

SOUTH LOPHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Valley Farm
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South Lopham
Diss
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Dear Sir

South Lopham Footpaths

The Parish Council has recently conducted a survey of all the public rights of way in the village as the number of complaints about the poor state of our paths has been increasing in recent months. The survey has highlighted the poor condition of many of the paths, some of which are impassable, while others are well kept and easy to access.

Landowners have a statutory duty to ensure that any public path on their land is accessible and the NFU provide advice on how best to maintain these rights of way. (Copies of this advice is available from the Clerk and should soon be available on our website.)

At the September council meeting it was agreed to publish the results of the footpath survey on the parish website and to write to as many landowners as possible, particularly where paths are over grown and poorly maintained, to actively encourage landowners to address any issues. We have also committed to ensuring that any missing or broken finger-posts will be replaced and Norfolk County Council have been contacted to implement this work.

I am writing to you as a landowner, who has one or more paths on your land, asking that you comply with the requirement to keep paths accessible and any maintenance work is carried out in a timely manner. The NFU advises landowners that Autumn is a good time to clear and maintain footpaths. Where paths are in good order we wish to thank you for your support.

If there is help or advice the council can give you please let us know.

Yours faithfully

**Caroline Phillips, Mrs
Clerk to South Lopham Parish Council**

