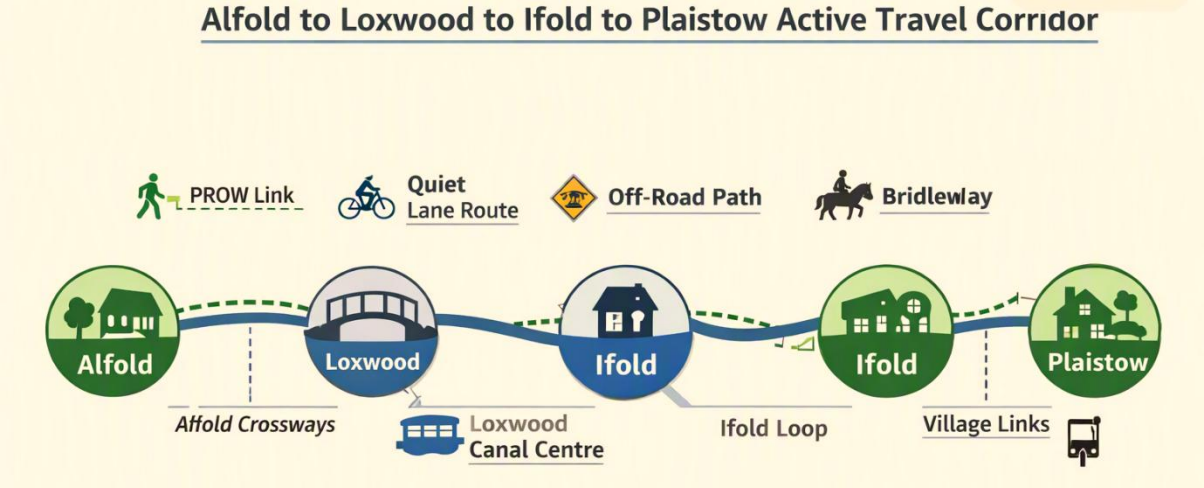


Active Travel Plan: Alfold–Loxwood–Ifold–Plaistow Corridor

1. Purpose

This document presents a coordinated Active Travel Plan to improve safe, accessible, and sustainable walking, wheeling, and cycling routes between **Alfold (Surrey)**, **Loxwood**, **Ifold**, and **Plaistow (West Sussex)**. It supports local connectivity, reduces car dependency, and enhances community wellbeing.

2. Geographic Scope

- **Primary corridor:** Alfold → Loxwood → Ifold → Plaistow
- **Secondary links:** Alfold Crossways, Loxwood Canal Centre, Ifold Loop, Plaistow village centre, Kelsey Hall, school, shop, and recreation ground.

3. Objectives

- Deliver safe, continuous active-travel routes between the four settlements.
- Reduce short-distance car journeys (<5 km).
- Improve access to schools, shops, community facilities, and bus stops.
- Support health, wellbeing, and environmental goals.
- Integrate with Surrey and West Sussex Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs).

4. Existing Conditions

4.1 Road Network

- **Alfold → Loxwood:** Rural lanes, limited verges, variable traffic speeds.
- **Loxwood → Ifold:** Residential traffic, narrow carriageways.
- **Ifold → Plaistow:** Rural lane with pinch points and limited pedestrian refuge.

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4.2 Footways & Paths

- Discontinuous pavements in Loxwood and Plaistow.
- No formal footways between settlements.
- Public Rights of Way (PROWs) exist but are often muddy, narrow, or indirect.

4.3 Cycling Conditions

- No dedicated cycle infrastructure.
- Rural lanes used by confident cyclists only.
- Visibility and vehicle speeds present safety concerns.

4.4 Public Transport Integration

- Limited bus services; stops often lack safe pedestrian access.

