

Secretary of State for Transport c/o Transport and Works Act Orders Unit General Counsels Office Department for Transport Zone 1/18 Great Minster House 33 Horseferry Road London SW1P 4DR



2nd May 2017

Network Rail Essex and Others Level Crossing Reduction Order

Dear Secretary of State, Currently part of the ex

Currently part of the existing footpath passes through my yard at and crosses over the railway towards the village of Widdington as seen on the plan, sheet 16 (E08 – Henham

Level Crossing). I do not object to the closure of this crossing as it is and always has been a danger to those who use it.

I do however solemnly object to Network Rails proposal to reroute part of the existing footpath and create a new footpath on my land (ref: Footpath between points P104 and P105 on plan). To run along the boundary of my field parallel with North Hall Rd for approximately 225 meters in length. There is absolutely no reason why the new footpath should not use the existing roadway and not my field. When the M11 motorway was built in 1975 the footpath was rerouted then and walkers have used the roadway as the designated footpath for 42 years. It has been perfectly adequate for walkers to do so for all these years so I do not see why that should change now. The only difference being the footpath would run in the opposite direction along North Hall Rd. I enclose photographs of said road to show the existing footpath and the opposite direction of the roadway adjacent to my field. As one can observe from the photographs the section of road I propose walkers use is actually straighter than the section of road that is the currently used which has a bend to it, this would make walking actually safer.

I bought the field in 1984 without encumbrance and therefore I will not accept the financial burden and responsibility of public access to this field. I run a small holding and use the field for grazing my livestock. During Springtime I have a concentration of sheep lambing in this area as it has tree plantation as protection and good grass grazing for them. I know they are completely safe as all gates are

padlocked and no one has access to them. I do not want a footpath to pass through this area creating the possibility of open gates, rubbish left and dogs/people worrying my pregnant ewes and young lambs. There is also the worry of one of my Rams or Bull charging and butting a walker which could result in life changing injuries.

I do not wish to lose the road frontage to my field due to a footpath being present. When I access my field by tractor/and trailer/large farm implements these and the gates will block the proposed footpath and make it very dangerous for myself driving the vehicle and walkers trying to access the footpath.

I do not want the financial liability that this proposed footpath would put upon me. If Network Rails proposal goes ahead on my land then they will have to take on the financial and upkeep responsibility of this footpath and any financial claims made by walkers for the entire time the footpath remained on the land.

