

APPENDIX G

Finney, Samantha (Corporate)

From: anndrea bossen <anndrea.bossen@talktalk.net>
Sent: 19 July 2021 15:42
To: Finney, Samantha (Corporate)
Subject: Fwd: Response To Second Draft Report For DMMO Application LE607G
Attachments: Park Farm Bunker.pdf

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Dear Samantha

Following your below email, regarding closure of the "Loop Line", our research reveals that the correct and accurate situation is as follows. The Loop Line was fully closed to rail traffic in 1964. In 1971 a short section was reopened for haulage of coal between a bunker at the Park Farm open cast workings (south of the Staffordshire County Council boundary in Stoke on Trent) to the coking kilns at the former Birchenwood Colliery. This was short lived and ceased in 1973. Attached is a photograph of the bunker, after it fell into disuse, which was located just south of the private bridge depicted on old OS maps that accessed Park Farm.

However, these movements of coal were not wholly over the "Loop Line". There were a multitude of shunting lines connected to the "Loop Line" around the area of the Staffordshire/Stoke on Trent boundary. The location of the kilns required trains and loads to pass off the "Loop Line" onto these separate shunting lines. There was, at the time, continuing equestrian access over the application route.

As we have explained, use along the edge of the line, rather than over the track bed along this section of the "Loop Line", is in the Stoke on Trent authority area for which a bridleway order is going to be published.

I am happy to talk with you and my number is shown below. However, be aware that after the more than 25 years that have elapsed I am having to refer to others for my information and research. So it is unlikely that I will personally be in a position to add anything to what I have already sent to you without referring to others first.

Kind Regards

Anndrea Bossen

For Border Bridleways Association Tel:07949338875

----- Original Message -----

From: "Finney, Samantha (Corporate)" <samantha.finney@staffordshire.gov.uk>

To: anndrea bossen <anndrea.bossen@talktalk.net>

Date: 19 July 2021 at 11:02

Subject: RE: Response To Second Draft Report For DMMO Application LE607G

Dear Anndrea,

Thank you for your prompt response, all of which have been noted.

I do apologise for the lack of information given in the report. I did research the area within SOTCC boundary and obtained their Definitive Map, I am unsure as to why this did not get included in the report.

I have attempted on numerous occasions to contact NULBC for information on the tracks on the old potteries loop line. This is crucial to the application due to whether the route was usable by horse riders because of the tracks, I was seeking further information from NULBC regarding this.

I will amend the report and have it sent out to you by the end of the week.

Kind regards

Samantha

From: anndrea bossen <anndrea.bossen@talktalk.net>

Sent: 19 July 2021 07:40

To: Finney, Samantha (Corporate) <samantha.finney@staffordshire.gov.uk>

Cc: Burnett, Gill (County Cllr) <gill.burnett@staffordshire.gov.uk>; White, Alan (County Cllr)

<alan.white@staffordshire.gov.uk>; Dalton, Paula (Corporate) <paula.dalton@staffordshire.gov.uk>

Subject: Fwd: Response To Second Draft Report For DMMO Application LE607G

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Staffordshire County Council. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Ms Finney

Following your email of last Friday afternoon, with an attached and revised draft report for definitive map modification LE607G, the response and comments from Border Bridleways Association are as follows.

Firstly, we are appalled that the revised draft report totally ignores and fails to correct so many of the observations, inaccuracies and misleading information we reported following Staffordshire County Councils previous draft report for this application. The last attachment to this email is a copy of the revised draft report which was provided on Friday in Word format. On it we have highlighted text in yellow that we totally disagree with or regard as incorrect, inaccurate, misleading or incomplete. Associated comments of explanation from Border Bridleways Association then follow in red text. The comments we have made are supported by the attachments which are titled in a way that makes them easily reconcilable with the text they relate to.

We will be elaborating further on the draft report after answers are provided to several questions we have asked Staffordshire County Council to provide answers for. You will find these questions, in bold typeface, within the text we have added in red on the revised draft report.

Your email of last Friday asked us to provide any comments on the draft promptly so that the application can be put before the Countryside and Rights of Way Panel for determination in August. We have responded in less than one working day. Similarly, we expect and require Staffordshire County Council to provide its answers to the questions we have asked for answers to by no later than 26th July, We will then, by return, provide you with our final response and comments on the revised draft report.

The whole manner in which this application has been dealt with by Staffordshire County Council is a disgrace. We have already had to submit a Stage 1 formal complaint to even get this far after more than 25 years since the application was submitted. The revised report just disregards nearly all of the extensive input we researched and provided to rebut the previous totally and fatally flawed draft report presented to us by Staffordshire County Council. We feel very strongly about this matter and the associated wasted time and inconvenience it has caused us. This being the result of maladministration, direct breach of the law (failure to determine the application promptly and then acting in contempt of an express Secretary Of State Direction to determine it by no later than August 2018) and the general abhorrent behaviour of Staffordshire County Council in dealing with this matter. Unless **all** the issues contained in the comments added to the attached and revised draft are addressed, and the report is amended yet again to reflect them, we will be elevating this matter to a Stage 2 complaint and onwards thereafter if necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Anndrea Bossen

For Border Bridleways Association

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