

From: [Philip Hobbs](#)
To: NATIONALCASEWORK
Subject: NATTRAN/Y&H/S247/4337 (Wolfstones Footpath)
Date: 24 September 2020 13:43:59

Good afternoon.

On behalf of the committee and members of Holmfirth Harriers, with regard to the proposal to divert the footpath at Wolfstones Heights Farm under Section 247 of the 1990 Planning Act, I would like to register our opposition to this proposed diversion.

Our members have used this path hundreds of times over the last 50+ years, both individually and as part of our organised summer training runs and as a club, we feel that this seems to be a classic case of someone buying a property with the knowledge that an ancient and well used right of way runs along what was the farm track, through the property and then decides to block the route for their privacy.

With regards to the proposed works, we would expect that a temporary diversion might be appropriate for safety reasons while any building work is underway, but that the original right of way should be reinstated as soon as it is finished. The proposed diverted path with its tree & shrub planting between the path and the main property, is being taken as far away from the original route and the property as is physically possible within the property's boundaries and is obviously just an attempt to obtain total privacy for this very expensive development.

Finally, in addition to the fact that the diversion not only destroys the traditional route that has been in existence for hundreds of years, it would also emerge at a particularly poor point well down Wolfstones Road to the north for those wishing to either visit the Trig point at Wolfstones Heights or continue to link up with the footpath from Carr Farm to New Close and Upperthong. Anyone wishing to continue their walk or run would now be forced along the side of the road with their back to traffic coming from the north to a blind corner, in an unrestricted speed limit zone. This is clearly not acceptable.

When a S257 application was made to the Council for the same proposal, it at least proposed improvement to the verge on Wolfstones Road to improve safety for walkers and runners. That proposal was resoundingly rejected by the Council. The current application doesn't even propose that improvement.

There is no public, only private, benefit to be gained from allowing the stopping up of the existing footpath to enable the works, the subject of planning permission, to be fully implemented.

On the other hand there will be significant disbenefit to members of the public, such that the balance of argument is clear- the application should be rejected out of hand, not even put forward for consideration at a public inquiry.

Please can you confirm that you have received this email & that our objection has been noted.

Regards,
Phil Hobbs
Hon.Chairman, Holmfirth Harriers AC Management Committee

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