

9th July 2014
Dear Sir,

I wish to object to the proposed order regarding the prohibition on driving on parts of Cat Lane / Carfield Lane. We have been advised the closure of the entrance on Cat Lane is partially to prevent fly tipping.

I wish to object to the closure of the Cat Lane entrance on the grounds of public health and safety due to the access from Carfield Lane not being of sufficient width to accommodate some emergency vehicles that would have to enter the grounds.

According to the fire safety department access for appliances and firefighting facilities for fire and rescue service use, the minimum width of an access road for pumping appliances is 3.7 m and for hydraulic platforms 3.7m. The minimum width of gateways is 3.1 m and the bridge weights must exceed the laden weight of 17 tonnes for a hydraulic platform.

(Please see attached photo of the above document)

The access from Carfield Lane, which has not been gated is only 2.9m and is normally restricted by vehicles. Where the wall begins halfway down the road narrows to only 2.6m wide. The bridge has had work carried out and walls erected either side, these are within the minimum width required according to the fire safety document. Unfortunately the banking before the bridge and roadway only measures 2.8m wide while the point just after the bridge measures 2.9m wide to the edge of the drop.

The entrance on Cat Lane that has been proposed to be closed and has already had a gate established exceeds these measurements for vehicles to gain access with no turns to accommodate.

If fly tipping is a problem then surely it would make sense to gate both entrances to prevent vehicle access, not just one!

I believe that it would make more sense to leave the wider roadway and more direct route off Cat Lane open for access to both the wooded area and Rose Cottage. I believe this would adhere to the public health and safety with regards to the emergency vehicle access requirements.

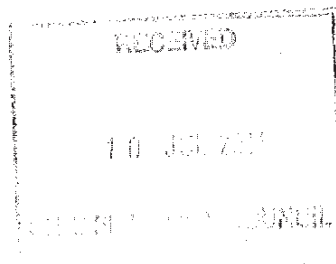
The Cat Lane entrance would in my view be the easier entrance point for any emergency vehicle that would need entry as it is straighter than the proposed route from Carfield Lane and does not get obstructed by other vehicles parking at the entrance, therefore saving valuable seconds which can all too easily be a matter of life or death.

If the proposal is to be granted and go ahead will the grounds still be maintained? Since the prohibition proposal has been displayed on the gate, I have noticed that there has been no maintenance of the roadway and it is only due to vehicles travelling through that has kept the over growing shrubbery at bay. Further along where in previous years the Carwood entrance has been gated and locked, the plant life has gone completely wild and where there were once tracks leading in all different directions, you can no longer make them out. There is a narrow path where if you are lucky two people can walk side by side, shoulders touching, before it narrows again and you have to weave through brambles. One path which was popular with dog walkers is now inaccessible. My fear is that if this is gated this place will become overgrown, more than it already is and become disused, leaving the resident of Rose Cottage stranded. Although this resident at the present time does not require the use of a vehicle, future residents may rely on them. Has any of this been taken into account?

I wish to be personally informed by way of letter, the outcome of the investigation which I hope my objection should instigate and the resulting outcome of the prohibition proposal.

Yours faithfully


Mr M. Turner



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