

Holmfirth 60 at Wolfstones Heights Farm: responses to questions in informal consultation regarding gates / stiles
(Responses from consultees who opposed the application)

Q. 1f: "Were there any gates or stiles in place during the time in which you used the path? Where were they?"

Ref	Name	Initials	Response to question 1f (abbreviated / summarised / redacted where appropriate)
			".. They have always been there to my recollection. There is the stile at the bottom where [name redacted] land is. [point E] The gates at the top fronting onto Wolfstones Road [pointA] had always been closed on a night until relatively recently. There is still a (very narrow) walk through stile near those gates, but I have never had cause to use that as the gate was always open during the day. I think that a stile of some form has always been there, but I cannot personally say whether it was always open. I have never really taken much notice and have never really had cause to use that due to the gates being open during the day... The fencing further down used to be different until a few years ago... I would estimate up until about four or five years ago. There was a fence with an unlocked gate on its northernmost side across the footpath part way down ... near to where the main house entrance is. [point B?] I could always get through and I don't recall that this gate was ever locked or in any way blocking the route. "
			"...The narrow walk-through stile on the wall near the gates at the top was constructed a few years ago. There was a form of stile ... previously]... it was not always open and certainly not always passable. The stile was historically blocked on occasion..." [Further description of gates a point A being left open following action by the Council, with southern gate leaf later being left closed. Also that both gates at point A during the first lockdown, with permission from a Council Director.] Detailed description of gate(s) at point B: "...fence and gate across the path part way down, around the entrance to the main driveway... It was like a wide fence/makeshift farm gate (it was a little bit makeshift and untidy to be fair...) " Further description of posts being removable to get vehicles through if required: "... with a narrow pedestrian-type gate on the northernmost side. You can still see some of the hardstanding on the path identifying where this was. The gate on the northernmost side could always be opened and although shut to stop animal escapes... [reference to gate being unlocked]."
			Detailed account given of gates at point A having been closed since 1995, 'until recently", possibly with permission of the Council, "the best part of 20 years ago". Suggestion that gates may have been "put in by the previous owner about 1989/90." Detailed description given of 'narrow walkthrough stile" at / near point A. stated that this "was not always open and was not always in the form that it is now". [attention drawn to changes in walling in last 10 year]. Comments that "narrow stile in some form has been in that position for most of the time, this was not always the case and it has not always been open or passable..." "Further down, there used to be a fence and unlocked gate (of four feet in width...) on the northernmost side of the path so that people could go through unimpeded... this was there for a long number of years... " Stated that gate / fence predated ownership by the current landowner, used for the control of animals and to have been removed in the last few years. Location described as where "old cobbles can be seen to still exist on the surface..." [i.e. at point B]