

Dr Andy Brown

Chief Executive

Mrs Maureen Comber
The Old Cottage
Frith End
BORDON
GU35 0QS

01.23.09/14810

18 August 2005

Dear Mrs Comber

BROXHEAD AND KINGSLEY COMMONS SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST, HAMPSHIRE

I am now able to reply to your messages of 18 and 19 July about bridleways on this site, having had an update on progress from our officer with responsibility for it.

We have been waiting to hear from Hampshire County Council (HCC) on how their review of rights of way was progressing. We now know that the case is to be considered by HCC's Regulatory Committee on 7 September, and I understand that the officer's recommendation is to refuse on the grounds that there is insufficient evidence about use of the paths. We understand that the nature conservation issues are 'effectively irrelevant'!

English Nature does appreciate the needs and aspirations of horse riders, and we are committed to helping as many people as possible to enjoy, understand and value their environment without loss of biodiversity. In this particular case, however, and depending on the outcome of the County Council's deliberations on 7 September, it seems that you may need to continue to work with the County Council to identify other routes.

Yours sincerely
Andy Brown

