

From: Liz Davenport <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 06 January 2026 17:13
To: Helen Sparks <helen.sparks@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Cc: Dominic Hazlehurst <[REDACTED]>
Subject: ROW/3350303 and ROW/3350304

Dear Ms Sparks

As a resident of Beaminster I wish to express my full support for the proposed changes to the footpath and bridleway running through Chantry Farm.

I have enjoyed the permissive path for the last 2 years or so; it has avoided the need to walk through the sometimes busy farmyard and on to the often boggy patch of ground where I believe the farm's water supply and land drainage is carried underground requiring regular digging for maintenance. Walking around the buildings instead of through the centre of them is far more peaceful for both me and the farmer. Knowing I am not running the risk of meeting livestock held in the barns or disturbing someone at work allows me to relax, enjoy my thoughts and the lovely scenery. The permissive path has been a pleasure to walk; light, bright and open while still taking the route through the small woodland and next to the pretty stream. It has been well-maintained making the path easy to follow and comfortable under-foot.

I have never used the existing bridleway as it has always resembled more of a nature corridor than a pathway for people or horses. It is very dark from the overhanging trees and shrubs, a stream runs through it so the ground is stony and loose, with large reeds, branches and tree roots making the path impossible. The route has been impassable for decades forming a fabulous haven for wildlife, the high sides with hedges further support the variety of birds, mammals and insects that can be found in the locality. In my opinion, repairing the route for use would unnecessarily disturb and destroy this lovely sanctuary for no good reason when the proposed path is so much better in every way. Additionally, I imagine the works to achieve this would cost a fortune and vastly outweigh the cost of maintaining the proposed footpath.

The existing footpath that runs parallel to the proposed footpath has become a stream with running water all year round making it difficult to walk and obviously impossible to maintain so that weeds grow out of control in the summer, stinging walkers and dogs and obscuring all views. The new path has been welcomed by everyone I have met on it.

As an elderly lady, I find walking in the countryside has become a priority for my fitness, health and general well-being. Even on a gloomy day in winter I find walking this route

from Beaminster square up towards Buckham Down and beyond, to the network of pathways, lifts my spirits. I enjoy nothing more than gazing southwards over the town and beyond the hills, to the sparkling sea in the distance. Access to these views are essential to me and I am looking forward to the permissive route becoming the definitive route for walkers, horse riders and make the job of maintenance simpler for the farmers who so generously allow us to enjoy their land.

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Davenport

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