

Proposed Diversion Order, Combeshead, Parish of Cutcombe

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Public Footpath WL6/12 & WL6/25

Proposed Public Path Diversion Order 2022

Summary

Background

Public footpath WL6/12 runs from the minor road leading to Dunkery Gate just to the east of Combeshead to the unclassified county road referred to as Long Lane. Public footpath WL6/25 also runs from the minor road leading to Dunkery Gate just to the east of Combeshead to the B3224 just to the east of Little Hawkwell.

In the vicinity of Combeshead, both public footpaths have sections where the definitive line and the used lines do not coincide, a situation which has existed for many years. The definitive lines for WL6/12 and WL6/25 roughly follow an old sunken lane though they do not coincide with each other. Also, WL6/12 is obstructed by a large shed which has been in place for many decades and was installed by a previous owner - it is not known exactly when the shed was built but it was certainly in place by 1985 (visible on aerial photographs). Furthermore, a previous owner, sold a small parcel of land to Western Power to fence off for a substation, creating a slight offline at the western end of WL6/12.

The current owner, who purchased the property in April 2022, wishes to regularise the situation by diverting the definitive lines to the lines that people are using on the ground. These lines are in fact more direct for the public to use and will avoid confusion on the ground as the route will be clear and easy to follow.

Current Proposal

Exmoor National Park Authority proposes to make a diversion order at Combeshead in the interests of the landowner. The order is being made to resolve several long-standing 'offline' issues and to provide a route for the future which will be in a preferable position from the landowner's point of view but also in a position that is easy and convenient for the public to use. The proposed new routes have already been in use for many years. The routes that are being proposed are 'substantially as convenient to the public' compared to the current definitive routes (this being the legal test that has to be met in diverting a public path).

The diversion proposal, if successful, will not lead to any changes on the ground for users of the public footpath however, it will make the mapping both clearer and correct.

The proposed order is as follows:

Proposed Public Path Diversion Order 2022 [Ref: Combeshead)

This order will divert part of public footpath WL6/12 from A-B-C to J-K-C and from D-E to D-L and divert part of public footpath WL6/25 from A-F-G-H to M-N-H.

Therefore it appears to the Exmoor National Park Authority that in the interests of the landowner it is expedient that part of Public Footpath WL6/12 and part of Public Footpath WL6/25, Parish of Cutcombe should be diverted, as described on the enclosed proposed schedule & plan.

Proposed Public Path Diversion Order 2022

SCHEDULE

PART 1

DESCRIPTION OF SITE OF EXISTING PATH OR WAY

1. Part of public footpath WL6/12 starting from a point on the unclassified county road approximately 114 metres north-east of Combeshead farmhouse, point A on the proposal plan, and running in a westerly direction for approximately 14 metres to point B. From point B, the route runs in generally south-westerly direction for approximately 110 metres to point C. A total distance of 124 metres.
2. Part of public footpath WL6/12 starting from a point approximately 184 metres south-west of Combeshead farmhouse, point D on the proposal plan, and running in a south-westerly direction for approximately 18 metres to point E. A total distance of 18 metres.
3. Part of public footpath WL6/25 starting from a point on the unclassified county road approximately 114 metres north-east of Combeshead farmhouse, point A on the proposal plan, and running in a south westerly direction for approximately 69 metres to point F. From point F, the route runs in generally south-easterly direction for approximately 158 metres to point G at the field boundary. From point G, the route runs in generally south-south-easterly direction for 99 metres. A total distance of 326 metres.

Part of WL6/12 to be stopped up	Length (m)
A-B-C	124
D-E	18
Part of WL6/25 to be stopped up	Length (m)
A-F-G-H	326

PART 2

DESCRIPTION OF SITE OF PROPOSED NEW PATH OR WAY

1. Part of public footpath WL6/12 starting from a point on the unclassified county road approximately 122 metres north-east of Combeshead farmhouse, point J on the proposal plan, and running in a west south-westerly direction for approximately 11 metres to a pedestrian gate at point K. From point K, the route generally runs in a south-westerly direction for 113 metres to point C. A total distance of 124 metres.

2. Part of public footpath WL6/12 starting from a point approximately 184 metres south west of Combeshead farmhouse, point D on the proposal plan, and running in a west south-westerly direction for approximately 19 metres to a kissing gate at point L. A total distance of 19 metres.

