considered that residents should have the opportunity to submit their views. The outcome of the consultation process is not binding on the parish council. At the present time the opinion is that should there be any costs associated with signage or any other aspect, and unless there can be proven benefits - not yet identified - the project will not receive the requisite approval from Bardwell Parish Council.

**Resolution:** The proposal to proceed to the consultation stage in accordance with the proposal was approved.

# 12. Community Speed Watch report – Cllr Compton - refer also to item 10

Community speed watch team has been unable to operate during lockdown. However, there are plans to hold several sessions in the coming weeks.

- **13. Planning** see details attached.
- Planning application consultations received from West Suffolk Council for discussion/response
  DC/21/0575/TCA Vine Farm, Up Street, Bardwell: No objections
  DC/21/0510/LH Booty Hall, The Green, Bardwell: No objections
  DC/21/0506/HH- Booty Hall, The Green, Bardwell: No objections
  DC/21/0395/TPO | TPO 302(1973) The Old Rectory, Up Street, Bardwell: No objections
  DC/21/0509/HH The Pines, Old Mill Court, Bardwell: No objections
  DC/21/0300/LB 1 Old Baptist Chapel, Chapel Cottage, Low Street, Bardwell No objections
  (note: responded to prior to meeting following details having been circulated to and agreed by councillors)
- 13.2Planning applications decided by planning authority since March meeting See attached details<br/>DC/21/0191/TCA Brook Cottage, School Lane, Bardwell<br/>DC/21/0153/TCA St Peter and St Paul's Church, Bardwell<br/>DC/21/0004/HH The Pines, 5 Old Mill Court, BardwellDecided | No objections<br/>Refused
- 13.3 To note that Poultry Farm Cottage, Bowbeck has been demolished: Parish Council agreed (via email) prior to meeting to formally notify West Suffolk Council.

## 14. Community Field

- 14.1 Grant funding towards sheds and bases:
  To note that Ward Cllr Smith has agreed £1,000 from his locality budget (received);
  Suffolk County Cllr Spicer has agreed £994 from her locality budget.
  Havebury Housing: £2,500 of the approved grant is earmarked for use towards sheds and bases.
  Cllr Smith will obtain quotations for sheds and proposed bases.
  Any residual monies from the allotments grant allocation will be utilised towards drainpipes and waterbutts.
- 14.2 Paths: To note that work to extend the existing provision has commenced today: 6th April.During the previous weekend a number of trees and whips were moved from the proposed path route.A dumper truck has been hired for the initial work.

Cllrs Ruffles and Babraff, together with Graham Hunt and Mark Hamilton were thanked for carrying out this work. The Town and Country Landscapes hope to commence their element of the work in May.

Cllr Ruffles had highlighted that the paint spray obtained to mark out the paths was substandard. More is required: he will identify an alternative brand/source. (Clerk's note: since the meeting 4 cans of an alternative make identified by Cllr Ruffles have been purchased).

- (Clerk's note: since the meeting 4 cans of an alternative make identified by clir kulles have been purchased).
- 14.3 **Sensory area planting for community field**: To consider proposals re sensory plants previously circulated by Cllr Sanderson (see attached)

Cllrs were appreciative of the suggestions in the proposal. Cllrs Sanderson and Babraff suggested that the cost of the plants may be less sourced locally and suggested visiting Hillcrest.

- **Resolution:** The proposal was agreed. The Clerk will contact Hillcrest to enquire whether it is possible to arrange an account for plant purchases.
- Clerk's Note: Following the meeting an account was arranged with Hillcrest. Cllrs Sanderson and Babraff purchased plants and 2 bags of compost which they then planted close to two benches.

Deadline for utilising grant from Cllr Smith's locality grant £950 (provided towards purchase of plants) 14.4 Whilst the official deadline has now passed, ClIr Smith asked to be kept informed of time scales,

#### 14.5 Havebury grant:

Cllr Sanderson has requested 50% of the approved grant funding from Havebury be released now that work on the paths has commenced.

14.6 Community Orchard - Cllr Babraff advised that two apples trees have died.

The clerk highlighted the necessity of these being replaced.

Action: Cllr Babraff will identify those which have died and advise the clerk.

Clerk's note: Since the meeting Cllr Babraff has confirmed that only 1 tree has died and therefore needs replacing:

"Chivers Delight" The community orchard was carefully planned with fruit trees specific to the East Anglian region. The Clerk is seeking a source to replace with the same cultivar but seems that this may now have to be in the autumn.

#### 15. **The Great British Spring Clean**

The parish council is not presently able to organise the annual village litterpick.