Yours faithfully

David Hedges

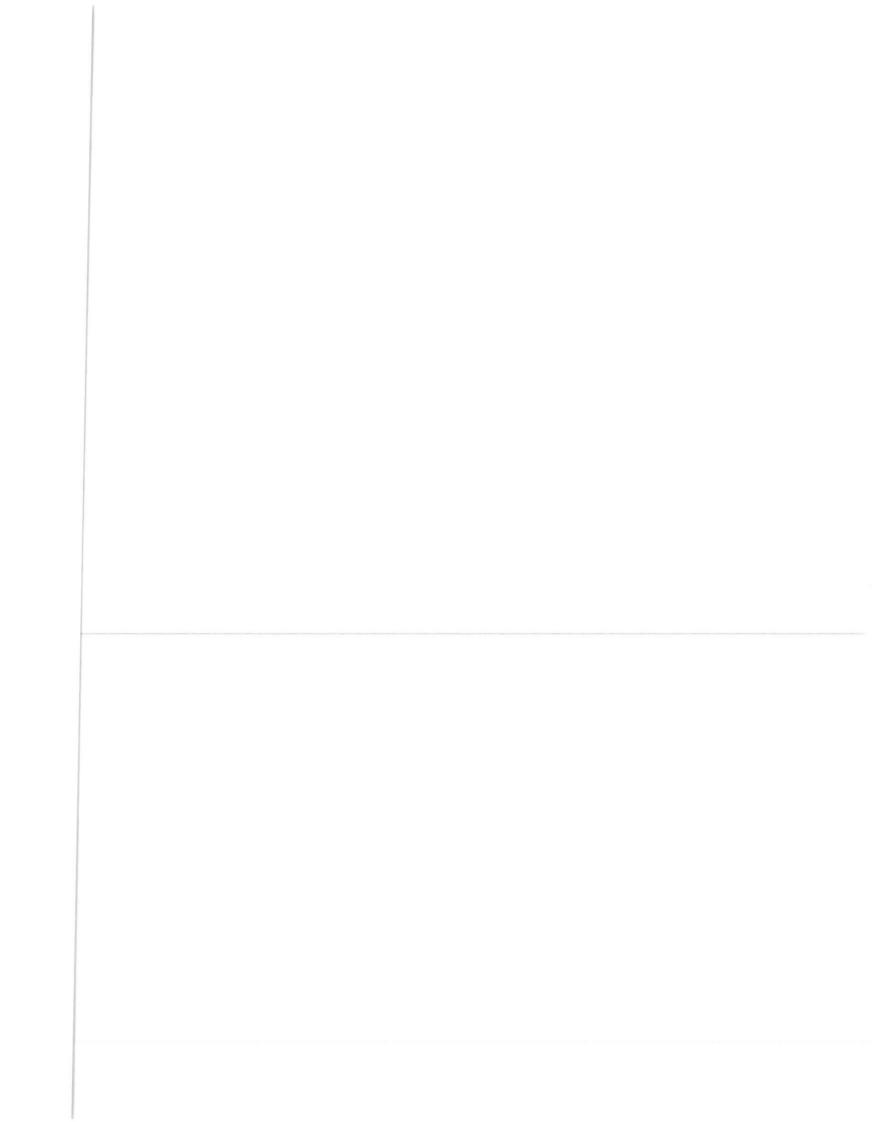
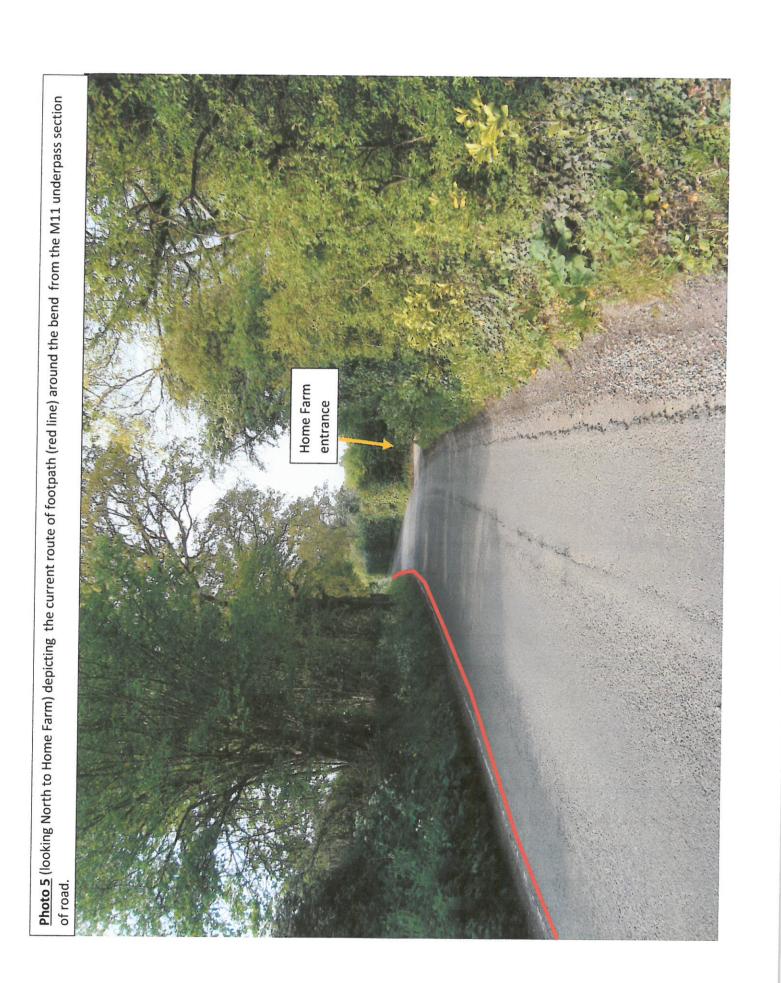


Photo 1 (looking north) depicting current footpath heading towards Home Farm, along North Hall road (Red line) Home Farm My proposed route of footpath in opposite direction along North Hall road (blue line) My proposed route of new footpath alignment

Photo 2 (looking South) depicting my proposed route of footpath (blue line) in the opposite direction to the south along North Hall road My field Railway cottages







SCHEDULE 1

Description of land and/or buildings affected by the proposed compulsory powers

| No. on attached plan | Extent and description of land | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Plot No. 10 | 62.42 square metres of shrubbery, trees and grassland, west of public highway (North Hall Road), Ugley, Essex | | | |
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Sheet 16

