

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Planning & Environment Committee

Barrier at Clayhill Copse

1. Introduction:

1.1 The Parish Council has had a long running complaint about access concerns from Washpool Lane through to Clayhill Copse.

1.2 Residents recall a form of fencing that restricted access however it is now fairly commonly used by bikes, horses, and the Parish Council mowers. A local resident is concerned that lack of signage facing Clayhill Copse does not alert users that they are entering a main road and is also concerned that the current open access could allow vehicles through.

Clarification from Martin Fry, Swindon Borough Council's Rights of Way & Highways Information Officer is as follows:

This route was not included in the highway adoption agreement for Clayhill Copse and has not been created otherwise as a public footpath. Therefore there are currently no highway rights recorded on this route.

If the Parish Council wish to reinstate the barriers to slow the exit of path users onto Washpool Lane they may wish to consider extending the barriers on either side to ensue all users have to negotiate the barriers rather than bypass them at speed. Please ensure the space between any barriers is wide enough for mobility scooters and pushchairs etc to negotiate.

2. Detail:

2.1 The Parish Operations Supervisor has reviewed the site and has suggested that potentially a form of low level fencing could be trialled such as chestnut pail or post and rail fencing. With a sign on one side highlighting 'CAUTION, BUSY ROAD AHEAD'



3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 Fencing and signage would be a cost in the region of £300-400 and could be contained within the existing budget allocation for 'Fencing'. There is limited capacity within the team to do the work but it could be scheduled as a Winter project.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 That the Committee notes the reports and instructs the Parish Manager accordingly.

Paula Harrison
Parish Manager