From: Karen Mitchel Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2024 7:32 PM To: Sparks, Helen <<u>helen.sparks@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</u>> Subject:



Ref: Row/3323995

Sent from my Galaxy

**Dear Mrs Sparks** 

I am writing to formally express our opposition to the proposed reopening of the footpath near Coombe Cottages which has not been used for many years.

While we understand & use public footpaths ourselves, i believe reopening this footpath poses safety issues. Traffic being our main concern.

East farm was once a working farm which local people used many, many years ago where few purchased eggs, milk etc the footpath was access to the farm by permission of the farm owner, so this in our opinion doesnt mean used for pleasure.

Traffic is a safety issue, the farm was years ago since then we now have school buses, lorries, ambulances etc & many use it as a cut through from the A30, we are unable to walk safely into the village & wont allow our granchildren to cycle on old compton lane to the village park. It is defiently not safe for walkers the lane is to narrow with so much traffic.

We are confused as to why anyone would want to walk the footpath just to walk across one field & right through holiday lodges with people in hotubs seems bizarre to us that this would be a pleasurable walk!

On a personal note if this plan is approved we would be unable to recieve deliveries like oil, groceries, wood etc as its illegal to park on footpaths. In our deeds we are allowed access. On purchase of our property land searches revealed no public footpaths around us.

The gate has never been locked & since we have lived here 6 years there has always been a sign saying private, the area is very overgrown & only one person in 6 years has come here to walk it which speaks volumes.

We feel the use is historical when it was once a working farm which is not the case now.

Safety of our property is a worry for us with random people walking right past our property which could result in persons who are not walkers to check out our property for the purpose of crime.

I would like to think the council would reconsider reopening the footpath due to safety reasons re traffic.

Kind Regards

Mr & Mrs K Mitchell

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