

Annual Report on the footpaths of Wingham Parish for 2025/6

from the Wingham Foot Path Group (WFPG) acting as Parish Footpath Warden

Introduction This is ninth annual report since WFPG was appointed as the collective warden for the Parish.

Activities There are 30 footpaths lying wholly in or crossing the Parish. We have responded to concerns raised by members of the public and/or passed on by the Parish Clerk. Where necessary, reports have been made to the Kent County Council (KCC) Public Rights of Way (PROW) team about blocked paths.

With regard to maintenance, the law is very clear, however, it is one thing to state the legal position and quite another to find the resources to manage the network.

Results As usual all our footpaths have been much used this year, but KCC PROW teams seem to have been overwhelmed at times.

A healthy heart group who meet at the village church walk many of the paths and have not reported any issues.

The quantity and quality of signage continues to deteriorate in general.

EE156 (Deadmill Bridge to Miles Gardens – west side of Little Stour) – nil to report.

EE170 (Wenderton to Deadmill Bridge) - nil to report.

EE152 (Perry Farm) - nil to report.

EE169 (Petts Lane to end) - heavy bramble growth at top (NW) end – photo attached.

EE167 (Rusham Lane to A257-Wildlife Park) passable - cut heavy overhanging brambles

EE165A (Brook Farm track) - Nil to report

Members of the Wingham Foot Path Group who have covered the Wingham footpaths:

Kevin Fletcher, Marcus and Michelle Benton, Dennis Liman, Cally and Mike Vaile.

NB. WFPG members might well carry small secateurs with them, and cloths or marker pens to clarify signage, but we do not conduct any other repairs or clearances.

MB for WFPG

April 2026