

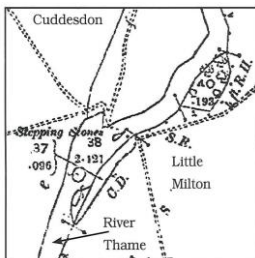


Welcome to the new normal? As we get comfortable with the recent loosening of lockdown guidance and our time spent appreciating paths and open spaces is increasing, we want to look ahead to a future positively shaped by aspects of our pandemic experience.

How do we protect open spaces closer to home?

Case officer, Nicola Hodgson comments on a **Centre for Cities** report about how public access to open space varies depending where you live. She outlines various approaches to getting community open spaces meaningful protection.

Get help to save your open space [here](#).



If you want to know more about rights of way there are a number of resources on our website including guidance on what to do about blocked or overgrown paths and how to claim a public path.

The Institute of Public Rights of Way (IPROW) is also an excellent source of information about rights of way.

[Open Spaces Society Rights of Way resources](#)

[IPROW answers to frequently asked questions](#)

Are Coronavirus-related closures to paths and open spaces justified?

Our case officer, Hugh Craddock, looks at some recent path and open space closure examples in England and Wales in more detail. The article explores some instances of how the differing guidance for each country has been applied and offers up some challenges to their interpretation and subsequent implementation.

Read the full article [here](#).





Do you have an issue with driving or parking on your local village green?

The parish council at Long Melford in Kent have approved in principle an action plan to restore and maintain their village green.

The proposals do not appear to breach any Town and Village Green legislation and we endorse the approach to help prevent damage to the green from car parking. Further consultation would definitely still be of benefit.



Read the story in the Suffolk Free Press [here](#).

#saveopenspaces

Court halts removal of land from Yateley Common

Common land at Blackbushe Airport is to stay on the register following last month's High Court judgement. The ruling supports our view that the Commons Act 2006 was never intended to deregister vast areas of common land.

Find out how the case for ongoing protection was successfully argued [here](#).



cc-by-sa/2.0 - Private Planes at... by Mike Smith - geograph.org.uk/p/3597067



Our Campaigning Works!

Is there pressure on your local open spaces to relinquish them to house building? Our member, East Malling and Larkfield parish council has voluntarily registered another village green thereby achieving meaningful protection.

Read about their success [here](#).

Now, more than ever we value green spaces?

If our inbox is anything to go by we are receiving even more requests than usual for help and advice about paths and open spaces. The CPRE and WI have done a piece of research into the ways that lockdown is increasing our connection with the outdoors.

Read about the research [here](#).





Covid-19

We are posting the latest Welsh and English government advice *here* on our website. To stay safe, stay legal and stay informed refer to this page regularly as the guidance changes frequently.

Stay *informed* about the outdoors.

Supporting the work of the Open Spaces Society

We couldn't keep fighting to protect commons, greens, open spaces and public paths without our members. We rely on member subscriptions to fund our work and provide a mandate for action. Many thanks for your continuing support if you are already one of our valued members. If you are not already a member of the society, please consider joining to support our work.

[Tell me more about membership](#)

P.S. While our office remains closed and our staff are working remotely, if you need to contact any member of the team please email using the form on our website [here](#).

[What do we fight for?](#) | [Can we help you?](#) | [What can you do?](#) | [Need to know more?](#)

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