Devon Countryside Access Forum



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Mr R Richards
Highways Intelligence Group Manager
Highways, Capital Development and Waste Management
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8 April 2018

Dear Mr Richards

DCC/3858/2016

Buttercombe Barton to Spreacombe Bridge, West Down, Ilfracombe, EX34 8NU

The Devon Countryside Access Forum (DCAF) is a local access forum under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW Act). Its statutory remit is to give independent advice "as to the improvement of public access to land in the area for the purposes of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the area…"

The DCAF currently has fifteen members who represent the interests of landowners/managers, access users and other relevant areas of expertise such as conservation and tourism.

The Devon Countryside Access Forum discussed the Buttercombe to Spreacombe planning application at its meeting on 25 January, following correspondence from a member of the public expressing concern that the safe road-crossing connection towards West Down had been excluded from the scheme submitted for planning. It was noted that the application had been approved at the Development Management Committee on 24 January.

The Devon Countryside Access Forum is a local access forum. It is required, in accordance with Sections 94 and 95 of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000, to provide advice as to the improvement of public access to land for the purposes of open-air recreation and enjoyment.



The Forum is aware of the desire from the local community and Parish Council for a safe crossing of the A361 to enable a link between the village and the Tarka Trail. Enabling residents to access the Trail will be beneficial to health and well-being and may bring economic benefits to the village pub and community shop.

The Devon Countryside Access Forum advises that this matter should be reconsidered once funding is in place to enable the scheme to proceed.

It would be helpful if you could provide feedback and updates on progress with this project.

Yours sincerely

Hilary Winter Forum Officer

Letter sent on behalf of the Devon Countryside Access Forum

Chair: Sarah Slade Vice Chair: Chris Cole