

Dean Shepherd
Senior Legal Officer
Legal & democratic Services
South Gloucestershire Council
The Council Offices
Castle Street
Thornbury
South Gloucestershire
BS35 1HF

31<sup>st</sup> May 2013.

Dear Mr. Shepherd,

## HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 – SECTION 119 DIVERSION OF PUBLIC FOOTPATHS LDH 30 AND LDH 31. LOWER LEDGE FARM, DYRHAM

Thank you for consulting the Cotswolds Conservation Board on the proposed diversion of two footpaths at Lower Ledge Farm. The Board has a particular interest in access to the countryside and public rights of way in line with its second statutory purpose 'to increase the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the AONB ensuring these are compatible with its conservation and enhancement'.

Therefore, whilst the proposed diversions are in the interest of the landowner, the Board is keen to ensure that the interest of the walker is given equal consideration.

In consultation with the Board's volunteers, the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens, who know, use and indeed help maintain the public rights of way in the area, the Board supports the proposed diversion of LDH30 to the line A to F and the diversion of LDH31 to the line D - G - C as shown on the map. These changes reflect the line currently used by walkers.

The Board does not, however, support the proposed diversion of LDH 30 from point C to E and F. The line of LDH 30 should follow the currently used route between the ponds from C to B and F, retaining an attractive feature of interest for the public whilst achieving the desired privacy of the landowner.

Yours sincerely

Mark Connelly

Land management Officer

M.A. Conurlly

Conserving, enhancing, understanding and enjoying the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty