

**Open Report on behalf of the Chief Executive**

Report to:	<b>South Lincolnshire &amp; Rutland Local Access Forum</b>
Date:	<b>24 October 2018</b>
Subject:	<b>North Hykeham Relief Road</b>

**Summary:**

Outline of scheme for the North Hykeham Relief Road.

**Recommendation(s):**

That the Forums consider the contents of the report and advise Lincolnshire County Council as to its recommendations / comments concerning countryside / rights of way access within the scheme.

## **1. Background**

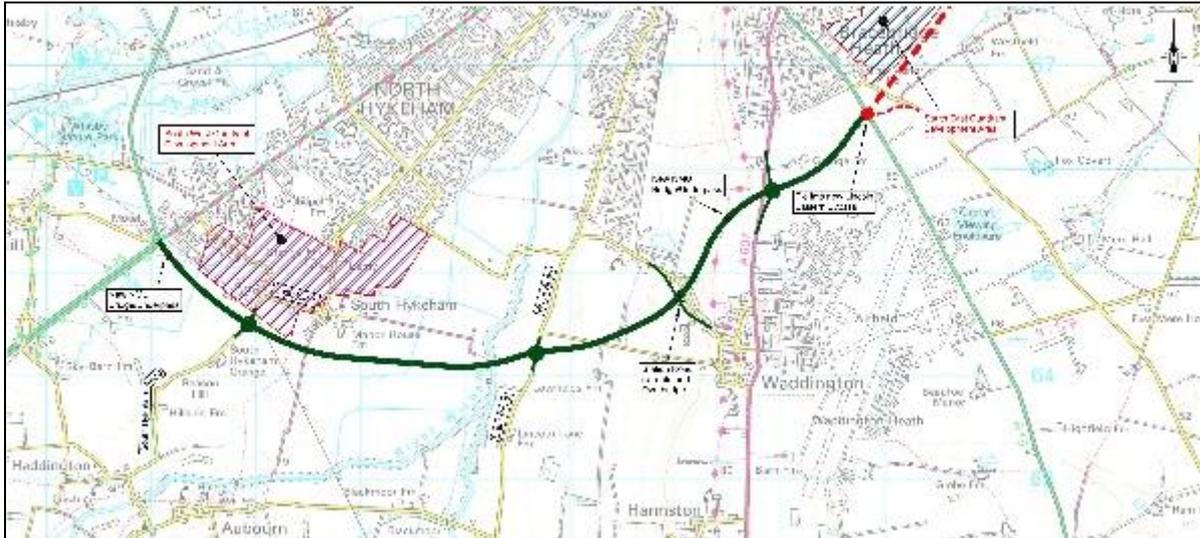
Lincolnshire County Council has released its plans to see the construction of a new carriageway to join the A46 Pennells Roundabout to the Lincoln Eastern Bypass, creating a complete ring road around the city.

The Councils' preferred option is for the route to be a dual carriageway to provide greater levels of traffic relief as the number of vehicles in the area continues to increase over the next ten to twenty years.

Government funding will be required to see the scheme come to fruition and as a dual carriageway will cost c.£148.5m. Final approval for the scheme's outline business case will be decided by the Council in October and will be used when applying to Government for funding as and when it may become available.

Following the completion of the Lincoln Eastern Bypass scheme this section will be final element to complete a total ring road around the city and will not only help further reduce traffic congestion in and around Lincoln, North Hykeham and surrounding villages, but it will also help meet growth targets for the area that include approximately 36,960 new dwellings and 11,894 new jobs up to 2036.