Proposal: Subject to councillors being in agreement, residents who wish to (individuals and families) could borrow the parish council equipment to litter-pick independently during their daily walks.

# Resolution: Councillors agreed to the proposal. Action: Clerk

#### 16. Finance

- 16.1 Financial Report - Excel spreadsheet circulated to councillors (see attached) Invoices approved total: £1,793.78
- 16.2 Audit: The Clerk has begin preparing the 2020/21 accounts for audit.
- 16.3 **Insurance:** An insurance renewal notice will be received imminently from Came & Co: To note that it is intended to seek alternative quotations as a comparison.

#### 17. **Clerk's report**

17.1 Future meetings: Latest update/advice from government re meetings after 6<sup>th</sup> May; covid secure requirements and what this means in practice.

It is widely hoped that an application to the High Court (Hearing date: 21 April) to enable the provision of meetings of Local Authorities by remote means e.g. zoom, which was implemented 21st March 2020 (by the Coronavirus Act 2020) and due to expire on 7th May 2021, will be extended beyond this date.

The consequence of this provision not being extended will result in decisions being made by parish councils via zoom (for example) from 7th May 2021, being unlawful.

At the present time the Annual Village Meeting is scheduled for 25th May via Zoom.

Further consideration to this issue will be given at the May meeting (via Zoom 4th May) when the High Court judgement should be known.

**Consultation - Local authority remote meetings: call for evidence.** It was agreed that the clerk will respond to this consultation in favour of councils retaining the ability to hold remote meetings.

17.2 Defibrillator training: To note that arrangements for defibrillator training (when permitted) are in progress. The trainer does not expect payment, however a donation to the West Suffolk Hospital WiSH Charity would be appreciated.

Resolution: The parish council agreed to provide a donation as requested: Amount to be confirmed.

- 18. Annual Parish Meeting scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Zoom: Matters for consideration. Details have been included within April BVN and will also included within May issue, requesting village organisations to submit a report by 10th May, which will be collated and available on line by 15th May. Attendees will have the opportunity to raise questions/make comments about any village matters including the Quiet Lanes project.
- 19. Police report -Various emails have been received during the month and circulated to councillors on receipt Constable's County, the police newsletter, is available to read on the Suffolk Police website: www,suffolk.police.uk/your-area/snt-newsletters-2021
- BPFA report Clir Sanderson: AGM 24th May Via Zoom MUGA has been in use for football and tennis.

# 21. Tithe Barn report – Cllr Smith

Tithe Barn is currently closed for hires but will be opened for polling on 6th May. The committee will be meeting to consider arrangements for reopening and cleaning before and after individual 'hires.'

22. Correspondence requiring consideration/response

# 22.1 Proposal from resident re Community Project/Art Exhibition

Resident wishes to discuss their idea with the clerk prior to details being submitted to parish council. Action Clerk

22.2 Antisocial behaviour by footballer on the community field (urinating close to bench prior to commencement of match) - see attached.

Cllr Sanderson was contacted directly by the resident. The matter was brought it to the attention of the football club prior to the parish council being informed.

**Comments**: The manager of the football club was at an alternative game on this particular occasion but normally would be present and would inform visiting players of their responsibilities and the availability of toilets at the pavilion. It was suggested that if the manager is not available that his deputy should provide the same advice to visiting players.

The pavilion changing rooms are not currently open due to covid-19 restrictions.

Cllr Ruffles advised that that on this occasion the toilets were not open (covid-19 restrictions).

When the issue arises it always appears to be visiting players at fault.

A number of comments were made which suggested that there is nothing further that the BPFA/Football club/PC can do and that as previously suggested the witness needs to call the police. However, the chances of the police having the resources to attend are remote.

The law says that urinating in public without the intention of exposing oneself and causing alarm will be normally challenged under the local bylaw and the public Order Act 1986. If it can be shown that a person did so deliberately to cause alarm, then they go on the sex offenders register. *(There is nothing to suggest in this instance that the player involved was intending to cause alarm).* 

A contrary view was that the parish council does have a responsibility to find a solution to this issue. Dogs urinating against play equipment was deemed to be a major issue and was dealt with; Adult males urinating in public is a serious issue and a solution should likewise be identified.

If the toilets are not available one option - not ideal but as a starting point for discussion was that during

matches an enclosure surrounding a specially dug filter bed/hole in the ground could be provided for those urgently requiring the facility. It is essential to be discreet - there are children - and others - present.

Another suggestion was that the football club should write to all visiting teams before hand detailing the available facilities as well as identifying the location of toilets to visiting players when they arrive (which they normally do), and ensure that they understand that if an issue arises that that the entire team/club could be banned from Bardwell due to the actions of one player.

