

Nayland to Stoke by Nayland Permissive Footpath Link



An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, there are green fields and a road. A river flows through the middle ground. In the background, there are more fields and a line of trees. The overall scene is a typical English countryside.

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In 2012, the Trustees of the Tendring Hall Estate approved in principle the creation of a permissive footpath linking Stoke by Nayland with Nayland by way of an extension to the existing Permissive Footpath which runs alongside the B1087. This proposal had been suggested to them earlier by the Hon. Secretary of the Conservation Society. Discussions followed and a suitable route was agreed with the Agent to the Tendring Hall Estate, Hector Wykes-Sneyd. The agreed route was via an extension beyond the pavement in Stoke Road, Nayland, continuing on the south side of the B1087 inside the hedges of 3 fields between Nayland and the existing public footpath to Tendring Farm. The link with the existing permissive path to Stoke by Nayland is made by crossing the B1087 at this point.

The Conservation Society agreed to partly fund the £2,000 estimated cost of the work with the aid of a grant from the Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Project Sustainable Development Fund which was applied for in early 2013.

The application for funding of 75% of the costs was successful and work started in March 2014, having been delayed by the weather.

The work involved reducing the width of the hedge in the first field beyond the Nayland village sign, which was mainly blackthorn. The bank was then graded to form a path. The existing fence was removed and a new fence erected approximately 4 metres into Knotts Fen.

The Tendring Estate's contractors carried out the work which was completed on March 25th.

About 30 members of Nayland and Stoke by Nayland communities attended an informal opening ceremony on Thursday 3rd April at which Hector Wykes-Sneyd cut a ribbon to symbolically open the path.

Regular litter picking will be undertaken by volunteers from the Conservation Society.

We are extremely grateful to the Tendring Hall Estate for enabling this project to go ahead, which will link the villages of Stoke by Nayland and Nayland by a direct and safe walking route and which we hope will be used by local walkers and visitors for many years to come.



Equipment moves in to clear the new path



The path cleared and taking shape



The path cleared and taking shape



Tendring Hall Estate contractors erect the fencing



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Fencing completed



Ready for opening: The sign asks walkers to keep dogs on leads



Ready for opening: as the Stoke Road pavement ends the permissive path begins



Richard Cave, John Partridge and Andora Carver litter picking before the opening



Villagers gather for the opening on 3rd April 2014



Hector Wykes-Sneyd, land agent for the Tendring Hall Estate, about to open the path



Hector Wykes-Sneyd declares the path open



Walkers head for Stoke by Nayland



Walking the permissive path; The Temple in the background