The route of the scheme can be seen in the diagram below and a "flyover" of the scheme can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com>



## 2. Aims and Benefits

To assist the sustainable economic growth of Lincoln and Lincolnshire by:

- Improvements to the strategic road network
- Improving direct links to the Primary/Trans-European Road Network

To improve the quality of life in central Lincoln and in the settlements within the study area by:

- Reducing through-traffic
- Relieving traffic congestion
- Reducing traffic generation noise and air pollution

To maximise accessibility to central Lincoln by:

- Giving drivers more choice of routes to access or bypass Lincoln
- Providing an additional river crossing
- Reducing journey times for through-traffic travelling between areas to the east and west of the city

To improve road safety in central Lincoln and the settlements within the study area by:

- Providing an alternative, more direct route between areas to the east and west of the city, avoiding the city centre
- Improving links between primary route corridors and increasing the range of entry points to the city
- Reducing conflicts between heavy good vehicles, other road users, pedestrians and property

### 3. Effects on the Public Rights of Way and Countryside Access

The construction of such a large civil engineering scheme will inevitably effect public rights of way and access and it is important that as the scheme progresses mitigation measures are sought and where possible enhancements to what are often known as "non-motorised users" or NMU are found (in an engineer's parlance the category NMU seems to exclude carriage driving and extends only to pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders).

One of the major elements for "NMU" is for there to be a designated area adjacent to the main carriageway reserved for pedestrian, cyclist and equestrian access along the whole route so as to complete an NMU all the way to the end of the Eastern Bypass.

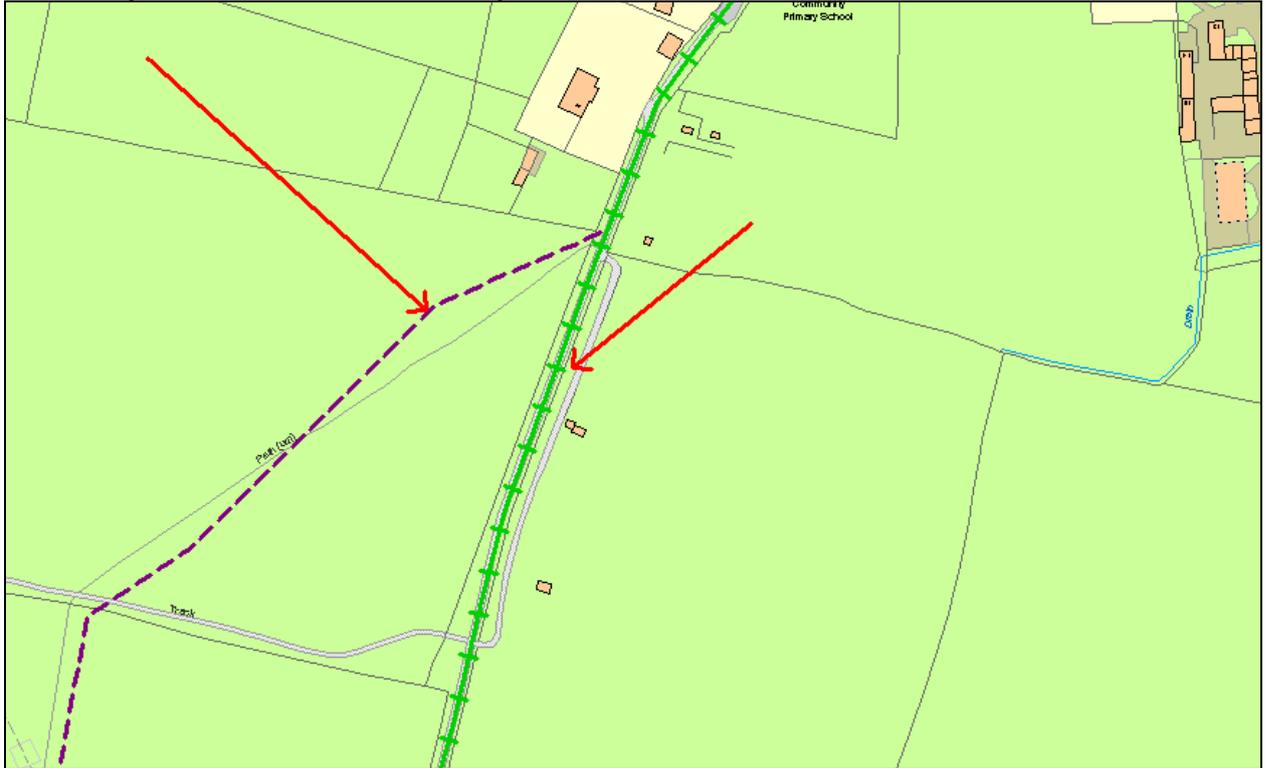
The following rights of way are also affected:

