

Bacton Parish Council discussed the proposed crossing closures at their monthly public meeting on 24th April 2017. The following are comments made and received at that meeting.

The land affected is primarily owned by Orwell Park Estate, Exors of the late John Gooderham and Bacton Football Club. Gooderhams closed and footpaths extinguished as Footpath 18 will be left in place via Cow Creek which will still be a pedestrian crossing. S19 will still have farm access. Ford Green Crossing closed and re-directed to Cows Creek west side of railway and to Bacton east side to then use Bacton Crossing redirection via Pound Hill. Councillors and parishioners were ok with the majority of the proposals put forward, however the Bacton Crossing proposal to close and redirect along B1113 and via Birch Close to use the railway bridge to which minimal improvements are proposed is a concern for the parish council.

A proposed development has scheduled to reduce the width of the road to allow single traffic to go through the bridge. This has not been put through the safety audit and has not been approved. There is no footpath along Broad Road and the B1113 is a very busy road and a designated lorry route with no footpath. There is some speed data available to reflect this from the local SID units in operation on B1113. Suffolk County Councillor Andrew Stringer will be in a position to assist with providing this data should it be required. Cllrs and members of the public felt that the existing route is far less dangerous than the proposed re-route along the B1113. Councillors have some serious concerns with the Bacton Crossing and the re-direction along the B1113 and strongly objected to the Bacton crossing closure. The clerk was asked to forward the parish council and parishioners comments to Network Rail.