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**From:** Martin Haigh [mailto:  
**Sent:** 24 September 2020 15:22  
**To:** NATIONALCASEWORK <NATIONALCASEWORK@dft.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** FW: Footpath

Dear Secretary of State

**REF Footpath Diversion Holmfirth 60**

Having seen the notices as I walk my dog regularly around Wolfstones, Roebucks Farm, Mark's Bottoms and the Trig Point I feel I must put "finger to keyboard".

When I walk new friends or old friends, some of whom lived in the area years ago – everyone of them has commented on what a wonderful job is being done at Wolfstones. Ducks, horses, Shetland ponies, benches, complete with natures panoramic view to sit and enjoy.

I was born in Upperthong 56 years ago, I have lived around the world but my heart is here. My family and myself, now, have lived here since early 1900s. I like the place, I have seen some absolute monstrosities built in and around the village. Farms, small holdings split up made into housing where no one can park. Red roofed bungalows built in the centre of a stone slate roof village. No extra parking made, no areas for children. Dog walking routes with no bins for their waste.

When I look at what has been done at Wolfstones the improvement is immense, fantastic stone work, drystone walls repaired properly, good path, benches to use. A grass verge to walk along at the side of road, allows you to get settled on the road, grab the dog etc.

I must admit I have enjoyed walking up the original path seeing all the superb work being done on the house and grounds but now the walls are either side I prefer the less claustrophobic open path, furthermore it does feel intrusive walking passed the house, my dog has to be on the lead as he would run into the courtyard, whereas the other route allows me to let him run free right to the road.

It perhaps gives a slighter longer walk for me, however that is what I want; even though it can't be much more than 200 yards ( I used to be able to run that in 20 odd seconds) but at least now I can rest on the bench after the climb up from Netherthong or Roebucks – looking at the view and relax in a splendid environment.

Finally, I would also like to point out, that in the dim and distant past a family called Booth lived at Wolfstones, they used to have a white 5 bar gate (painted white – which was unusual then) always closed to keep their dogs in. The Andrews who lived at Wolfstones below actually had to pass through the Booths, they cut a road at the side to avoid having to open the gate and also out of common courtesy to avoid driving / walking through the middle of someone's property. I do think courtesy is something we should all be more aware of, in this modern world of complaining and look at issues; fairly; from all perspectives.

Regards

Martin Haigh

Resident Upperthong