#### North Hykeham Public Footpaths 9 and 20



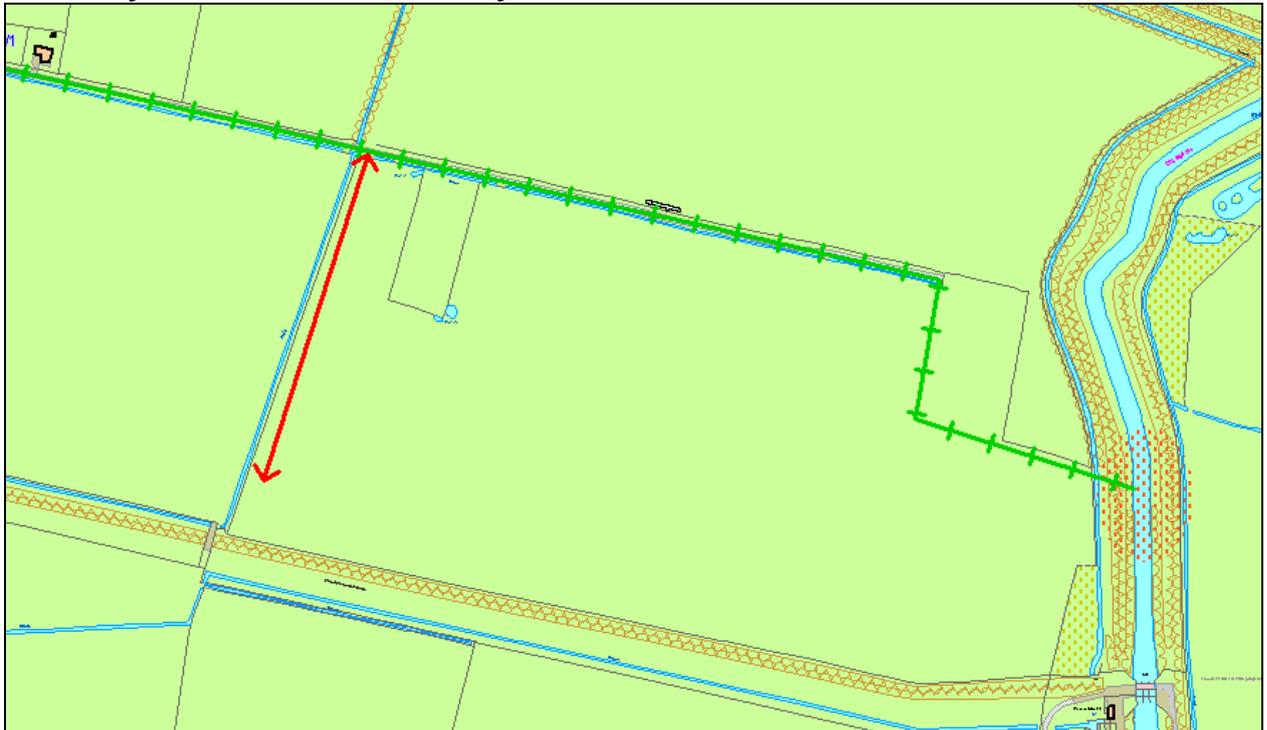
The intention here is to extinguish the southern footpath (No. 20) and realign the northern spur (No.9) to run alongside the new road. There are few options available here and No.20 will be subsumed into a feeder road.

