Request on road safety grounds for improved signage for Bridleways 24 & 29

(place references given in What3Words)

The Parish Council is concerned about the safety of pedestrians and cyclists on the busy main approach road into Waldringfield stretching from from Waldringfield Heath into the village [specifically - Ipswich Rd from the Newbourne Rd crossroads (upwardly.hesitate,precautions) to the junction with School Rd/Fishpond R (sinkhole.certainty.climber).]

This winding narrow stretch of road with thickly vegetated verges is a very hazardous for pedestrians and cyclists, with very little refuge available from oncoming vehicles.

The increase in traffic along this road towards Waldringfield will continue with the 2,000 house development under way at Brightwell Lakes and other major housing developments in prospect. We have observed, especially during this last summer's fine weather, a growing number of pedestrians, runners and cyclists using the road. These users are not visible to traffic until it is almost upon them. The risks have increased recently since the road was earlier this year returned to the national speed limit after the temporary 30mph imposed during the East Anglian windfarm cable works.

We consider the issue needs to be addressed before a tragedy occurs. We are asking for improved signage to make clear and to encourage an alternative and safer route.

1. *The bridleway (24 and 29) running along the track from Waldringfield Heath to School Lane provides an effective bypass of this dangerous road and is used by some local pedestrians, cyclists, and horse riders. However, the signs at both ends of the bridleway route are poorly sited and lack a destination indication. Walkers and cyclists, including some living in the village, have indicated when questioned their ignorance of this route. We propose new prominently located signs:*

    (a) one at Waldringfield Heath worded "Bridleway to Waldringfield" (where there is an existing sign at onions.giant.shelving);

    (b) one at the entrance to School Lane worded "Bridleway towards Brightwell Lakes and Martlesham" (to be located two metres towards the road from the present sign which is against and partly buried in the hedge at pacifist.fond.brother).

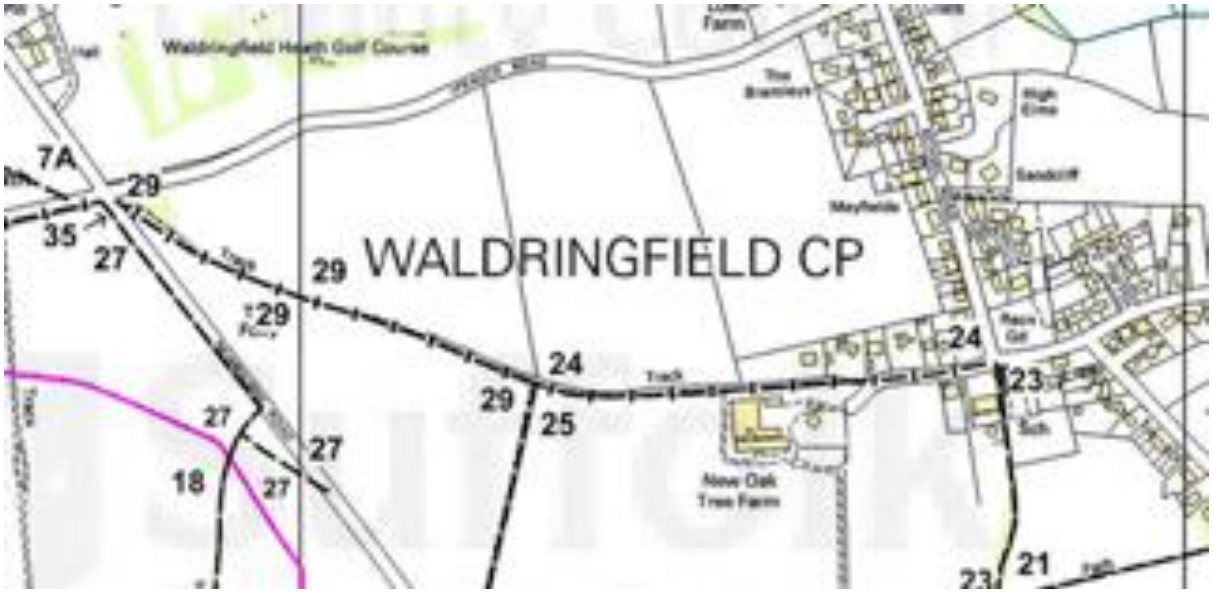
2. *To supplement these we are also asking for route confirmation posts where there are junctions in the bridleway*

    (a) with a track leading to the farm (dishing.notch.handbook);

    (b) with a track through the farmyard (about challenge.bonkers.reap)

    (c) with footpath 25 towards Newbourne (about post.roof.commended). There is currently no signage at this point. The new sign needs to be a finger post.

3. *There is a confusing plethora of directional signs at the Waldringfield Heath crossroads (at magically.shears.dripping) where, in addition to the road crossing, two bridleways and two footpaths also converge (Bridleways 29 and 35 and Footpaths 7 and 27). The footpath/bridleway fingerpost is rotten and collapsing). The post needs replacing and we ask that the fingerpost has added (additional to the existing west-facing bridleway finger and south-facing footpath finger) a new finger at a diagonal pointing south-east across the road towards the Waldringfield track and labelled "Bridleway to Waldringfield".*







Sign at Waldringfield Heath to be replaced by one indicating “To Waldringfield”



Sign at entrance to School Lane in Waldringfield. Fingerpost to be moved to more prominent position two metres away from hedge with new bridleway sign stating “Towards Brightwell Lakes and Martlesham”. The sign on the post for Footpath 23 to be retained.



Where the bridleway (to the right) diverges from the farm lane. A bridleway confirmation sign to be installed here.



The bridleway in use 31st October 2026



The plethora of signs at Waldringfield Heath. The footpath post is rotten and collapsing. It should be replaced with an additional finger pointing south east across the road stating “Bridleway towards Waldringfield”.