



**Devon Countryside Access Forum
c/o Public Rights of Way team
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Transportation Planning
County Hall
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5 May 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

Clearbrook to Roborough multi-use trail

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...” Section 94(4) of the Act specifies bodies to whom the Forum has a statutory function to give advice, and this includes county councils.

The DCAF currently has nineteen members, appointed by Devon County Council, who represent the interests of landowners/managers, access users and other relevant areas of expertise such as conservation and tourism.

Devon Countryside Access Forum members discussed the proposed project at the meeting held on 25 April.

The Devon Countryside Access Forum would support Route B as this appears to be a more attractive route with several benefits. It is a pleasanter, quieter route, away from the A386, and avoids the need to cross this busy main road.

The Forum acknowledges that there will be some issues for commoners and other landowners and trusts that close liaison will take place to address concerns.

This extension will be used by both recreational users (walkers, dog walkers, mobility scooter/wheelchair users and cyclists) and commuters and thought therefore needs to

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.

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be given to appropriate surfacing that facilitates use yet reduces cyclists travelling at high speed.

Forum members are aware that airlock gates used further north on the Drake's Trail, near Clearbrook, impeded use by disabled users and could result in someone getting stuck between the sets of gates. The Forum advises that any path furniture on the new route should be fully accessible.

The Devon Countryside Access Forum would welcome feedback and updates on the development of this project.

Yours faithfully



Hilary Winter
Forum Officer

Letter sent on behalf of the Devon Countryside Access Forum

Chair: Sarah Slade

Vice Chair: Chris Cole