

## **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of **Highways Committee** held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham on **Monday 8 November 2021 at 9.30 am**

**Present:**

**Councillor R Ormerod (Chair)**

**Members of the Committee:**

Councillors D Boyes (Vice-Chair), A Bell, J Howey, R Manchester, B Moist, D Oliver, I Roberts, M-Idwal Roberts, K Robson, M Wilson and D Wood

### **1 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Duffy, Earley, Kay, Higgins, Hutchinson, Simpson, Sterling and Tinsley.

### **2 Substitute Members**

There were no substitute Members in attendance.

### **3 Minutes**

The minutes of the Meeting held on 7 October 2021 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **4 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **5 Proposal to add an old road 'Nanny Poes Lane 'in Middlestone, to the Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way as a Public Bridleway**

The Committee considered a joint report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change and the Corporate Director of Resources, which provided evidence gathered in support of an application to modify the Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way to add a Public Bridleway over an enclosed former road 'Nanny Poes Lane' (for copy see file of minutes).

The Definitive Map Officer confirmed that the application was for a public right of way with bridleway status which should have been placed on the map when it had

been removed from the list of streets. It was estimated to have been removed in the 1960's although it could have been earlier as there was no definitive information. Locals had used it as a bridleway and the Committee were being asked to agree to the rectification of the records. There had been no objections to the proposal and the definitive map should be updated accordingly.

The Planning and Development Solicitor advised that this type of application was based on the documentary evidence provided, rather than historic use.

Councillor Boyes considered the application was straightforward however he queried the cost implications associated should the Highways Authority become responsible for maintenance. The Access and Rights of Way Team Leader advised that 270 applications had been submitted with documentary evidence and all would be publicly maintainable.

The Definitive Map Officer added that these routes were in Middlestone, which got its name due to it having been a quarry area and these routes in particular were the easiest to maintain. The main cost would be for signage.

Councillor Boyes suggested that it may be useful to have costs in the report in future, although it was acknowledged that this would not be a consideration for decision making.

Councillor Boyes moved the recommendation for approval seconded by Councillor Manchester.

### **Resolved**

That the Definitive Map Modification Order for the addition to the Definitive Map & Statement of a Public Bridleway between points A & B on the plan, known as Nanny Poes Lane, be agreed.

## **6 Definitive Map Modification Application to record the former road Nanny Pops Lonnen in Spennymoor as Public Bridleway**

The Committee considered a joint report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change and the Corporate Director of Resources, which provided evidence gathered in support of an application to modify the Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way to add a Public Bridleway over a way called 'Nanny Pops Lonnen' (for copy see file of minutes).

The Definitive Map Officer advised that the route was believed to have been removed from the list of streets some time in the 1970's and should have been added to the Definitive Map.

Councillor Howey queried whether the route went across the A688 and whether there was any danger if increasing the use. The Definitive Map Officer confirmed

that it did cross that highway and precedent had been set with Bridleway no. 58 to the east, which also crossed the A688. Spennymoor Town Council had responded to query the signage which would be installed and this was a well trod path which was already used locally.

Councillor Wilson moved the recommendation for approval, seconded by Councillor Howey.

**Resolved**

That the Definitive Map Modification Order for the addition to the Definitive Map & Statement of a Bridleway between points A & B on the map, known as Nanny Pops Lonnen, be agreed.