

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Officer Decision Record

Decision Maker	Jonathan Woods – Countryside Access Group Manager
Title	Dedication of public bridleway rights between Bridleway 501 and Springvale Road, Parish of Kings Worthy

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1. The decision:

- 1.1. Hampshire County Council has received an offer for the dedication of public bridleway rights between Kings Worthy Bridleway 501 and Springvale Road (as shown between Points A and D on the Location Map). The rights will be dedicated by multiple landowners - Hampshire County Council (owns section A-B), the owner of Woodhams Farm, Network Rail and Laney Properties Ltd (own sections between B-D). As a result of their connection to the existing rights of way network, the dedications will provide a continuous bridleway link between Kings Worthy and South Wonston. The width of the dedicated route will 3 metres throughout.
- 1.2. The route running between A-B runs over land owned and managed by the County Council, part of which is recorded as public footpath (which was dedicated by the County Council in 2002). The land is currently managed as a Countryside Service site
- 1.3. The route between Points B-D has at some point in the past been surfaced with tarmac for the purposes of facilitating private vehicular access to businesses at Woodhams Farm. Consequently, dedications for this section of the route will be formalised by agreements under common law to ensure that the County Council does not assume responsibility for the maintenance of this part of the route. Given the standard to which it has been maintained for private purposes to date, it is not envisaged that this have a detrimental impact on the public. The County Council will naturally retain maintenance responsibility for the section of the route running between A-B, over land within its ownership.
- 1.4. The proposal has met with no objection during consultation (see Appendix 1).

2. Reason(s) for the decision:

- 2.1. The proposed dedications will contribute to the resolution of an outstanding application to record a public bridleway between Springvale Road and Woodhams Farm, submitted by Kings Worthy Parish Council in 2003. It was taken up for investigation in 2008 but due to a combination of personnel changes and pressures of other work, has since remained undetermined.

- 2.2. As the County Council cannot enter into an agreement with itself, historically it has used Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 to dedicate public rights over land which it owns. Section 1 enables the Council to do anything which an individual can do.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. N/A

4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. N/A

5. Dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service:

- 5.1. None

6. Supporting information:

- 6.1. Location Map

Approved by:

Date:

_____ (signature)

03/03/2020

Jonathan Woods – Countryside Access Group Leader

**On behalf of the Director of Culture Communities and
Business Services**

Appendix 1

The Ramblers

"The Ramblers will welcome this enthusiastically!"

The British Horse Society

"I don't know this route very well, but as always would welcome equestrian access wherever we can get it."

Cycling UK

"What is being suggested is welcome and would formalise, I believe, what already happens in practice, i.e. the route to Woodhams Farm as well as the railway line are used by cyclists."

County Councillor Jackie Porter (Local Member)

"I am very pleased that the route used so often by riders and walkers will be validated by this order which will not just open up a short section of the old railway line and link to the main road, but will link to a much wider network of paths and bridleway in this area. The tarmacked road is used by a variety of small businesses and a household and the opportunity to open it on the 'official map' is greatly appreciated."

The Watercress Way Charity

"With its wide flat surface, addition of this section of the old railway line to the west of the mainline into the bridleway network is a great addition to the County's bridleway network and The Watercress way's Access to All project. We are looking forward to adding this section into The Watercress way network, celebrating the ecology and history and accessibility of the disused railway lines in this area."

Opening up under the mainline railway is a significant move forward and one we have been pursuing since the charity started in 2016. We'd like to record our thanks top HCC for their perseverance of this."

Winchester City Council

WCC has not objected to the proposal.

Kings Worthy Parish Council

KWPC has not objected to the proposal.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Reference: Dedication of bridleway rights between Bridleway 501 and Springvale Road, Kings Worthy

Location

Countryside Access Team
Castle Avenue
Winchester
SO23 8UL

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1 Equalities Impact Assessment:

N/A

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder: N/A

3. Climate Change:

How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

N/A

How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts? **N/A**

1:5,000



Hampshire
County Council

RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICE

Footpath
Bridleway
Restricted Byway
Byway Open to All Traffic

One or more of these line notations will appear on the map

Route of
claimed bridleway

Bridleway rights to be
dedicated by landowner



A

B

C

Springvale

ROMAN BUILDING

Winchester
Junction

Kings
Worthy

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