### South Hykeham Public Bridleway No.2



The intention here is to diver that section of Public Footpath No.1 that is affected so that it meets the bridleway at a point south of a newly constructed bridge that will carry Bridleway No. 2 across the new road. Links to the route alongside the new carriageway will be sought if they are practicable.

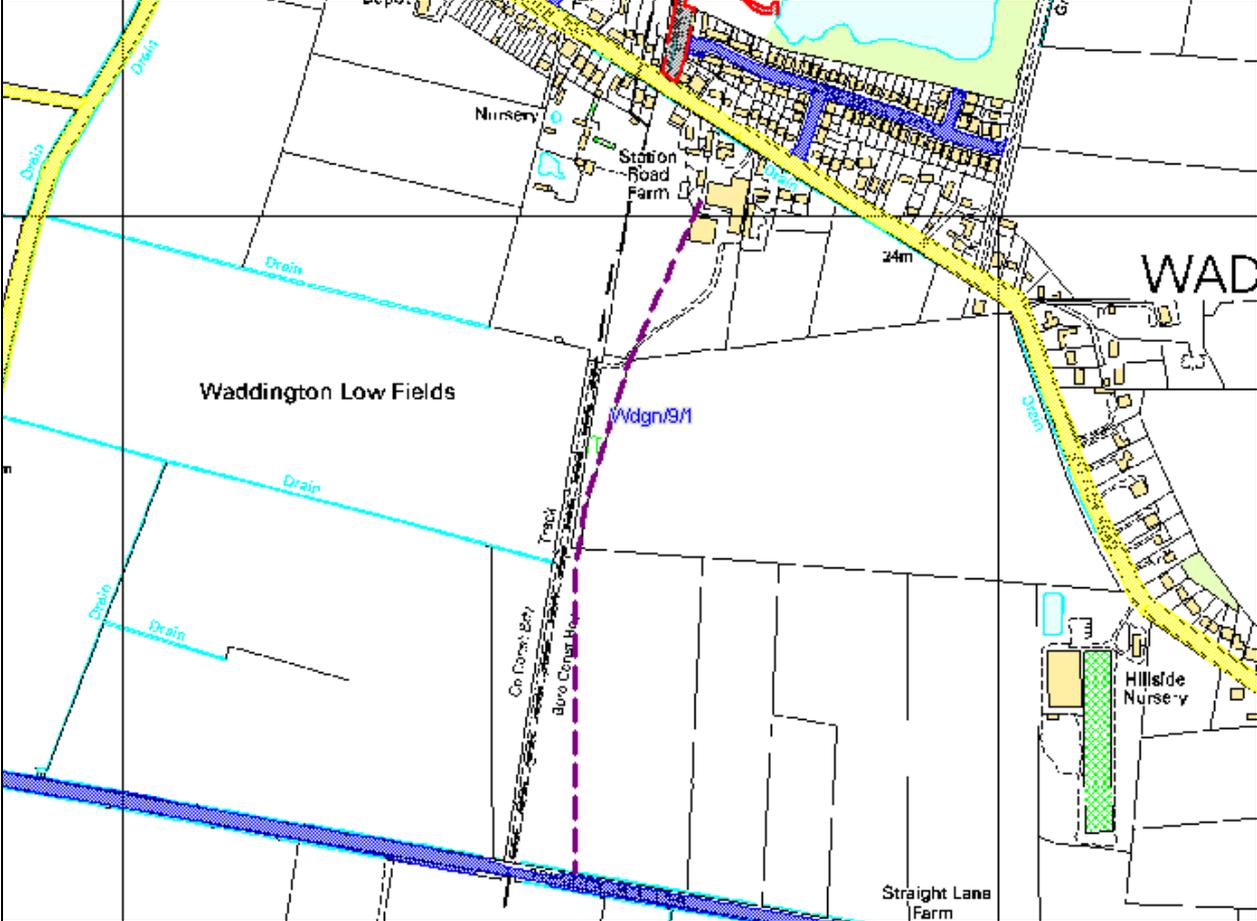
### South Hykeham Public Bridleway 906



This bridleway was added to the Definitive Map following a modification order where the evidence could not demonstrate a crossing point over the River Witham

