

Project Completion Notification

Byway 4 Elmdon and Byway 8 Littlebury

Problem & scheme objective:

The existing route with its status as Byway provides an off-road motorised vehicular, carriage driving, walking, cycling and horse riding opportunity for the local community and the public in general. The lane becomes highly waterlogged and rutted due to motorised usage and is very difficult to negotiate and difficult to use by some users. The lane forms part of the Ickneild way which is a long distance route from Dorset to Norfolk.

At present the lane is naturally surfaced for most of its length, having had some work carried out about 10 or more years ago using road planings. Some sections are open and exposed to the elements while the majority is enclosed by trees and hedges. The constant use by motorised vehicles and the nature of the lane due to being narrow in places along with natural springs and field drainage systems that are running into the lane due to a lack of side ditches which have disappeared through the ages, make the route almost impassable for most parts of the year. Drainage is an issue in places where the byway narrows between trees and hedgerows.

Therefore the purpose of the scheme was to undertake improvement works and clearance, involving cutting back vegetation, remove trees leaning across the byway, improving drainage, cutting grips, laying crushed material topped with planings and where possible creating a fall or camber to help water runoff and help the movement of water over and through material in order to improve accessibility for all users.

The works were completed January 2019. Below are pictures taken before and after the works.

BEFORE





AFTER







