

Kirklees Council

Public Rights of Way

PO Box 1720

Huddersfield

HD1 9EL

Freepost Kirklees Council

Public Rights of Way

Tel: 01484 221000

Date: 14/09/2023

Our Ref: File 220

Dear [REDACTED]

Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) Applications - route between Wilshaw Road and Wood Nook Lane.

- **Application to upgrade recorded status of footpaths Meltham 70 and Meltham 38 (part) to bridleway**
- **Application to vary the recorded particulars of Meltham 70 to include limitations (squeeze stile and locked gate)**

As you may be aware, in 2016 the Council received an application for Definitive Map Modification Order ("DMMO") to upgrade the recorded status of public footpaths Meltham 70 and Meltham 38 (part) to public bridleway. (Route A-D on the enclosed map). This application was supported by documentary evidence, and evidence of use, including with horses.

This route passes through land near Manor Farm, owned by Collard Cole Ltd. I understand that you are or have previously been the tenant of this land.

I note that we contacted you about this matter in in 2018, inviting you to submit any evidence you might have, but I have not found a response from you on file.

Around the time the bridleway application was made, the owners of the land installed and locked a gate across Meltham 70 near Wilshaw Road, preventing use with horses. In 2019 Mrs Angela Cole (one of the landowners) submitted her own application to have the Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way modified to record on path Meltham 70 the 'limitations' of a squeeze stile 45 cm wide alongside a locked gate, at point A1 on the attached map. It is claimed that such structures were in place before the 'Relevant Date' of the first Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way (1952). Currently there are no gates or stiles recorded on Meltham 70.

The Council has a duty to investigate these matters and is contacting people who may have an interest in the land.

When considering whether the definitive map and statement of public rights of way requires modification, we consider evidence relating to the existence of public rights, or of any limitations. Not whether people want or do not want any alleged public rights to be recorded, or any additional furniture such as gates or stiles to be recorded.

We would be interested in any evidence you may have regarding the use or status of these routes. Our investigation into the status of these routes is focused on the period up to 2015.

We are interested in any evidence about any gates, stiles, or other structures that may have historically existed. We are particularly interested in any evidence relating the existing of gates, stiles or other structures that may have existed prior to the date of the first Definitive Map (1952).

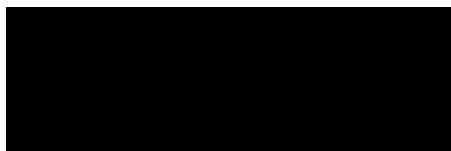
We would also like to know about any more recent structures, or the absence of such structures. If there were gates etc, when were they in place and were they locked or unlocked?

If you have any evidence to submit in relation to these applications, you may send to phil.champion@kirklees.gov.uk or at the above address. Please find enclosed a blank landowner evidence form.

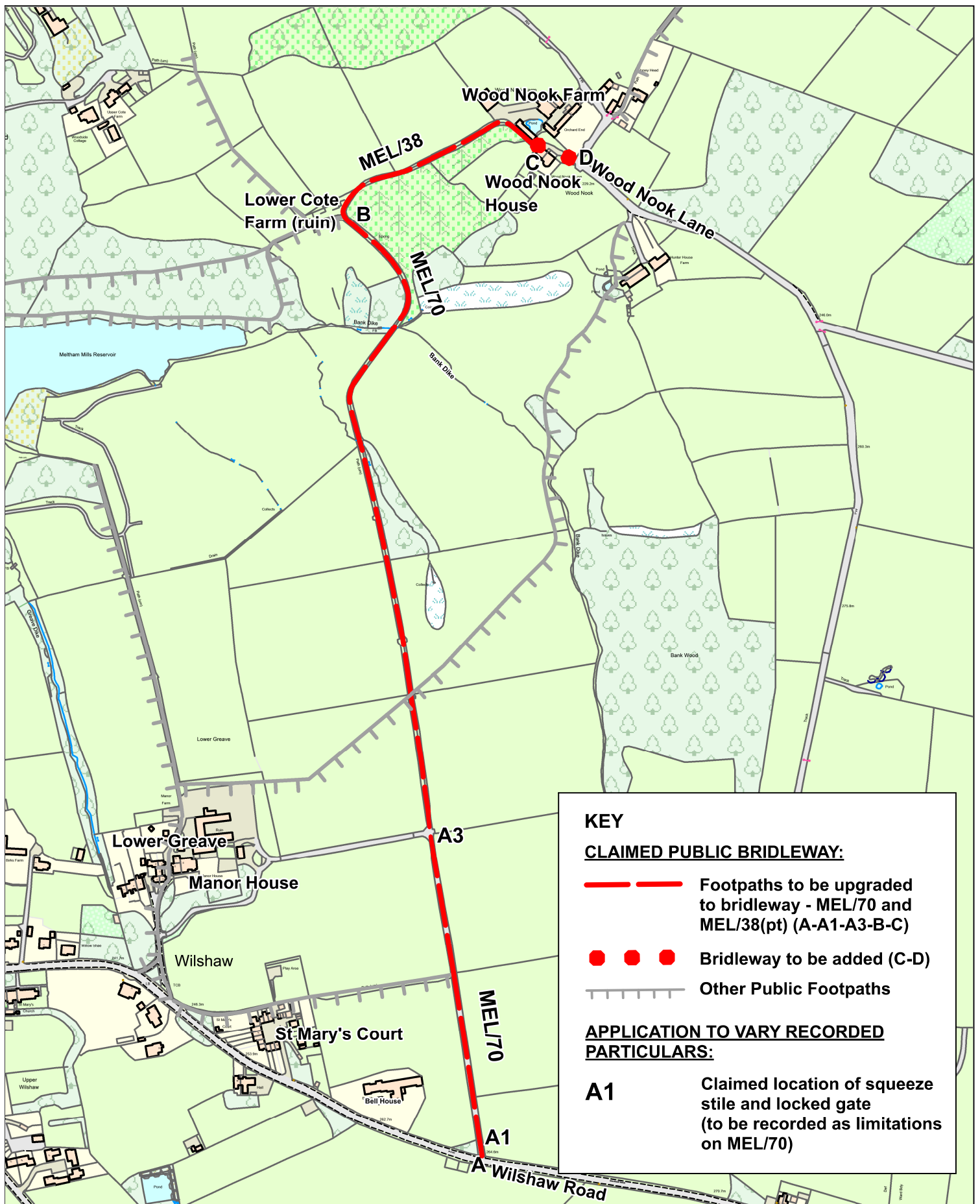
Enquiries may be made by telephone on 01484 221000, ask for Phil Champion. Please note that I will be unavailable between 18th and 22nd September.

I would be gratefully if you would respond within 4 weeks of the date of this letter.

Yours sincerely



Definitive Map Officer



Route between Wilshaw Road and Wood Nook (MEL/70 and MEL/38)

Date: 14/09/2023

Scale: 1:5000



Public Rights of Way