There is no easy solution, it relies on the integrity of the individuals concerned to do the right thing. Cllr Sanderson explained that a few months ago the Suffolk FA wrote to all clubs about their behaviour generally speaking about the necessity of respecting places that they visit.

**Resolution**: Cllr Sanderson, as the parish council representative to the BPFA (and also Chairman of BPFA) will write to the football club expressing the parish council's concerns and requesting action.

Actioned: See attached letter.

22.3 Request for donation to Atrial Fibrillation Association (copy attached) - Previously circulated. **Resolution:** To include on S137 requests for consideration 2021/22. Clerk will advise correspondent (Actioned).

- 22.4 Safeguarding Course: Community Action Suffolk Online Introduction to Safeguarding on 23rd April. Cost £27.00: Details have been circulated *No expressions of interest received*.
- 22.5 S137 2020/21 Appreciative letters/emails thanking the parish council for is donations have been received from all beneficiaries.
- 23. Future dates/meetings for noting and reports from any meetings attended 25th May 2021 - Annual Village Meeting, 7pm
- 24. Questions to the Chair: None
- 25. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 4th May 2021 via Zoom

Meeting ended at 9.03pm

## Attachment ref

## Item 11. Views expressed by councillors regarding Quiet Lanes

- Overall, councillors do not see any merit in designating the identified roads/lanes as Quiet Lanes and had dismissed consideration of the project following information received during the latter part of 2020.
- With the exception of Knox Lane (30mph) the others are covered by the national speed limit (60mph).
- Cllrs comments were that:

Whilst speed limits are not changed by the designation, it does put a slight emphasis on motorists be aware that they are be sharing the route with walkers, horses etc. and therefore requires care and consideration of other road users: In theory this should cause motorists to drive cautiously/appropriately.

- There could be a benefit in engaging with residents at the consultation stage: there may be those who believe that Quiet Lanes designation would be beneficial. There would be minimal financial outlay for the consultation stage and this does not tie the parish council into moving forward if it continues to consider that the project is inappropriate.
- Designating Glassfield Road/Knox Lane may indicate that Knox Lane is not suitable for further development.
- It is a source of frustration that Bardwell Parish Council was informed of the inclusion of Bardwell lanes/roads
  within Stanton's application at such a late stage, particularly as Quiet Lanes as a concept does not appear to
  be appropriate for the locations identified. However, Stanton and Bardwell have worked well together
  previously over planning matters of mutual concern and we would not wish this matter to cause disharmony
  between the two councils.
- There doesn't seem to be any value to Bardwell at all.
- Quiet Lanes designation will not have any effect at all; there are better things to spend money on; this is just window dressing. Whilst would classify Stanton as friends of Bardwell, he would not support the project.
- GPS directs motorists along these roads/lanes.
- Could this lull pedestrians into a false sense of security; doubts expressed as to how it would work.
- Costs: It is believed (but to be confirmed) that the cost of signage will be covered by the project grant. The only other costs should be printing costs relevant to the consultation stage, which will be minimal.
- Addendum ref item 11. Quiet Lanes: Comments from Cllr Compton received following the meeting due to experiencing internet connection difficulties during this item and was therefore unable to participate in the discussion: I think I would be in agreement with the other councillors. While I quite like the idea of a "Quiet Lane" I imagine something a bit more remote than Davey's Lane and the surrounding roads which are in use constantly by commercial traffic as well as locals. I think most of the locals do appreciate that these roads have a multitude of different users, on foot, horse, bicycle as well as motor vehicles, and act accordingly. It might be possible to inform local people via the BVN and local newspapers but the wider traffic passing through could be more difficult. Someone on a mission to meet a delivery deadline probably wouldn't be very interested in whether or not the road was a Quiet Lane.

# What is Quiet Lanes Suffolk?

Quiet Lanes Suffolk is a county-wide project supported by Suffolk County Council's Suffolk 2020 Fund, the East Suffolk Community Partnerships and the East Suffolk Greenprint Forum. Our aim is to benefit everyone who lives in, works in and visits our county, by creating Quiet Lanes to encourage the use of more active forms of travel such as walking, cycling and horse-riding. Not only will this improve people's wellbeing it will support the drive towards making Suffolk carbon neutral by 2030 in response to the climate emergency.

# What is a Quiet Lane?

A Quiet Lane is a nationally recognised designation of single-track road (i.e. no line markings), typically with less than 1,000 vehicles using it per day. They are routes where visitors and locals can enjoy the natural surroundings and use them for activities such as cycling, horse-riding, jogging and walking. However, the idea is not to restrict motor vehicles on these rural routes, but to encourage considerate use of the road, so they can be shared and enjoyed by all.

