

Your Ref: LR610G

Re: S53 Application Alleged Public Footpath between Public Footpath No. 11 and Public Bridleway No. 0.1287 Castle Church

Thank you for the document bundle with regard to the above. Please find below a formal response from Hyde Lea Parish Council prepared by [REDACTED], one of our Parish Councillors.

Formal Response from Hyde Lea Parish Council: -

The Parish Council does not support the application to create a new Public Right of Way (PRW) as described in the above application documents and the route thereof shown on various Maps contained within the document bundle.

1. The proposed route of said paths runs alongside sports playing fields e.g., Rugby Pitches etc. owned by Stafford Grammar School.
The route is used by members of the Public including Dog walkers who may or may not attend to the removal of Dog Mess. On inspection of the school provided Dog Mess bins there was a reasonable number of Dog Mess plastic collection bags inside them. The school empties these bins on a regular basis. The issue of Dog Mess and children playing sports on the pitches must be considered in relationship to the Health and Safety aspect.
2. When the School is on Holiday a number of people ride Motorcycles around the sports pitches racing each other. This also occurs mostly at weekends in the summer months when the school is closed. They enter the school grounds via the underpass of the Motorway (Footpath 11) or over adjoining fields. The excessive noise from these motorcycles is very anti-social to residents who live close to the southern adjacent fields overlooking the sports fields.
3. There is an existing Public Right of Way Footpath No. 11 that flows into Orchard Lane and then onto the main road through the Hyde Lea Village thereby allowing walkers to walk into the village from the commencement of Footpath 11 by the Motorway underpass.
4. The Parish Council has a balanced view on this matter and believes the current situation should remain and a new PRW is not approved. The school can then continue to accept or otherwise walkers over their land. It is believed under the current situation there is no contention between walkers and school arranged sports on the land.