



Definitive Map Team

Spatial Planning

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Owners/Occupiers and Other
Interested Parties

Date: 3 October 2022

Ref: SP RW/T721

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To Whom It May Concern

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

PROPOSED DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER – PART OF BRIDLEWAY 33, STOURTON CAUNDLE (N54/33)

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act Dorset Council is required to maintain a “definitive map and statement of rights of way”. The Council is also required by the Act to keep the map and statement under continuous review and to modify them if there is evidence that they are incorrect. The evidence may be in the form of historical documents or modern usage or both.

The Council is considering a proposal to modify the definitive map and statement of rights of way by correcting the northern end of Bridleway 33, Stourton Caundle (N54/33). I enclose Drawing T721-22-1 to illustrate the proposal.

Our initial investigation has suggested that the route of Bridleway N54/33 has been incorrectly recorded and Dorset Council has a legal duty to investigate the matter to assess the available evidence and decide whether to make a definitive map modification order (DMMO). Please note that DMMOs do not seek to create new public rights but to record those rights that already exist. Our investigations will evaluate the evidence, from users of the route and from historical documents, and make a recommendation in a report which will be considered by senior managers / officers at the earliest opportunity. In addition, the evidence may lead the Council to make another type of order from that proposed.

The decision will have to be based solely on the evidence. The desirability, suitability or necessity of modifying the route are not matters that can be taken into account under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and information on these points is not required. However, any other information would be welcome.

Any evidence received by **Monday 7 November 2022** may be included in the report and will be treated as public information (please refer to the Data Protection information at the end of this letter). In any response it would be helpful if you could give an email address for future correspondence. If you need additional time in which to respond please let me know. The file is available for public inspection at the Definitive Map office at County Hall by appointment.

Yours faithfully

Sue Phillips

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Definitive Map Technical Officer

Dorset Council is a Data Controller for the purposes of the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 and the Data Protection Act 2018. This Act regulates how we obtain, use and retain personal information. The information you supply will be used for the purpose of fulfilling our functions and duties, including those under the Highways Act 1980, Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Any information provided, including personal details will be available for public inspection, disclosed to interested third parties and may be used during public inquiries and other proceedings. The information will be kept indefinitely. By replying to this correspondence you are consenting to your personal information being retained and used for these purposes. Further information about the use of personal information and data protection is available on our web-site at www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk or by contacting the Council's Data Protection Officer.