



Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981  
Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of  
Way for Warwickshire

form

1

**Application for a Modification Order**

Rights of Way, Communities,  
PO Box 43, Shire Hall,  
Warwick, CV34 4SX

To: **Warwickshire County Council**

Of: **PO Box 43, Shire Hall, Warwick, CV34 4SX**

I/We: **REBECCA GOODMAN**

Of: **MANOR FARM BUNGALOW, RATLEY OX15 6DS**

hereby apply for an Order under Section 53(2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981  
modifying the Definitive Map and Statement for the County of Warwick by

~~Deleting~~ \* the Footpath / Bridleway / Restricted Byway / Byway Open to all Traffic \*

from ..... to .....

~~Adding~~ \* the Footpath / Bridleway / ~~Restricted Byway~~ / ~~Byway Open to all Traffic~~ \*

from **corner of high st** ..... to **End of Town hill (school Lane)**

~~Upgrading / Downgrading~~ \* to a Footpath / ~~Bridleway~~ / ~~Restricted Byway~~ / ~~Byway Open to all~~  
~~Traffic~~ \* the Footpath / ~~Bridleway~~ / ~~Restricted Byway~~ / ~~Byway Open to all Traffic~~ \*

from ..... to .....

~~Varying / Adding to~~ \* the particulars relating to the Footpath / Bridleway / ~~Restricted Byway~~ /  
~~Byway Open to all Traffic~~ \*

from ..... to .....

by providing that .....

\* delete as appropriate

and shown on the map accompanying this application.

I/We attach copies of the following documentary evidence (including statements of witnesses)  
in support of this application (see overleaf \*\*).

Signed . [redacted] ..... Dated **25/1/2016** .....

The accompanying map must be at a scale of 1:25000 or greater (e.g. 1:10000)

*Please see overleaf*

**\*\* Evidence in support of your claim -**

**Documents** 5 (number of pages attached)

Please attach a copy of any documents or maps you are using as evidence. Include the document reference number and title and give the full name and address of the Library, Record Office, University or person in possession of the original document.

**Photographs** 11 (number attached)

These should be securely mounted on card, stout paper or in plastic wallets, each should be clearly numbered and labelled with the date and place it was taken and if possible please show the location of the photograph on a plan.

