

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET

REGULATORY (ACCESS) COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 8th October, 2014

Present:—Councillors: Douglas Nicol (Chair), Douglas Deacon, Jeremy Sparks, Peter Edwards and Mathew Blankley

30 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Democratic Services Officer drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out on the Agenda.

31 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

There were none.

32 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

33 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There was none.

34 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS

There were none.

35 ITEMS FROM COUNCILLORS AND CO-OPTED MEMBERS

There was none.

36 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the previous meeting be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

37 **HANDEL ROAD DMMO**

The Chair invited Graeme Stark (Senior Officer – Public Rights of Way) to introduce the item.

Graeme Stark informed the Committee that in 2008 Keynsham Town Council had made an application for a public footpath to be recorded on Definitive Map and Statements behind Handel Road in Keynsham. An investigation and consultation had been carried out and substantial number of User Evidence Forms (UEFs) were received from the public.

The UEFs documented significant use of the application route between 1988 and 2008. There was no evidence presented that the landowner took any steps to show that they did not intend to dedicate the route to the public.

Fifteen objections and representations had been submitted by members of the public. Nine of those were objections to the application; however none of these objections were based on legally relevant grounds.

While the Council was sympathetic to local residents' concerns regarding safety and security, these were not factors which the Council can take into consideration.

Graeme Stark added the evidence demonstrated that the application route had become a public footpath by virtue of Section 31/1 of the Highways Act 1980 and the DMMO should therefore be made to record the application route on the Definitive Map and Statements.

On a motion from Councillor Mathew Blankley, second by Councillor Jeremy Sparks, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to support officer's recommendation to make a Definitive Map and Modification Order to record the Application Route, as shown by a broken black line on the plan contained at Appendix 1 ('the decision plan') and described in the schedule contained at Appendix 2, on the Definitive Map and Statements.

38 **ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chair asked the Committee to observe a minute of silence in the mark of respect for David Waterstone, who was the Chair of the Joint Local Access Forum and local representative of the Ramblers' Association.

The meeting ended at 10.35 am

Chair(person)

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services