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22nd July 2019

Anne Brown, Definitive Map Technical Officer,
Planning and Community Services,
Dorset Council, County Hall,
Colliton Park,
Dorchester DT1 1XJ

Ref: AB RW/T539.

Dear Ms. Brown,

Re: Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981.
Dorset Council (Part of Bridleway 18, Chideock at Mill Lane to be upgraded to
Restricted Byway)
Definitive Map and Statement Modification Order 2019.

We are in receipt of your letter dated 9th July and whilst pleased that this matter is to be referred to the Secretary of State for determination we are extremely disappointed that you do not expect this to be before 2021. This will be a time lapse of some six years since our meeting at County Hall of 24th July of 2015. During this six years the situation on Bridleway 18 has not improved with pedestrians and horse riders constantly being put at risk from vehicular traffic using this bridleway. The vast majority of this vehicular traffic is from West Dorset Leisure Holiday Park who advertise it as an access road.

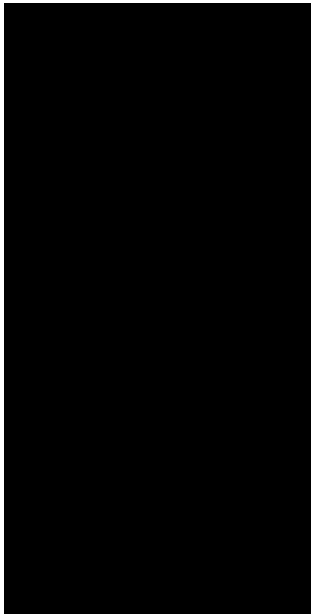
At the meeting of the 24th July it was confirmed by Sarah Meggs, Senior Solicitor, that according to the Definitive Map the Mill Lane County Road ends at Roadstead Farm where the Bridleway 18 begins. This is still the present situation as no modifications have been made as yet to the Definitive Map. The Dorset Explorer Map may have been changed to show a dual status of both road and bridleway but this has NO LEGAL status. We also attach a copy of the Dorset Explorer Map prior to the changes being made showing both the Blue Line for HMPE and Yellow line for Minor Collector Road BOTH ending at Roadstead Farm

We attach a copy of an Illustrative Plan from Kitson & Trotman dated 10th October 2012 outlining their Clients, West Dorset Leisure Limited, Rights of Way and claims with regard to Bridleway 18. You will see that they have NO Rights of Way over the northern stretch of the bridleway and until such time as the Definitive Map is modified they are committing an offence under the Road Traffic Act by encouraging their holidaymakers to use it.

In previous correspondence we have noted that the Dorset Council do not 'record' private rights but this was an application for Planning Permission to use this bridleway as an 'access road' which was approved based on erroneous and misleading information by your officers.

To this end and given the lengthy delay of another two years we request that this section of the Bridleway 18 is either 'gated' or has 'unlockable bollards' (Fire Brigade etc., hold a universal key) placed in appropriate locations to stop the excessive and dangerous vehicular/pedestrian conflict that exists until such time as a determination is made by the Secretary of State.

Yours sincerely,



Community Group

