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From: James Wimpenny [mailto:]
Sent: 15 September 2020 14:17
To: NATIONALCASEWORK <NATIONALCASEWORK@dft.gov.uk>
Subject: Footpath Diversion Holmfirth 60

Dear Sirs,

I write in relation to the proposed Holmfirth 60 footpath diversion application.

I wish to support the application as it appears to me to be a significant improvement on the existing and would offer more privacy to the people who live close by the existing path. I find it somewhat uncomfortable to walk through someone's garden when they are outside enjoying themselves. The footpath diversion seems eminently sensible and I cannot see why people are objecting to this.

It would appear a social media campaign has been established by numerous "footpath warriors".

"I prefer to walk up the drive as it shorter" Answer: why are you out for a country walk and complain about a few yards extra? The diversion is pretty negligible and through a field not buildings. If they are walking towards Honley it is actually shorter! The existing is down a surfaced drive with high walls rather than proper country with open views. They really just want to be nosey.

"The old route is more scenic" See response above.

"The exit from the new path onto Wolfstones Rd is dangerous". Response: This is plainly nonsense as the view is clearer and is much safer.

Holm Valley Parish Council voted to approve the diversion agreeing that it is a much safer and more enjoyable route. Who would know better than the local parish council? Kirklees MC also recommended it for approval. In addition, there is an extant planning approval for alterations to the house next door which necessitates the diversion of the footpath to what is proposed!

What I object to is organised internet warrior campaigns that rail against the wishes of most country walkers, many who have passed favourable comments on the new route. A ver small minority form these "action groups" and stir up a hate campaign objecting anything that anyone wants to do purely for the sake of it.

Please take this communication as very serious support for this application. Please do not pander to these ridiculous objections.

Yours faithfully,

James Wimpenny