

Gislingham Footpath Warden Report - 19th January 2026

Footpath Signs

At long last, all the outstanding requests for replacement footpath posts have now been completed. There are a few new inland, that need sorting, which I will do when the weather is a bit better.

Query FP 42/003 – Ditch

On the 19th December, I met with Kevin Verlander the SCC PROW Officer to inspect the ditch on FP42/003. There has been some confusion over the years if the footpath did follow the route through the ditch. Upon closer inspection and referring to the definitive map, we both agreed that the official route turns right, opposite FP56 and follows the hedge to the footbridge where it joins FP59. The route is covered in branches, so Kevin will be requesting a maintenance team to make a clearing, so that the footpath has a clear route. There is a FP post on the corner of the hedge which is obscured, so I will arrange to clear this to make the post more obvious. I would imagine, that where the ditch is situated, a barrier will need to be made to direct walkers in the correct route. This more for health & safety, due to the depth of the ditch. I will confirm when this work is completed.

I have attached a map to explain the location. The pink line will be the official route. The 'Desire Line Walked', will be the unofficial route.

New Dog Poo signs

I have observed that the signs at the beginning of FP30/Coldham Lane and at 59A/46 at the corner the Charity Meadow, they keep being pulled up and thrown away. I therefore propose to replace them set in post-mix. I had to do this on a couple of posts on the Charity Meadow a few years ago, so I will need to purchase the mix. I will also be putting up more signs but attached the footpath posts.

Redhouse Farm Footpaths

I had an email from Kevin on the 24th December to inform me they had received a complaint from some walkers that they had been accosted by the Farmer at Redhouse Farm, complaining about walking on his land. I am yet to get confirmation where they were exactly walking, so not sure if they did stray away from the official footpath. I did explain to Kevin that the bridleway that goes south from the farm towards the corner of the field to the railway line is not the correct width, plus the footpath from the Finningham Road to the farm has never been wheel marked. Also of the past history of the altercations with the landowner. He was going to seek advise from his colleagues who will be aware of the situation. I was led to believe that all correspondence would be through the Land Agent in future. I am now awaiting an update from Kevin.

Martyn Bryant
Gislingham Footpath Warden