SCHEDULE 1

Description of land and/or buildings affected by the proposed compulsory powers

| No. on attached plan | Extent and description of land | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Plot No. 11 | 999.07 square metres of shrubbery, trees and grassland, west of public highway (North Hall Road), Ugley, Essex | | | |
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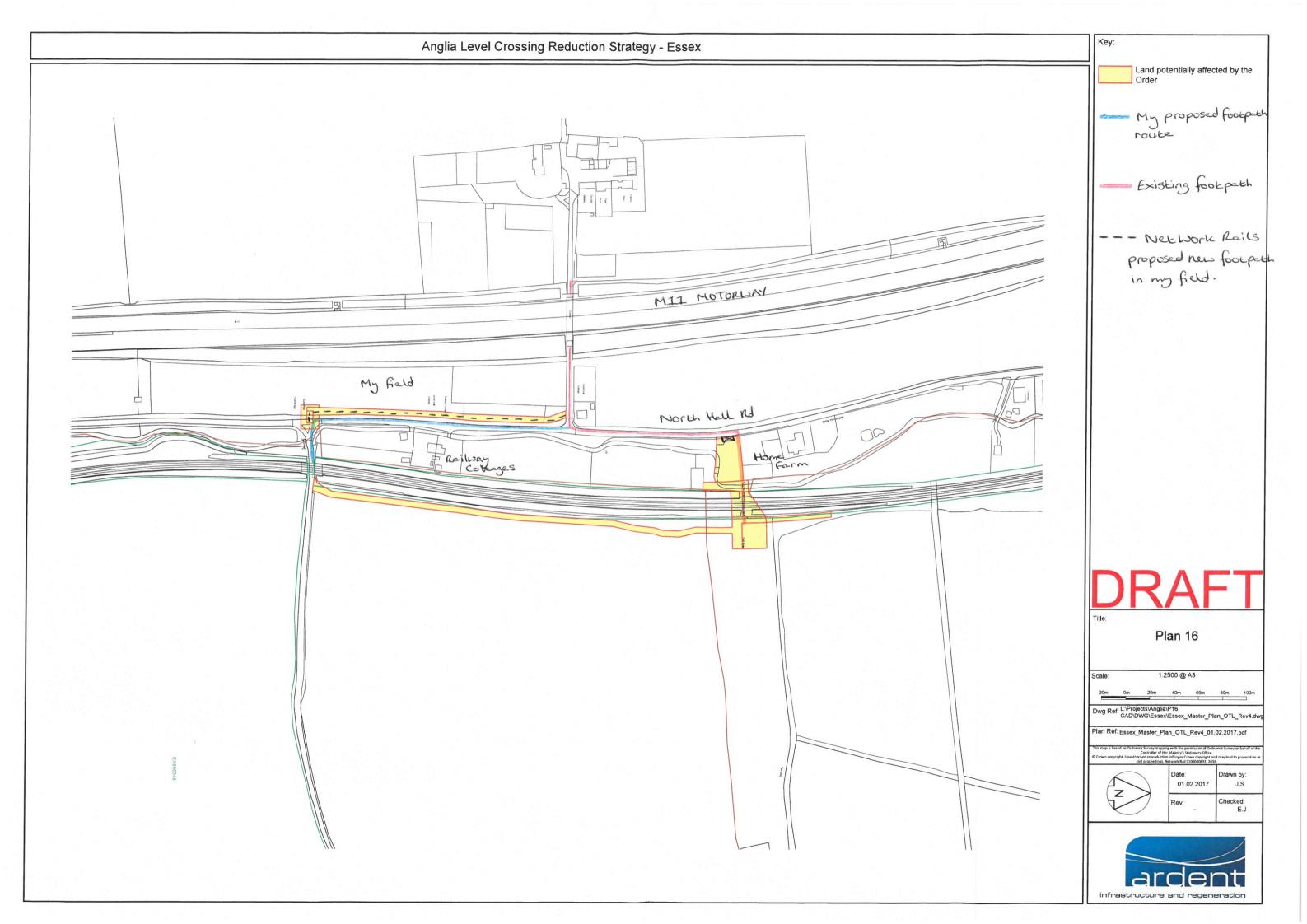
Sheet 16

SCHEDULE 1

Description of land and/or buildings affected by the proposed compulsory powers

| No. on attached plan | Extent and description of land | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Plot No. 12 | 17.69 square metres of shrubbery, trees and grassland, west of public highway (North Hall Road), Ugley, Essex | | | |
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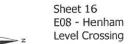
Sheet 16



Transport and Works Act 1992

The Network Rail (Essex and Others Level Crossing Reduction) Order

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HORIZONTAL SCALE FOR PLAN 1:1250

