



Hampshire Recreation

COUNTRYSIDE ○ SPORT ○ ARTS ○ TOURISM

Hampshire County Recreation Department

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COLIN BONSEY
County Recreation Officer

Please quote: WAB/PB

Your ref.:

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Mrs C Witherby
Picketts Hill Cottage
Headley
BORDON
Hants GU35 8TD

26 April 1990

Dear Mrs Witherby

Access to BW46 from Trottsford

Thank you for your letter of April 11th 1990.

I went to see Mr Porter with David Dixon, the Assistant County Recreation Officer and three County Councillors when Mr Porter showed us a route which the estate were prepared to agree to give riders access from the north to the bridleways on Broxhead Common.

This involved using a short length of footpath 54 then turning south westwards on the north side of the fence, inside the narrow "neck" of scrub then south on the western edge of Mr Whitfields fields to a point where the fence turns south eastwards. Riders would then cross the open area of heather to join Bridleway 46. The problem with this route is that although the land is owned by Mr Whitfield the areas outside the fields are part of Broxhead Common site of special scientific interest (SSSI) and we have been unable to persuade the Nature Conservancy Council to agree to us clearing a route for a bridleway. Their view is that there is no reason why a route should not be cleared on scientific grounds, but they do not wish to encourage further access by riders to areas of the common which are sensitive in ecological terms. They say that riders do not keep to the bridleways but ride over the heath. We have endeavoured to persuade the NCC to change their views, so far without success.

I know that Maureen Comber met the NCC man, Jonathan Cox recently but I have not heard anything from the NCC about a change of mind. Please be assured we are pursuing the matter with the NCC.

Yours sincerely

W A BIDE
Principal Rights of Way Officer