

## **MAY 2025 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

### **SUFFOLK COUNTY ARCHIVES WINS MAJOR MUSEUMS AND HERITAGE AWARD**

The centralisation of the county's archives at the Hold in Ipswich between 2024-25 was intended to drive up standards and the quality of resources available to residents. This decision has now been vindicated after scooping the Community Engagement Programme of the Year title for its Arrivals project at the national Museums & Heritage Awards.

The judges said: "Comprehensive, thoughtful and effective, this winning engagement programme successfully reached beyond its organisation's traditional audience, achieving impressive results with a strong legacy."

Co-curated with diverse local community groups, it explored historical and contemporary migration experiences to Suffolk since the end of the Second World War.

The Museums & Heritage Awards celebrate the very best in the world of museums, galleries, and cultural and heritage visitor attractions. This year's shortlist included entrants from across the UK and 14 other countries.

There was a free exhibition which included items from Suffolk Archives' collections, as well as some on loan from communities across the county that celebrated different foods, clothing, traditions, and culture. There were also oral history recordings, stories of migrant entrepreneurs, and archive materials from the Ipswich and Suffolk Council for Racial Equality.

This award win is a great example of how engaging with local communities across the county to bring together diverse voices can tell the migration stories have shaped Suffolk's history.

Congratulations to everyone involved with this incredible collaboration between Suffolk Archives, local community groups, and artists.

## SUFFOLK LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY – PUBLIC CONSULTATION

I would like to draw your attention to the draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for Suffolk, which is currently out for public consultation until 11th June 2025.

The LNRS is aimed at addressing the decline in nature across Suffolk, and to help target actions on the ground to restore and enhance key species and habitats across the county. Suffolk County Council (SCC) is the ‘responsible authority’ and has been working closely with other local authorities, nature experts, and a wide range of interested organisations to prepare this draft for public consultation. We’re keen to gather as many views on it as possible from residents, landowners, community groups, businesses and decision makers through this consultation.

Proposed actions include the creation of wetlands, restoration of peatlands, planting of trees and hedgerows, and better management of existing woodlands and other habitats like grasslands. The measures proposed aim to impact not only the unique and diverse range of species within the county, but also to support wider environmental benefits, such as improving water quality, reducing flood risk, enhancing soil quality, and improving resilience to climate change.

SCC has been working in close collaboration with Norfolk County Council through the [Norfolk and Suffolk Nature Recovery Partnership](#) to connect and expand existing areas that are important for wildlife across the region’s landscapes. We anticipate this partnership approach being critical to delivering on the LNRS ambitions.

We ask everyone to review the contents of the document, including the species and habitats that have been prioritised for action, and to consider the measures proposed to support their recovery. A set of survey questions allow opinions to be gathered and for amendments or suggestions to be made to the document and the maps.

I would therefore ask that you consider, share and promote the consultation and the draft LNRS for Suffolk when working with your constituents and colleagues.

For the Suffolk consultation and survey visit [Local Nature Recovery Strategy - Suffolk County Council](#)

