Footpaths Report June 2024

Long grass and crops

Farmers are required to leave a path through crops along the line of the Public Right of Way but this does not apply to grass even if it is long as long it does not become an obstruction. The minimum width allowable for the path through a crop is one metre.
Oil seed rape would require a total width of unsown path to be 15 feet to prevent it overhanging and causing an obstruction when full grown to about 6feet tall. However the crop, as overhanging vegetation, constitutes an obstruction, and the law should be upheld.



Crop just South of the Bulls Head Leicester Forest West across a footpath.
The Landowner/Occupier has been contacted about this by Leicestershire PROW team as although this is not yet an obstruction to the right of way no effort has yet been made to clear a 1 metre path.

The surface vegetation at Church Lane Swannington reported by Chris Bancroft has been cleared by Tony Brooks, the local footpaths inspector, such that you can now walk along it whereas before it was impassable.

See Rights of Way, A Guide to Law and Practice, Fourth edition pages 254 to 257 for a more detailed explanation.