WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER

DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL (A FOOTPATH AT VERLANDS ROAD TO THE A353 PRESTON ROAD, WEYMOUTH AT PRESTON) DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2017

REPRESENTATIONS AND OBJECTIONS TO THE ORDER (INCLUDING SUPPORTERS)

Brett Davenport	Objection letter dated 19 th December 2017
Mr and Mrs Paul Rookes	Objection letter dated 27 th December 2017
Mrs M Chapman	Objection letter dated 3 rd January 2018

13269



19 December 2017

Your Ref: RW/T494

Phil Hobson Senior Definitive Map Officer Dorset Highways Environment and the Economy Directorate Dorset County Council County Hall Colliton Park Dorchester DT1 1XJ

Dear Sir,

Footpath from Verlands Road to the A353 Preston Road, Weymouth at Preston Modification Order to the Definitive Map

Further to having received the Notice of Modification Order of 23 November 2017, I wish to object for the following reasons.

Firstly, the distance between the boundaries of Pickwick and 30 Verlands Road at Point A (SY 70728319) appears to be circa 8.3 meters when considering HM Land Registry Title DT112671. However, the Order states the footpath width shall be 6.25 meters at SY 70728319.



Extracted from HM Land Reg. DT112671: Pickwick Boundary

Secondly, I consider the grass area marked in red on the Google Map picture (see below) forms part of our curtilage. We regularly mow, clean and occasionally park vehicles there.



Google Maps

Since we are not allowed to obstruct a highway, it is our understanding that we would lose our ability to park in this area should it be designated as a footpath. This does not appear to have been considered when making the Order.

I would consider withdrawing this objection if it can be explained why the width at Point A is 6.25 meters, where Point A starts and ends, and if it can be shown that we would continue to be able park on the grassy area in front of our house.

Yours faithfully,



Brett Davenport

Mr & Mrs Paul Rookes



27th December 2017

Dear Sir

Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981

Dorset County council (Footpath from Verlands Rd to the A353 Preston Rd Weymouth at Preston) Definite Map and Statement Modification Order 2017 –OBJECTION

As owners of land affected by the above Order we hereby lodge an OBJECTION to the Order as made by Dorset County Council on the undernoted grounds:-

- 1. That the County Council failed in its duty to have proper weight to the fact that inadequate documentary evidence existed to justify making the Order.
- 2. That the County Council failed in its duty to consider properly the balance of evidence with regard to the representations alleging 20 years continuous usage of the route. While it was alleged that a continuous direct route existed from Verlands Rd (Point A) to Preston Rd (at Point D) the weight of the evidence pointed to the fact that the route from Verlands Rd was used by dog walkers to gain access to the open fields to the east of Verlands Rd for the purpose of exercising their animals largely for circular walks including use of FP27 and the private farm track accessing the lands of Northdown Farm from Preston Rd. There was little or no evidence of a continuous route between Points C & D. Nor was there any evidence leading to the view that walkers regularly emerged onto Preston Rd (at Point D) or vice versa especially given the absence of footways, alternative or ongoing footpath routes and the extreme danger to pedestrians on this section of road.
- 3. That the Country Council has described the claimed footpath route inaccurately and unreasonably in terms of width. There is no evidence to substantiate the claim that the footpath might be 6.25m or 7.8m for example. (By comparison the carriageway width of Verlands Rd itself appears to be in the order of 6m). Without prejudice to our view as to the lack of adequate evidence as to the existence of the claimed public footpath at all to allege that the claimed public right of way is in the order of 6 or 7m in width is both completely unreasonable in terms of effect on the usability of our land, unsubstantiated, at odds with all the evidence as to the nature of the usage and contrary to all the evidence on the ground and in previous maps and aerial

photographs (including DCCs own stock available on Dorset Explorer) which show the first section to be a track of approx 2m width.

4. Point B shown on all correspondence is an internal gate and does not represent/form any land boundaries. As internal fencing and gates are permitted to control stock this should not be used as a marker under any circumstances. A2 is the point of entry onto our land.

For all the above reasons therefore we wish to OBJECT to the DRAFT Order as not being properly made or considered. We also request that the matter be put before the Secretary of State for the Environment if the County Council are not prepared to withdraw the DRAFT Order.

Yours sincerely

Paul & Louise Rookes

To Jonathan Mair Monitoring Officer DCC

Phil Hobson Senior Definitive Map Officer, Dorset Highways (REF RW/T494)

Kerry Smyth Technical Officer Assistant (Orders) Regulation Team Dorset Highways

County Hall, Colliton Park , Dorchester DT1 XJ

BY HAND & EMAIL

Mrs M Chapman Footpath from Verlands Road to the A353 Preston Road, Date 03-January-2018

Dear Mr P Hobson,

With regard to the proposed footpath from Verlands Road commencing at point A on the printed map, and ending at point D Preston Road.

I can not see any valid reason for this additional footpath at all,my view is, the already established footpath FP27 across Winslow Hill is completely adequate for ramblers and dog walkers alike, and if there is money to be spent,spend it on FP27,bringing in the upkeep of health and safety measures if and when required,not on a new pathway.

Yours sincerely Mrs M Chapman