# Who can use Quiet Lanes?

Quiet Lanes are for everyone!

# Is a Quiet Lane a traffic calming measure?

While a Quiet Lane encourages drivers to exercise caution when travelling along it to respect other users, it isn't a traffic calming measure.

# Can additional Quiet Lanes be added?

We believe the current number of nominations is likely to be all we can resource within the original twelvemonth funding window that the 2020 fund allows. However, it is still possible to nominate potential Quiet Lanes and we will add these to the list for future consideration should another opportunity arise to develop the scheme further.

# How do I go about finding out if a lane that I use is going to be made into a Quiet Lane?

Your Parish Council will be able to give you that information, find their <u>contact details here</u> (this link will take you to an external site).

# What can I do if my Parish Council haven't registered the lane with Quiet Lanes Suffolk?

Unfortunately, the funding for this project is already allocated to parishes who registered with Quiet Lanes Suffolk by the required deadline. However, your Parish Council could contact <u>Quiet Lanes Suffolk</u> to register an interest in any future schemes.

# How do I find a map of what Quiet Lanes are being proposed or are already designated?

We will soon have a map on this website, please check back in April.

# Will motorists take any notice of the signs?

An important part of the project is our publicity campaign to raise awareness of Quiet Lanes and the way they should be used.

The Quiet Lane is a road where there are no speed restrictions. Is it safe for walkers / cyclists / horseriders to use?

All roads outside the built-up area of a village are derestricted. That doesn't mean drivers can or should drive at 60 mph though. The Highway Code instructs drivers that Quiet Lanes are 'places where people could be using the whole of the road for a range of activities ... You should drive slowly and carefully and be prepared to stop to allow people extra time to make space for you to pass them in safety'.

# Who is responsible for installing and maintaining the signs?

Suffolk County Council Highways.

# How will signage clutter be avoided in rural locations?

The designated lane is required by law to be identified by an entry and exit sign. Parish Councils, Quiet Lanes Suffolk and Suffolk Highways Authority all recognise the need to minimise sign clutter and use the smallest sign allowed under government regulations. Repeater signs may occasionally be found on longer lanes. Signs are mounted on existing posts where practical, manufactured to highways specification and designed to be long lasting and low maintenance. In conservation areas signposts that are in keeping with the area may be used.

# My home is on a Quiet Lane, how will it affect vehicular access?

Quiet Lane designation does not impose traffic calming or access restrictions for any residents or businesses along the route.

# My business is on a Quiet Lane how will it affect me?

Rural businesses are often found along narrow country lanes, and Quiet Lane designation does not impose traffic calming or access restrictions so there should be no negative impacts to your business. Indeed, for many businesses in the leisure and tourist industry, being situated on a Quiet Lanes is seen as a marketing opportunity.

# As a driver, what are my responsibilities?

Your responsibilities are governed by Highway Code Rule 218: 'Home Zones and Quiet Lanes. These are places where people could be using the whole of the road for a range of activities ... You should drive slowly and carefully and be prepared to stop to allow people extra time to make space for you to pass them in safety.' In essence, expect and respect!

I represent a group outside of Suffolk who are interested in the Suffolk Quiet Lanes project. Who can I contact to find out more?

Email quietlanessuffolk@gmail.com for more information.

# Who is running the project and how has it been funded?

This is a community-driven, volunteer-led project. Parish Councils all over Suffolk are supporting their communities in their strong desire to be able to continue using their rural back lanes for recreation, exercise and sustainable travel in more safety. A small team of volunteers have developed a new 'self-help' model which involves minimal costs and are supporting Parish Councils in the use of that to proceed through the process to get their lanes legally designated as 'Quiet Lanes'. The money that is being spent on signage has been allocated by Suffolk County Council from their Suffolk 2020 Fund and East Suffolk Council, and is one of several county-wide community-led projects to get funding.

# Will there be a complete network which joins villages across the county?

Parish Councils are working together where they have suitable lanes that cross parish boundaries to create a network of Quiet Lanes.

# What's the difference between a Quiet Lane, a bridleway and a Green Lane?

While a Quiet Lane is a single-track piece of road, both Bridleways and Green Lanes are unsurfaced. The difference between the two is that Bridleways are for walkers, horse riders and cyclists, while motor vehicles are allowed to use Green Lanes.

What does the Countryside Code say about Quiet Lanes?

The latest version of the Countryside Code can be read here.

Quiet Lanes are a precious resource on many of our doorsteps. Now, with this recognition, we will encourage residents to make more use of the countryside around them rather than always getting in the car, and reap the associated health and environmental benefits.

"https://www.quietlanessuffolk.co.uk/faqs