**Witness Statement Forms (Form 4)** 24 (number attached)

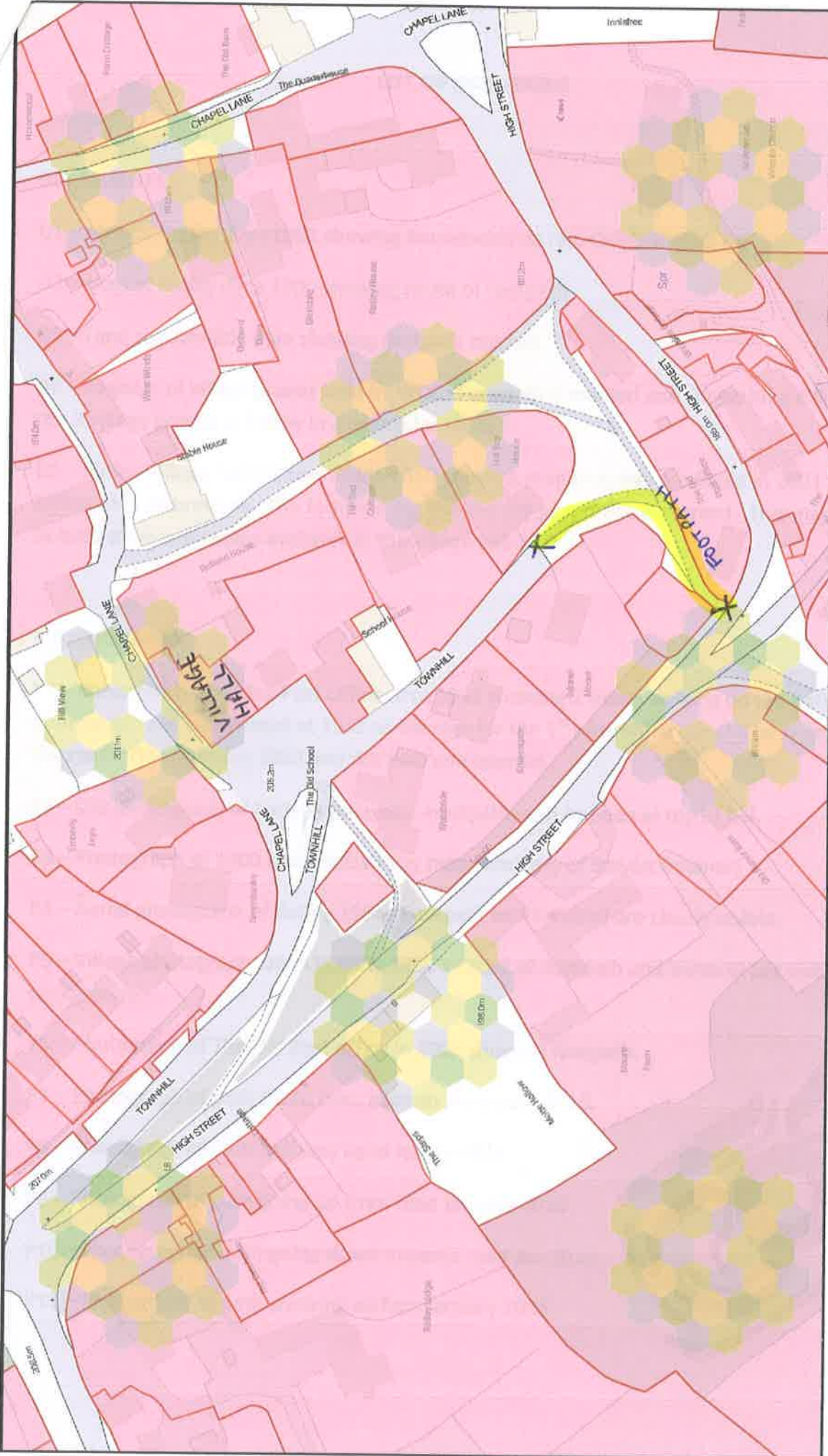
Please number each form and make a list with the name and number of each person who has completed a "witness statement" in support of your application, on *this* form.

**List your evidence and references** (continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

- see attached

**List your witnesses** (continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

- see attached



0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 50m

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Data last updated 10:00pm 20 JANUARY, 2016

Map scale 1:1250

## **LIST OF INCLUSIONS**

### **DOCUMENTS**

D1 – Map of Ratley circa 1881 showing households on rev. Childs visiting list

D2 – Map of Ratley circa 1900 showing route of footpath

D3 – Land registry title plan showing footpath marked

D4 – Register of village greens held by WCC. Footpath is marked and shows how it links up the 3 village greens in Ratley in a triangular route.

D5 – Ratley Village Hall Visitors Guide 2010 showing map that was produced in 2001 for the Millenium celebrations. The footpath net the the old post office is marked. This map is still in circulation and copies available in the village pub.

### **PHOTOGRAPHS**

P1 – Photograph of Ratley Post Office circa 1932 showing 2 males walking up the path. The photograph has been dated at 1932 as the sign for the 1<sup>st</sup> post office can still be seen across the road. This closed in 1932 and the new one opened.

P2 – Old photograph of Ratley (undated). Footpaths can be seen at top of hill.

P3 – Photograph of 1900 ordnance survey map (courtesy of Steven Downer)

P4 – Aerial photograph of Ratley 1964. Footpath and handrail are clearly visible.

P5 – Village photograph taken in early 1990's. Start of footpath and handrail are visible in background.

P6 – Photograph of The Old Post office in 2002 showing footpath.

P7 – Photograph of path taken from bottom in January 2016.

