

From: Steven Bullas  
Sent: 22 September 2020 20:46  
To: NATIONALCASEWORK <NATIONALCASEWORK@dft.gov.uk>  
Subject: Ref Footpath Diversion, Footpath60, Upperthong

The Secretary of State

The reason for my email is to support the proposed diversion of a footpath 60 Upperthong Holmfirth.

I have lived all my life in the Holme Valley 69 years . As a retiree I walk on a regular basis, my wife and I walk between Netherthong , Upperthong and Honley. I always walk down Wolfstone Road towards Honley after leaving the path route near Wolfstone Heights.

I have seen a diversion notice on our route that we have been using since we were diverted from the old pathway we used to use . Thank goodness the original route past Wolfstone Road Farm has been altered. We used to walk alongside a private house, could see into the occupants windows . This farm have vehicles using their driveway, and my wife always feels uncomfortable when she goes down this private drive.

The new route which I think is called Footpath 60, is a considerable improvement on the original pathway. You can enjoy the fields instead of stone wall driveway , this gives a better view of the amazing Landscape . But more importantly is the access onto Wolfstone road at the end of the path , there is now a wide cobbled entrance and you can see in both directions. The original entrance was on a blind bend, and was dangerous, only last year a dog walker in front of me nearly lost his animal, as a speeding car came around this bend !

I am mortified to see in my local paper, a local councillor is asking for people to lobby against this path diversion. I do remember sometime ago that Kirklees Council Footpath Officer recommended to make an order to divert the route. As a result of lobbying against this path diversion, Kirklees Council has resurrected this issue and voted it down.

I suspect that politics are at play here, the owner of Wolfstone Farm is a high profile successful businessman. Wolfstone Farm and surrounding buildings have benefitted from his investment.

Secretary of State I appeal to you to see through the local political shenanigans and apply common sense to allow us retired ramblers enjoy the benefits of this diverted route.

Thanking You

Steven and Carolyn Bullas