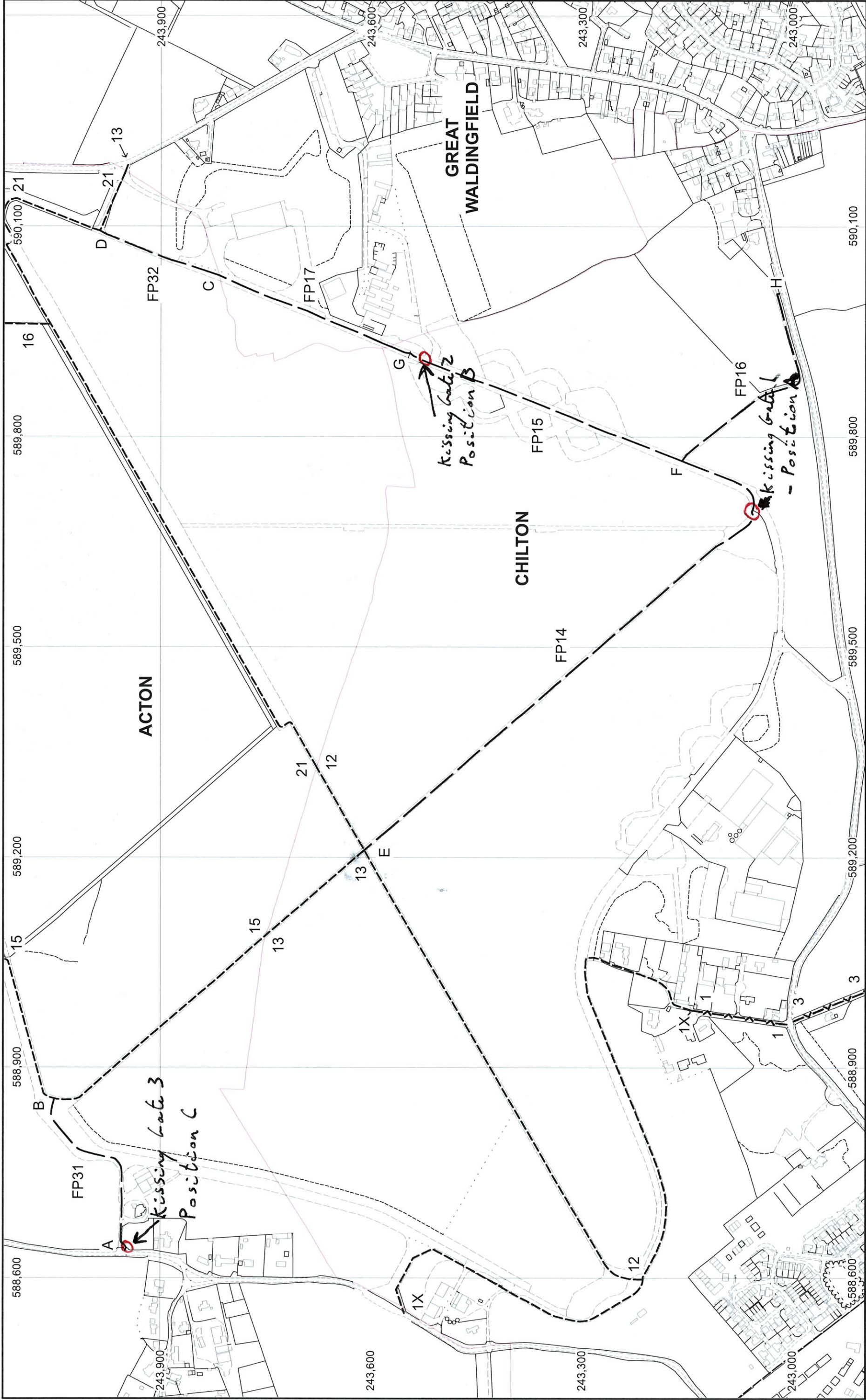
If you would like any further information, please contact [LNRS@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:LNRS@suffolk.gov.uk)

## **AIRFIELD RIGHTS OF WAY DESIGNATION UPDATE**

I am pleased to confirm that all of the three kissing gates on the airfield have been erected to safeguard the new rights of way between Acton, Chilton and Great Waldingfield.

This means that the new rights of way can shortly be designated as official routes, although these are not quite legally finalised. After checking in with officers, I have been told that this will be happening very shortly and I will keep the Parish Council and residents updated on this. In the meantime, please find the provisional route and situated gates map attached.





Scale: 1:5,000 at A3

Ordnance Survey MasterMap  
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- Footpaths to be dedicated
- Existing unaffected Public Footpath
- Existing unaffected Restricted Byway
- Definitive Map Parish Boundary



ACTON PUBLIC FOOTPATHS 31 AND 32, CHILTON PUBLIC  
FOOTPATHS 14, 15 AND 16, GREAT WALDINGFIELD PUBLIC  
FOOTPATH 17