P8 – Photograph of path half way up in Janary 2016

P9 – Photograph of path going up from road January 2016

P10 – Photograph of path going down towards road Jan 2016

P11 – Photograph of path showing surface January 2016



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Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of  
Way for Warwickshire

form  
**1a**

**Application for a Modification Order  
(Supplementary Information)**

**Name:** Rebecca Goodman

**Address:** MANOR FARM BUNGALOW  
HIGH ST, RATLEY OX15 6DS

The purpose of this form is to gain as much information about the route claimed as possible.  
Please complete the following sections in as much detail as you can.

**1. Please explain why you believe the Definitive Map and Statement should be modified, for example, why you believe the route should be added to the map or should be upgraded.**

see attached.

This is an historic footpath and part of the heritage of Ratley, a village built on a hill with lots of steep footpaths and cut throughs. This particular route was previously a road, inking up to Town Hill and French's Lane and can be seen on the 1881 map which is printed in "Ratley – The Story of a Warwickshire Parish" which details the Reverend Childs visiting route to the families of the parish. Over a century ago it linked the farm yard at Ratley Manor (now Manor Farm) to the top of the village. Throughout the past 2 centuries it has been an important route linking facilities such as the village stores, post office and working man's club/reading room to houses at the top. Those living at the bottom of the village would have used it as the quickest route up to the chapel, village school and these days it is a short cut to the village hall. This is shown in the photograph included with the application taken in the early 1930's, which shows 2 people walking on the path next to what was at the time the village store. The milk churn and the cart used to transport the churns up and down the path can be seen at the foot of the path.

This path, along with 2 other routes, links up the 3 village green areas that are registered to Ratley District Council in a triangular route – see map VG140.

The path is clearly marked by handrails that have been there for some time and are maintained by the Parish Council (the land owners). I am unsure when they were 1<sup>st</sup> installed but they have been there for at least 50 years as they are visible in the aerial photograph taken in 1964 which is included with this application. It is also of note, as advised by older residents in the village, that the Council actually placed down the existing concrete/stone surface that covers most the path.

This path has been used for centuries and continues to be used by villagers and visitors to Ratley. It is the shortest route from the village hall down to the bottom corner of the village and entrance to the nature reserve. Because of it's convenient route from the village hall it has been used by a large number of children (in particular Ratley Toddler Group and Ratley Youth Club) over the years during village events such as Easter Egg Hunts, Village picnics, Treasure Hunt, Trick or Treating etc.

The path continues to be used regularly and is a presumed right of way, however it is not recorded on the definitive map held by the county council. In recent years, the owners of The Old Post Office, the property adjacent to the path, have repeatedly applied for planning permission to divert the route of the path, making it longer and less convenient, in order to build a garage in the area where the path is currently routed. The first planning application was withdrawn and the current application is pending a decision. However, it is noted that the consultation with the rights of way team gave no objection to changing/removing the path as it is not a recorded right of way.

I have spoken to a number of residents about the path and they all feel strongly that they wish to keep the footpath in it's current route and location. I am therefore requesting that the path is recorded on the Definitive Map in order to protect it as a walking route for current and future generations of Ratley residents.

**2. Please describe the route carefully:**

- i) Start point... Corner of high st Grid Reference... 38.3/47.3
- ii) End point... End of school lane Grid Reference... 38.4/47.4
- iii) Are there any gates / stiles / bridges? Please describe where (it would be helpful to mark them on a map).

No.

Hand rail along route.

- iv) Can the route be used today? Yes

If not:

- what prevents access along the route – please mark the locations on a map.

- are you aware of when any obstruction occurred?

- v) Are there are any signs / notices on the route? No

If yes:

- please mark their location on a map.

- in what year did the notices appear?

- what do they say?

- vi) What is the surface type of the route? It would be helpful to mark it on a map.

From bottom it is  $\frac{3}{4}$  concrete/stone surface  
and then becomes grass at the top of the  
hill for the last quarter.

Signed:



Dated: