

Form of application for Modification Order

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way for the County of Norfolk

To: Norfolk County Council

Of: County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 2SG

~~I/We~~, Helen Chester, on behalf

of South Lopham Parish Council, % Caroline Phillips - Clerk, Valley Farm, Low Common, South Lopham, Diss, IP22 2JT

hereby apply for an Order under Section 53(2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 modifying the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by (please delete as required):

~~deleting the footpath / bridleway / restricted byway / byway open to all traffic from to~~

~~adding the footpath / bridleway / restricted byway / byway open to all traffic from Fersfield Road to Fersfield Road~~

~~currently represented as Park Lane (a track), in the Parish of South Lopham upgrading/downgrading to a footpath / bridleway / restricted byway / byway open to all traffic/~~

~~the footpath / bridleway / restricted byway / byway open to all traffic from to~~

~~varying/adding to the particulars relating to the footpath / bridleway / restricted byway / byway open to all traffic~~

~~from to by providing that~~

and shown on the map accompanying this application.

~~I/We~~ attach copies of the following documentary evidence (including statements of witnesses) in support of this application:

- List of Documents
- OS explorer Map - sheet 230
- Bryants Map of Norfolk
- Fadens Map
- Tithe Map - South Lopham
- OS 1st Edition
- Bartholomews Map
- Inland Revenue Valuation Act Map
- Inspire Land Registry Map

Dated: 21st December 2020

Signed.....*H. C. Chester*.....

**Form of certificate of service of notice of
application for Modification Order**

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way for the County of Norfolk

Certificate of Service of Notice of Application for Modification Order

To: Norfolk County Council

of: County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 2SG

I/~~We~~ Helen Chester

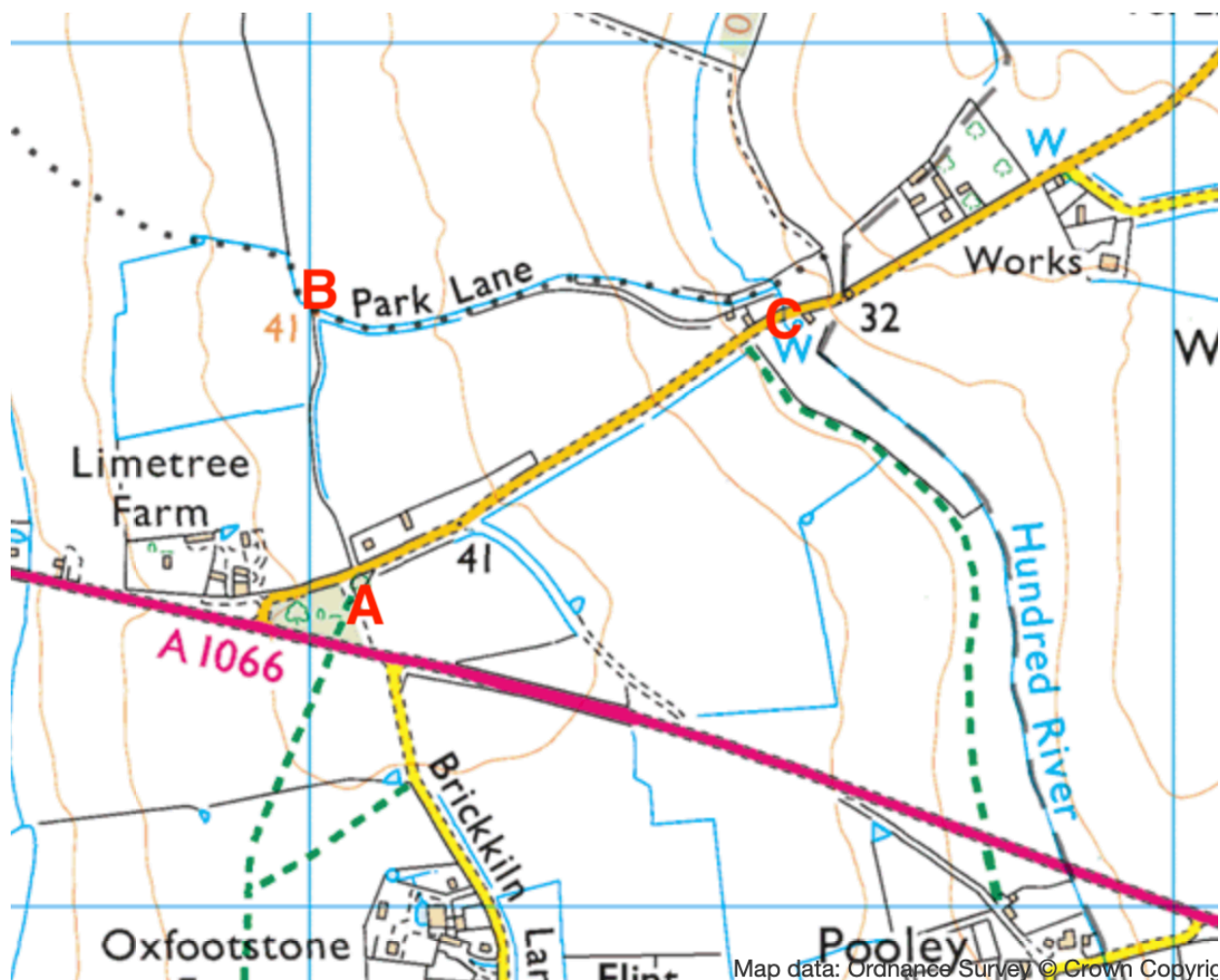
of South Lopham Parish Council, % Caroline Phillips - Clerk, Valley Farm, Low Common,
South Lopham, Diss, IP22 2JT

hereby certify that the requirements of paragraph 2 of Schedule 14 to the Wildlife and
Countryside Act 1981 have been complied with.

Dated 30th January 2021

Signed H. C. Chester

(on behalf of)
South Lopham Parish Council



Ordnance Survey 1:25000 scale map extract showing application route

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE OF HIGHWAY STATUS

7. In order to be able to modify the definitive map and statement, the Surveying Authority needs to have a discovery of evidence which shows, on the balance of probabilities, that highway rights exist. The use of the ‘balance of probabilities’ test rather than ‘beyond reasonable doubt’ was confirmed by the High Court in *Todd, Bradley v SOS for EFRA* [2004] 4 All ER 497.

8. The courts have given guidance on how evidence of highway status is to be considered. In *Fortune and Others v Wiltshire Council and Another* [2012] EWCA Civ 334, Lewison LJ said, at paragraph 22,

‘In the nature of things where an inquiry goes back over many years (or, in the case of disputed highways, centuries) direct evidence will often be impossible to find. The fact finding tribunal must draw inferences from circumstantial evidence. The nature of the evidence that the fact finding tribunal may consider in deciding whether or not to draw an inference is almost limitless. As Pollock CB famously directed the jury in *R v Exall* (1866) 4 F & F 922:

"It has been said that circumstantial evidence is to be considered as a chain, and each piece of evidence as a link in the chain, but that is not so, for then, if any one link broke, the chain would fall. It is more like the case of a rope composed