



CAMBRIDGE AGRICULTURAL

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Date: 5th February 2019

Mr R Stamford
Chairman
Dry Drayton Parish Council
39 High Street
Dry Drayton
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8BS

Dear Mr Stamford

I am writing to you on behalf of my client, James Peck of PX Farms Ltd, and specifically in relation to land at Rectory Farm, Dry Drayton.

Mr Peck is considering making an application to Cambridgeshire County Council to divert/extinguish public footpath numbers 66/3, 66/4 and 66/19 and bridleway number 66/18 under Sections 118 and 119 of the Highways Act 1980. In writing to you I am seeking to gauge local opinion on the proposal.

The overall rationale for the plan lies in removing what are currently cross-field paths on arable land and replacing them with a more user-friendly field edge route which retains links to paths 48/4, 66/19 and 150/4. It is recognised that public rights of way are an important resource to the village community and the proposal seeks to enhance this provision in several key ways, as follows:

- The new route would be based entirely on either four metre (bridleways) or two metre (footpaths) wide grass tracks alongside the picturesque eastern, northern and western boundaries of Rectory Farm.
- The new route would provide 2567 metres of bridleway accessed from the village edge, linking to bridleway number 48/4 towards Childerley. This would replace the 706 metres of bridleway currently in place at Rectory Farm which brings riders out onto Scotland Road 640 metres south of the village edge. We believe the proposal greatly improves the safety of bridleway users as well as introducing new provision.
- The proposal is designed to incorporate a linking path to create a circular walk south of Dry Drayton. Users of existing routes 66/17 and 66/19 could proceed westwards from the Callow Brook along footpath number 66/19, before crossing Scotland Road and turning northwards along a new 410 metre stretch of footpath leading back to the New Road entrance to Rectory Farm.
- Part of the new route would include features to improve access for the mobility impaired user. It is proposed to introduce a new stretch of path from the village edge at Scotland Road, leading westwards along New Road then northwards through Newroad Plantation to the existing footpath number 66/3, Keepers End. A bench for public use would be installed midway along the walk and situated to take advantage of the panoramic views westwards across Rectory Farm. This would enable footpath users of limited mobility to undertake a short circular walk encompassing countryside views.
- The proposed new route takes the public away from cross-field paths to the field edge, eliminating the need to walk on rough, bare terrain and reducing public proximity to operating farm machinery and newly sprayed crops.

Partners

M W Hamilton Ltd, E W Lee Ltd, J G L Law Ltd, M Walshe Ltd, P G M Claydon Ltd, N R Harris Ltd, W King Ltd, S J Lewis Ltd,
C M B Ashton Ltd, W E Pepper Ltd, P M Woolner Ltd, M O Peck Ltd, J A Stiff Ltd, M B Jones Ltd, R W Freshwater Ltd,
S P C Gooderham Ltd, B Goodsell-King Ltd.



Offices at: CAMBRIDGE SAFFRON WALDEN NEWMARKET HAVERHILL ELY SUTTON LONDON



I have prepared a more detailed consultation document including annotated maps, attached, and I would be very grateful if you could give this some consideration and share it with your parishioners as appropriate. Also attached to my email is an aerial video of the proposal which should help to get a good feel for the lie of the land, as it were, for those parishioners who aren't already familiar with Rectory Farm.

Please could you respond to me with any comments within 28 days of the date of this letter, by Friday 8th March 2019.

Overall, we believe this proposal will offer positive benefits to the village and I look forward to receiving any comments you may have.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "K L Hilton".

Katie Hilton BSc (Hons) ABIAC
Farm Management Consultant

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