

Sandon Parish Council
By email

Countryside and Rights of Way Service
Hertfordshire County Council
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Stevenage, Herts, SG1 2ST
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01992 555 123
E-mail: Rachel.Knowles1@hertfordshire.gov.uk
My Ref: NH162
Date: 27th November 2024

Dear Ms Scott,

Notice of Decision made on Modification Order Application in Sandon and Order made for Footpath from Doebridge Farm to Sandon 23

Hertfordshire County Council has made a decision on an application to record a footpath running from Doebridge Farm in an eastward direction to Sandon Footpath 23 in the Sandon area. This decision is sent to everyone who was consulted.

The purpose of this letter is to

- **notify you that we decided to make an Order to record this route as a public footpath with a width of 2 metres and no limitations. This highway is maintainable by HCC.**
- **serve on you Notice of the making of an Order**

I am required to do this under schedules 14 and 15 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

I have enclosed the following documents:

- our "Reasons for the Decision"
- a copy of the Order (which includes a plan)
- the notice advertising the Order

Copies of these documents and a detailed explanation of "How we make a Decision" can also be found on our website at: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/rowapps

The Decision

Our decision is based on our assessment of the evidence that was available to us and the application of the relevant legal tests and case law. It is explained in our "Reasons for the Decision". It should be noted that our decision does not create new rights. It is about correctly recording rights which the evidence shows already exist.

The Order

The Hertfordshire County Council (Sandon 50) Modification Order 2024 has been made and was sealed on 7th November 2024.

What happens next?

The process is as follows

1. The Order will be advertised for a period of six weeks. An advert will be placed in the Herts Mercury on 5th December 2024. Notices will be put up on site and also at the local district/borough and parish council offices. This is so that people who are interested or who live locally and/or use the route can be informed about the Order. Copies of the Order are sent to the applicant, the landowner(s), statutory undertakers and interested user groups. They will also be available on www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/rowapps
2. Anyone may make a representation or objection to the Order in the six weeks while the Order is being advertised. This must be made in writing, addressed to Rachel Knowles before the **20th January 2025** and should include the reasons for making an objection or representation. Reasons for objecting would ideally include evidence which can be tested and proved rather than, for instance, personal opinion about whether the route is suitable or appropriate.

Please note that:

- we do not have to accept any representations or objections made outside of the six week advertising period.
 - the details of any objectors to the Order may become available to anyone who requests them as explained below (except where the objection is withdrawn).
3. If the County Council does not receive any objections or representations to the Order it can be confirmed by us after the advertising period has ended. When an order is confirmed it takes effect and the route is recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement.
 4. If objections or representations to the Order are received and not withdrawn, the Order will need to be sent to the Planning Inspectorate (who act on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Environment) to be resolved. This may be done at a public inquiry or by exchanging letters. Please note the details of any objectors to the Order will become available to anyone who requests them at this time. Any objectors should expect to put their own case forward or arrange for someone else to represent them. However, if none of the objections or representations is relevant, the Secretary of State can make a decision on the Order without hearing the evidence or exchanging letters.
 5. You will be informed as to whether or not the Order is confirmed.

I hope that this explains the process satisfactorily. The Government's information website at <https://www.gov.uk/topic/outdoor-access-recreation/rights-of-way-open-access> has further information but if you do have any queries please feel free to contact me.

Growth & Environment
Environmental Sustainability



Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R Knowles".

Rachel Knowles
Definitive Map Officer
Countryside & Rights of Way Service