



**Dorset  
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BY EMAIL

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**Ref:** ASB RW/P256

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To Whom it May Concern

**SECTION 119, HIGHWAYS ACT 1980**

**APPLICATION FOR A PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER – FOOTPATH 46, OKEFORD FITZPAINE AT DARKNOLL FARM.**

Dorset Council has received an application to divert part of Footpath 46, Okeford Fitzpaine as shown on the enclosed Drawing (P256/24/1).

This diversion is being made in the interest of the landowner for better management and safety of livestock.

The current definitive route of Footpath 46 runs from point A where it crosses Footpath 44 generally north west then west then north west to point B.

The proposed new route runs from point C north west then south west to point D, then generally south west to points E, F, G, H and B.

The current route between A and B is approximately 601 metres long and the proposed new route from C-D-E-F-G-H-B is approximately 618 metres long. The width of the new route will be 2.0 metres from C-B except where pedestrian gates will be installed to the current British Standard BS5709:2018 at points E, F, G and H.

The following works will be carried out before the order is confirmed:

- Barbed wire along proposed route to be moved to opposite side of fenceposts to new route of footpath.
- Gaps to be created in hedges along proposed route and pedestrian gates installed to current British Standard.
- Install culverts in ditches between E&F and G&H, 2m width.
- Fallen trees across proposed route to be removed.
- Vegetation clearance and surface improvements to be carried out if needed along the new route.

Although not on the proposed diversion, the stile to the north of point B is to be replaced with pedestrian gate to current British Standard.

Under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980, the ends of the diversion must be in places substantially as convenient to the public. Regard must also be paid to the effect the diversion would have on public enjoyment of the footpath as a whole, and on land served by the existing and proposed routes.

Section 29 of the Highways Act 1980, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, says that when making diversion orders the Council must have regard to the needs of agriculture, forestry and the desirability of conserving flora, fauna and geological and physiographical features.

The current and proposed routes are available for inspection. The proposed route can be accessed from point C-D-E and from points B-H. To access points F-G it is necessary to use the field gates to the south of points E-F and G-H.

I should be grateful to have any comments you may wish to make in writing by **22 March 2024** so that they may be taken into consideration. If you think you will need more time to respond please let me know as soon as possible. Your comments will be treated as public information (please refer to the Data Protection information at the end of this letter) and may be incorporated if a report is made to the Strategic and Technical Planning Committee.

The file is available for public inspection at County Hall, by prior appointment only. Members of the public are allowed limited public speaking at a Committee meeting. If the case is to be brought before the Committee we will write to those directly affected to advise them. If you wish to be informed of the details of the meeting please let me know.

Yours

*Alastair Beaven*

Alastair Beaven  
**Definitive Map Technical Officer**

Dorset Council is a Data Controller for the purposes of the General Data Protection Regulation 2016. This Act regulates how we obtain, use and retain personal information. The information you supply will be used for the purpose of fulfilling our functions and duties, including those under the Highways Act 1980, Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Any information provided, including personal details will be available for public inspection, disclosed to interested third parties and may be used during public inquiries and other proceedings. The information will be kept indefinitely. By replying to this correspondence you are consenting to your personal information being retained and used for these purposes. Further information about the use of personal information and data protection is available on our web-site at [www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) or by contacting the Council's Data Protection Officer.