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From: Max Crosland [mailto:
Sent: 11 September 2020 10:28
To: NATIONALCASEWORK <NATIONALCASEWORK@dft.gov.uk>
Subject: Footpath Diversion Holmfirth 60

Dear Secretary of State,

I write concerning the above proposed footpath diversion.

As one of the organising team of the forthcoming Yorkshire Motorsport Festival, which is based near Holmfirth and a major part of which takes place on Wolfstones Road, passing the points where both the existing footpath and the proposed diversion terminate, this proposed footpath diversion is consequently of material interest to us. In connection with, and as part of the preparation for the Festival, we have inspected and walked all existing footpaths affecting our event in this area and, in respect of the proposed diversion of this particular one, I would comment as follows:

1. The existing footpath egress onto Wolfstones Road is by way of a gateway straight out of a high stone walled driveway located on a blind brow, which severely limits the visibility of pedestrians, and by pedestrians, in respect of approaching traffic and as such from a safety perspective must be considered as less than ideal.
2. Having inspected the proposed footpath diversion route, the new proposed access point on Wolfstones Road offers much improved sightlines thereby giving greater visibility to and of both pedestrians and vehicles and is obviously therefore a significantly safer alternative to that which currently exists.
3. A great deal of emphasis in the planning of our Festival is being given to promoting tourism in, and return visits to, the Holmfirth area and the proposed route, instead of being up a high walled tarmac drive, has more of a 'country walk' feel to it and gives much better views of the surrounding countryside, so in terms of outdoor ambience it is a much more pleasant option. The landowner certainly appears to have gone to a significant amount of effort and expense to provide an enhanced alternative route that is much more pleasant, enjoyable, and safer to walk than the existing route.
4. From a personal perspective and as a keen walker myself, despite knowing I have a legal right of way, I always feel a little uncomfortable using footpaths which pass through an individual's residential curtilage and so impinging on their privacy, so anything such as this which provides a viable and less intrusive alternative, and particularly when it's a material improvement on that existing, should be both encouraged and welcomed.

I therefore request that you approve this proposed footpath diversion.

Yours Faithfully

Max Crosland

Director - Yorkshire Motorsport Festival Ltd

Max Crosland

Yorkshire Motorsport Festival