



Parish Council

Parish Clerk
Chatwood Lodge
Stainton Village
Barnard Castle
DL12 8RD

31st July 2018

Mr M Ogden
Access and Rights of Way Team Leader
Regeneration and Local Services
Durham County Council
County Hall
Durham
DH1 5UQ

Dear Mr Ogden

PROPOSED CHANGES TO PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY – TEESDALE SCHOOL and former railway line.

Thank you for your e mail regarding the above Public Rights of Way. I have spoken to the committee of Marwood Parish Council and have shown them your proposals. With one exception, who has to declare an interest, the rest of the parish councillors have no objections to the proposals and we understand the safety of the pupils is paramount.

May we ask to be kept informed of when the changes are to occur and please can you also relay this information to Teesdale School on our behalf.

Kind Regards

M Fenwick
Parish Clerk

For and on behalf of Marwood Parish Council

Mike Ogden

From: Sylvia Briggs [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 June 2018 22:24
To: Mike Ogden
Subject: Re: Proposed changes to public rights of way - Teesdale School and former railway line, Barnard Castle

Hi Mike

On behalf of the British Horse Society (Durham) I can't see a problem with the footpath diversion. I realise Schools have to look at their security and this alternative footpath is only a short distance from the current one.

Of course the new bridleway will be great for the area and I certainly would have no objection to the creation.

There are many horse riders in the area, especially in Stainton who would love some off road riding.

Regards
Sylvia

From: Mike Ogden <Mike.Ogden@durham.gov.uk>
Sent: 05 June 2018 15:07
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Proposed changes to public rights of way - Teesdale School and former railway line, Barnard Castle

Dear Sylvia/Sue,

I am considering a proposal under sections 119 and 26 of the Highways Act 1980 to change the public rights of way network in the vicinity of Teesdale School, and would welcome your comments prior to any formal decisions.

There are two main reasons for the proposals:-

1. To create a legally defined Public Bridleway along the section of the former railway line between Crossing Cottages (Dent Gate Lane) and Barnard Castle, connecting to Teesdale Sports Centre and Strathmore Road, over land mainly in the ownership of Durham County Council (where the County Council have recently

carried out improvements) and Teesdale School (Academy), but also including some land in private ownership.

2. The wish by Teesdale School to improve pupil safety and site security by moving Public Footpath No. 10 away from its current location adjacent to the main school buildings.

Discussions between the County Council and Teesdale School have come up with a set of proposals which will provide a Public Bridleway as outlined in 1. above and also retain a Public Footpath connection to the A688, via the access road to the Hub. A short Public Footpath connection between the new Bridleway and Public Footpath No. 14 Streatlam and Stainton will also be provided.

The proposals are shown on the attached plan, and taken together are considered to offer a reasonable compromise between public access and the legitimate concerns of the School. I would be pleased to receive any comments or objections you may wish to offer, within 30 days of the date of this email. If there are no objections, the application may be determined by the Corporate Director of Resources, in consultation with the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Local Services, and if there are objections, it will be determined by the Highways Committee. If you need more time to consider the matter please let me know.

Please note that if you do make representations, then by virtue of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the County Council may make them available for public inspection. Additionally they may also be disclosable under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Regards

Mike

Mike Ogden
Access and Rights of Way Team Leader
Regeneration and Local Services
Durham County Council
County Hall
Durham
DH1 5UQ

Direct 03000 265331
Switchboard 03000 260000
www.durham.gov.uk

[Home - Durham County Council](http://www.durham.gov.uk)

www.durham.gov.uk

We have recently updated our privacy information. To find out more about how we collect, use, share and retain your personal data, visit www.durham.gov.uk/dataprivacy.

Follow us on Twitter [@durhamcouncil](https://twitter.com/durhamcouncil)
Like us at facebook.com/durhamcouncil
Follow us on linkedin.com/company/durham-county-council

Mike Ogden

From: P SINGER **Sent:** 04 September 2018
17:23
To: Mike Ogden
Subject: Re: Footpath Diversion

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi Mike

As I mentioned, Barnard Castle Walkers Are Welcome discussed the proposal to divert Barnard Castle FP 10 at our meeting on 22 August 2018 and I was asked to relay the committee's views to you.

In general terms, we supported the proposal. Although it involves a footpath diversion, which is never to be undertaken without careful consideration and sound justification, we recognised the school's concerns and thought that the overall package of changes was beneficial.

The relevant minute of the meeting is as follows:

"Consideration was given to an email from Mike Ogden, DCC Access & Rights of Way Officer, regarding a proposal to designate part of the recently-improved dismantled railway track from Barnard Castle to West Auckland as a Public Bridleway. As part of this proposal, Teesdale School had requested the diversion of FP 10, which went from the A688 to the Leisure Centre. The proposed route of the diversion would go via The Hub. This was to ensure adequate safeguarding of children using the playing fields, which were separated from the School by the footpath and to reduce dog-fouling on the playing fields. In discussion, members felt that the designation of the railway track would be a great improvement for recreational walkers and cyclists. It was recognised that the diversion of FP 10 was controversial locally, as it was used by people to access the Leisure Centre and the GSK works and that the Ramblers had lodged an objection to the proposal. Whilst public rights of way were often under threat and needed protection, genuine proposals for change should be considered carefully and rationally. In this case, we felt that the School's concerns were legitimate and understandable and that overall the diversion via The Hub, although a little longer, was not a major inconvenience and in some respects would be more amenable. It was agreed, therefore, that in this instance we should not oppose the proposal and that Peter should convey our views to DCC."

As you say in your email, there is likely to be a period of public consultation in due course when everyone will be able to comment individually, but we hope that our committee's views will be of some help too. We shall await the eventual outcome with interest!

Best wishes.

Peter Singer
Secretary, BCWAW
