Peak & Northern Footpaths Society (est. 1894)

Registered Charity no. 212219

Ref HPK/2016/0189

05 05 2016.

Dear Moya,

As the Peak and Northern Footpath Society's Right of Ways Inspector for the Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish I currently have a have a complaint on the footpath (Chapel-en-le-Frith F/P 133) that passes through the grounds of Turn Meadow, in the respect that the Definite Line has been unofficially diverted by the current owners of this property. Derbyshire County Council are fully aware of this situation, I had a site meeting with Mark Atherton in December 2015 on site who agreed on conclusion of our meeting that he would get the footpath re-surveyed to establish whether my complaint was valid, as yet despite my two request for an update on this situation the DCC have not responded. My first complaint dates back to 13 12 2014 ref 417221 when I found a new fence had been installed with a field gate across the drive, the fence has been built directly in front of the old and original stone stile with no access to pass through or over the fence so forcing people to walk an alternative line of footpath. This matter has been reported several times since with my last complaint being on 15 04 2016 ref 25003422. As you will be aware a Right of Ways cannot be diverted on the whim of an individual.

The application statement says that there are no Public Rights of Way affected, the extension as I see it on the drawings is to the east side of the property close to the where the Definitive Line of the footpath is, this could lead to a complaint of "invasion of privacy" by the applicant if the building work is approved and my complaint is valid. The footpath indicated on the drawings show the true "Definitive Line" of the footpath as to my complaint and not to the line preferred by the applicant.

Due to the lack of response from DCC and this recent application I have now been put in the position of asking my Area Officer Mr John Harker to instigate Legal Proceedings against DCC to resolve this matter on behalf of the Peak and Northern Footpath Society, until this matter is resolved I would ask that any decision on this application be postponed.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Brackenbury.

Footpath Inspector for Chapel-en-le-Frith, Chinley and Peak Forest Parishes.

Copies to:-

John Harker, Area Officer for Peak & Northern Footpath Society,

Chapel-en-le-Frith Parish Council,

Derbyshire County Council,

Ramblers Association, New Mills Area,

Peak and Northern Footpath Society Faults Secretary.