5. Proposed Active Travel Interventions

5.1 Strategic Route Options

1. **Primary On-Road Quiet-Lane* Route**
    - Traffic-calming measures
    - “Share the Road” signage
    - Speed-management interventions
2. **Off-Road Multi-Use Path (where feasible)**
    - Parallel greenway sections
    - Surfaced bridleway upgrades
    - Improved drainage and year-round usability
3. **PROW Enhancements**
    - Widening and resurfacing key footpaths
    - Wayfinding signage
    - Accessibility improvements (gates instead of stiles)

6. Settlement-Specific Proposals

6.1 Alfold

- Improve pedestrian access around Alfold Crossways.
- Create a signed link to the Loxwood corridor.
- Explore bridleway upgrades toward Loxwood.

6.2 Loxwood

- Establish a safe crossing point near the village centre.
- Provide cycle parking at the shop, hall, and canal centre.
- Enhance PROWs connecting to Ifold.
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6.3 Ifold

- Create a safe outbound route to Plaistow avoiding pinch points.
- Improve internal walking loops for residents.
- Install wayfinding to Plaistow and Loxwood.

6.4 Plaistow

- Improve footway continuity through the village centre.
- Provide safe access to school, hall, shop, and recreation ground.
- Create a signed active-travel gateway linking back to Ifold and Loxwood (Shillinglee and Durfold Wood).

7. Safety & Accessibility Measures

- Reduced speed limits on key rural lanes.
- High-visibility signage and road markings.
- Lighting improvements at settlement edges.
- Inclusive design for mobility-impaired users.

8. Environmental Considerations

- Protect hedgerows and wildlife corridors.
- Use permeable surfacing where appropriate.
- Avoid impact on ancient woodland and heritage assets.
- Integrate biodiversity enhancements (verges, pollinator strips).

9. Community Engagement

- Parish councils: Alfold, Loxwood, Plaistow & Ifold.
- Local schools, businesses, and volunteer groups.
- Public consultation events and route-walks.
- Feedback loops via parish websites and surveys.

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10. Delivery Plan

10.1 Phasing

Phase	Description
1	Safety improvements, signage, PROW upgrades
2	Quiet-lane designation and traffic calming
3	Construction of off-road multi-use paths
4	Integration with wider LCWIP networks and more peripheral settlements of Durfold Wood and Shillinglee.

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10.2 Funding Sources

- Surrey CC and West Sussex CC active-travel funds
- Rural mobility grants
- S106 / CIL contributions
- National Highways designated funds
- Community fundraising for small-scale improvements

11. Monitoring & Evaluation

- Baseline traffic and walking/cycling counts.
- Annual review of usage and safety data.
- Community feedback- see example leaflet.
- Adjustments to signage, surfacing, or routing as needed.

12. Maps

Map A — Loxwood- Plaistow PROWs

Map B — Alfold- Loxwood PROWs

(See simplified geographic map showing approximate spatial relationship between settlements and active-travel routes.)

