

NEW SOUTH HILL FENCING & GATES

For your information and sharing. Please see an update as provided by another active resident, although it may not get fences removed, it's good to see what effective parish communication can be like.

South Farm with cottages and land was sold by the Church some months ago.

A few weeks back I went up on South Hill with my dogs and was surprised as were other dog walkers to see the fencing. On my return I contacted others who like myself regularly walk the hills and learnt that the appropriate notices had been displayed - the trouble was that as the weather had been so bad we had not been going up on the hill.

I then contacted the two most appropriate Councillors and emailed North Somerset. The changes have been as result of the applications made by the new owner of South Farm. The two Councillors responded to my enquiries as did North Somerset and I was quite satisfied with their replies. It is my understanding that the fences were erected very quickly so, in this case it is not surprising that Cllrs did not know as the farm owner did not have to inform them that he was either erecting or had erected fencing. To be honest my surprise was that any resident near to the site had not contacted anyone as considerable size machinery had been used, so there must have been quite considerable noise.

Original Questions & Reply from North Somerset below:

Firstly, did your Department inform Bleadon Parish Council of either of these applications?

Bleadon Parish Council were advised of these Orders on the 4 January 2013 when copies of the Orders, Explanatory Statement and Press Notice which appeared in the Weston Mercury on the 10 January 2013 were supplied.

Secondly, were you aware of the intended style / type of fencing that was to be used and which are now in place?

The ownership of South Hill has recently changed hands and it is my understanding that the new owner is erecting some fencing to ensure that his stock is safe. As far as I am aware any fencing or replacement of furniture which has occurred on this land is outside of the area affected by these Orders. However, I will arrange for someone to visit the site to ensure that information is still correct.

Thirdly, Order 13 was made stating ' Because it appears to the Authority that the footpath described in Paragraph 1 below is not needed for public use'. How did you as 'The Authority' reach this conclusion?

Footpath AX 6/15 is a route that is currently shown on the Definitive Map crossing the void of the quarry. There are no plans for this quarry to be in filled which would have enabled the footpath to be re-instated. As other footpaths commence at the same starting point providing alternative routes for the public it was considered unlikely that the removal of this route would have any effect on the public enjoyment of this area. For that reason the statement above was considered to be accurate.

Finally, did you receive any enquiries or objections to the applications?

I can confirm that the objection period ended on 7 February 2013 and I have not received any objections to the extinguishment order (13), the diversion order (12) is on hold pending a landownership clarification but again no objections received from the public.

I hope that this email has addressed your questions. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require anything further.

Natural Environment Team, North Somerset Council

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