Calling all walkers, cyclists and horse riders – and everyone cut off by the A47.

At long last, the lethal stretch of the A47 which divides our parish in two is to be dualled. Work will commence 2022-2023 and should be completed by 2025.

Two new bridges will be built, one at the White House and one by the camping/farm shop at Blofield. However, local residents, several parish councils, Norfolk County Council and Broadland District Council, have all been pressing for a footbridge or underpass for walkers, cyclists and horse riders to link Lingwood Community Woodland (behind the church) to Burlingham Woodland Trails. This crossing would also provide an essential route for our residents north of the A47 to walk or cycle to the station, school and other amenities in Lingwood.

Highways England have said they won't install a bridge or underpass because not enough people cross the A47 at this point! (I wonder why?)

We also asked Highways England to include a cycle path to Acle, but they suggest we don't need it because most of our local amenities are in Blofield!!!

The scheme is now with the Planning Inspector for approval. If you believe a bridge or underpass, and/or a cycle path to Acle would be useful, please leave your comments at:-

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a47-blofield-to-north-burlingham/ (Click on 'Registration Form' half way down.)

We have until 5th April - the day after Easter Monday - to make our views known to the Inspector.

The Parish Council is holding a Zoom meeting to discuss this on Monday, 29th March at 7pm. If you wish to attend, please contact our Clerk, Sonya Dickinson on 714251, or sgdickinson@btinternet, by noon on the day.

For newcomers to our parish (welcome!), this is a link to the explanatory booklet delivered to all homes last year.

https://s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/assets.highwaysengland.co.uk/roads/road-projects/A47+Blofield+to+North+Burlingham/Project+update+-+summer+2020.pdf

Cathy Pye

Chairman Lingwood and Burlingham Parish Council