13. Appendices

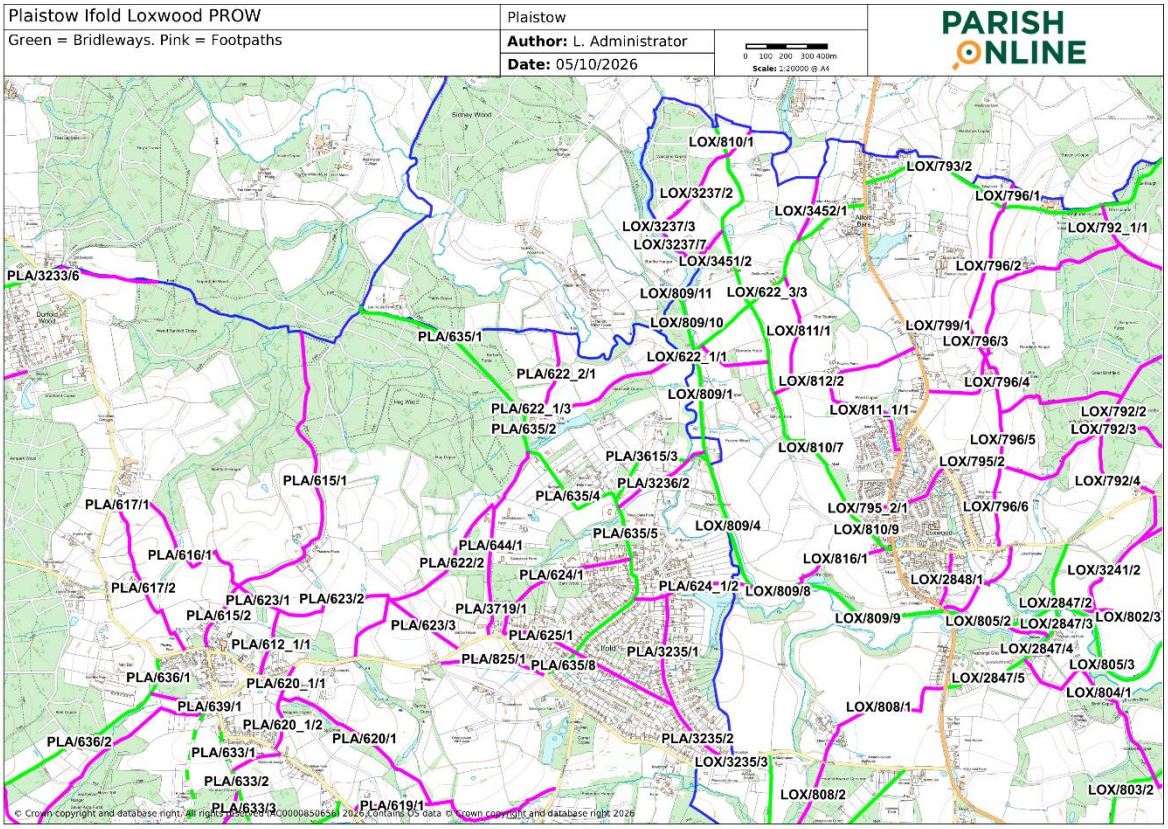
- Draft route maps (included above)
- Risk assessments
- PROW condition survey
- Consultation summary
- Costed options appraisal

Prepared for: Parish Councils of Alfold, Loxwood, and Plaistow & Ifold
Date: October 2026
Prepared by: Parish Council Clerk

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Alfold, Loxwood, Ifold, Plaistow Active Travel Plan

Draft Route Maps:



***What is a Quiet Lane?** A Quiet Lane is a **minor rural road** formally designated to give greater priority to **walkers, cyclists, horse-riders and other non-motorised users**, while still allowing access for motor vehicles. The aim is to create a **calmer, safer and more pleasant environment** for everyone using the lane.

Key Features

- Lower vehicle speeds and reduced traffic volumes
- "Quiet Lane" signage at entry points
- Drivers encouraged to slow down and expect vulnerable users
- Retains rural character – no urbanising features
- Access remains for residents, landowners, businesses and emergency services

Why designate a Quiet Lane?

- Makes rural lanes safer for walking, cycling and horse-riding
- Reduces intimidation from fast-moving traffic
- Encourages short local journeys to be made without a car
- Helps protect the tranquillity and landscape of rural areas

Local Relevance: Loxwood Road (Plaistow → Ifold) The section of **Loxwood Road between Plaistow and Ifold is a West Sussex C-class road (C11)**. C-class roads are **non-principal rural routes**, typically used for local access and well-suited to Quiet Lane designation. This classification means the Plaistow–Ifold corridor meets the usual criteria for consideration as a Quiet Lane under county policy.

What Quiet Lanes are *not*

- They are **not** pedestrian-only or cycle-only routes
- They do **not** ban cars or restrict essential access
- They do **not** require heavy engineering or major construction

Legislative Basis Quiet Lanes are designated under the **Quiet Lanes and Home Zones (England) Regulations 2006**, enabling local authorities to introduce them where community support exists.

Where they work best

- Rural C-class or unclassified lanes
- Areas with strong community backing
- Locations where through-traffic can be discouraged or redirected.