



Mr. J Nicklin  
The Path-or-Nones  
c/o The Chandlery  
Martley  
WR56 6QA

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23 January 2015

Our ref: CS/A/Martley/Gen  
Ask for: Kevin Oliver

Dear John

**MARTLEY RIGHTS OF WAY, TAYLOR WIMPEY BUILDING SITE**

I refer to your letter of 3<sup>rd</sup> January to Chief Executive, Malvern Hills District Council (copied to Chief Executive, Worcestershire County Council) and Mr Hegarty's reply of 14<sup>th</sup> January. I have been asked to respond by my Head of Service, Ian Bamforth, (Highways and Public Rights of Way Manager).

The majority of the issues you raise relate to proposed changes to the public rights of way on the site which are currently the subject of a diversion application under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. As you are aware, this application is being considered by Malvern Hills District Council and any concerns you have, about the way in which the application process and consultation has been handled, should be addressed by the District Council as Mr Hegarty has done in his reply to you.

Worcestershire County Council's primary involvement relates to the temporary closure of Martley FP 699, to facilitate construction works, following a request from the developer. This closure came into force on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2014 for a period not exceeding 6 months (or until works proposed to be carried out have been completed, whichever is the earlier). The closure related to MT699 only, so when we became aware that paths not subject to the closure had been closed without authorisation, we took prompt action to get the developer to reopen the paths concerned.

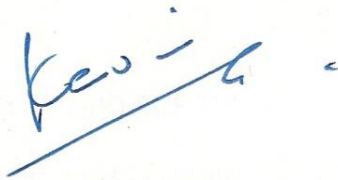
**Kevin Oliver**  
Countryside Access  
Manager

The Countryside  
Centre  
Worcester Woods  
Wildwood Drive  
Worcester  
WR5 2 LG

I can appreciate that you may have comments on the diversion proposals themselves and, if so, no doubt you will have submitted them to Malvern Hills DC.

Finally, I hope that your frustration with aspects of the handling of the statutory processes affecting rights of way on the development site, has not overly affected the Path-or-Nones commitment to the public rights of way network in Martley. The tremendous work the group has done over many years to improve and maintain the network for the enjoyment of locals and visitors is greatly appreciated by Worcestershire County Council.

Yours sincerely



Kevin Oliver

cc Harriett Baldwin, MP for West Worcestershire  
Clare Marchant, Chief Executive, Worcestershire County Council  
Mrs Janet Dale, Parish Clerk, Martley Parish Council  
CJ Hegarty, Chief Executive, Malvern Hills District Council