

Additional Notes

The Planning application, to which these notes may form part of, is for a scheme to create a community path on the east side of Freston Hill. It would become part of the route from Bourne Bridge in Ipswich to Shotley Gate. The road was improved in the 1960's and created a fast-flowing alignment (with set-back verges to achieve the minimum stopping sight distances appropriate for the road speed). Some of these verges have been allowed to become overgrown. By removing this overgrowth, not only would the verges be cleared which would benefit motoring safety, but they would become available for the construction of the proposed path. All affected trees and bushes will be assessed and a scheme for protection/surgery/removal will be developed. The initial opinion of our tree consultant is that works will have minimum affect on any important trees.

Our justification for the scheme...

- The carriageway is not wide enough to accommodate cyclists safely – given the fast traffic using the road
- The verge on the east side could be used to create a shared-use two-way path which would benefit commuter and leisure users etc.... healthy... inclusive society...
- It is the declared policy of Suffolk County Council to be England's greenest county, this path would contribute to the achievement of that inspiration.
- It is commonly found that schemes such as this proposed path have a much higher Cost-Benefit return for the community than other transportation projects, so representing excellent value for money.

The scheme would be the subject of discussion and agreement with SCC as the Highways Authority. Engineering aspects would be developed so that the completed works would be adopted by them. Signage, road and path markings and associated items, as well as path construction, kerbing and so forth would be agreed. The scheme can be implemented on Highways Land except for one small parcel of land (at Hill Cottage, opposite "The Boot" in order to achieve the minimum required path width).