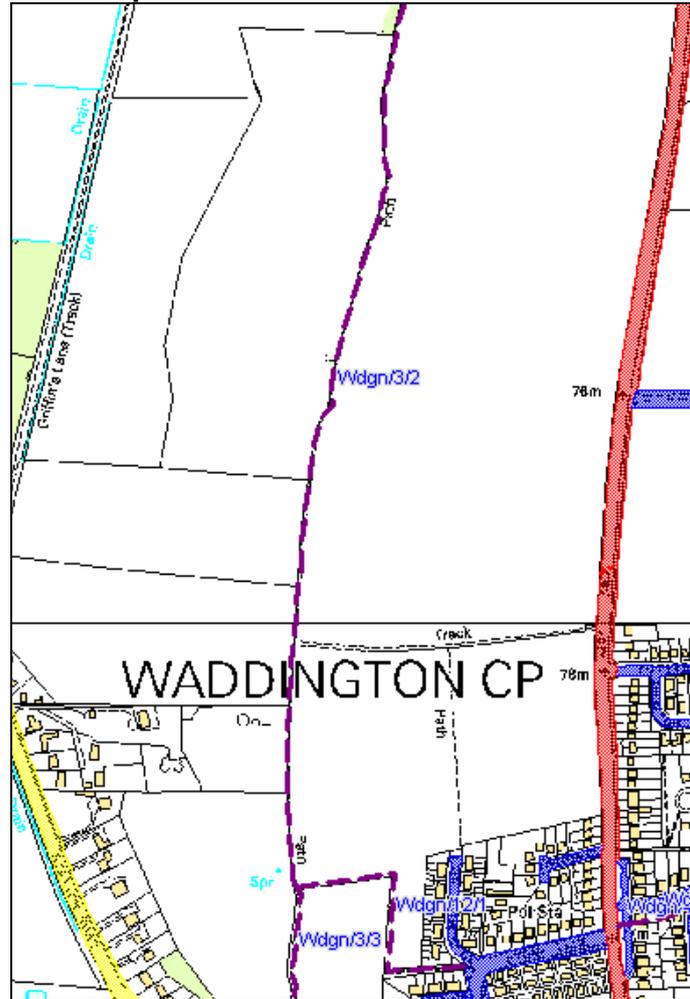
and is legally recorded as a dead-end. A new connection between the bridleway and the carriageway route will be sought which will then allow pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians to cross the river and continue their journey eastwards (and vice versa)

**Waddington Public Footpath No. 9**



The new carriageway will bisect this footpath which is a dead end at its northern end we now evidence available to demonstrate any rights beyond that point. For this reason the route is due to be extinguished through a side roads order on the construction of the road.

### Waddington Public Footpath No. 3



Similarly the road will bisect public footpath no.3 however in this instance it is a route that links Waddington with the villages to the north and ultimately to the City. It is also part of the Viking Way.

With this in mind the intention here is to divert a section of the pathway and to cross the road by way of a bridge as the road passes through a cutting. This will retain the levels and the views across the Witham Valley for the user. Routing cyclists along this route is also being considered so as to avoid the new roundabout required at the new road / A607 interchange.

#### 4. Recommendation

That the Local Access Forum endorses the current approach to the treatment of the public rights of way and countryside access network concerning the North Hykeham Relief Road project to ensure that connectivity to the wider network is improved and that separation from appropriate access does not occur.

This report was written by Chris Miller, who can be contacted on 01522 782070 or [countryside\\_access@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:countryside_access@lincolnshire.gov.uk).