3. Part of public footpath WL6/25 starting from a point approximately 112 metres north-east of Combeshead farmhouse, point M on the proposal plan, passing through a pedestrian gate, and running in a south-south westerly direction for approximately 152 metres to a gate at point N. From point N, the route continues to run a in a south-south westerly direction for 101 metres. A total distance of 253 metres.

Description of site of new path or way	Length (m)	Width (m)
WL6/12		
J-K-C	124	2.0
D-L	19	2.0
WL6/25		
M-N-H	253	2.0

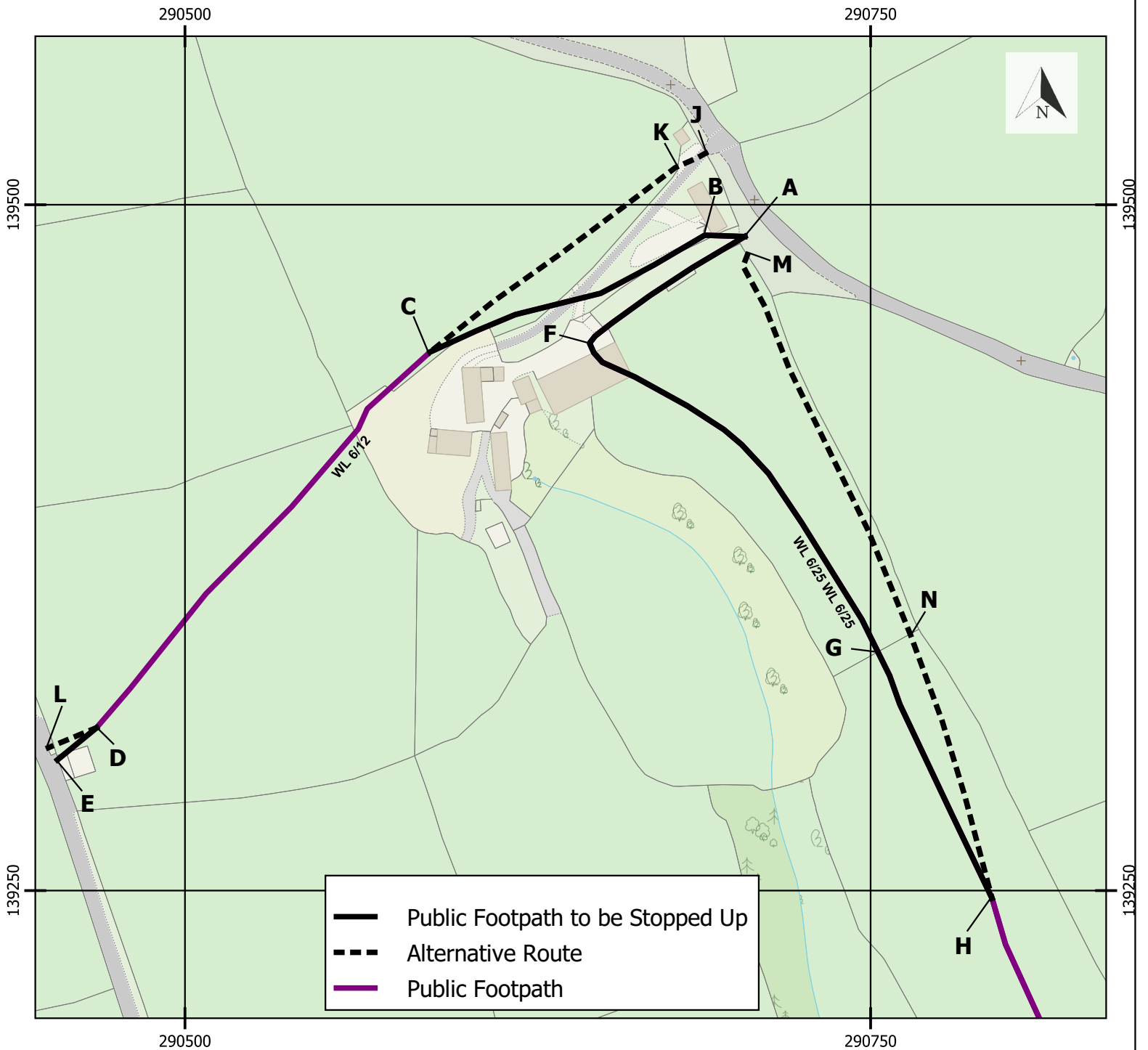
PART 3

LIMITATIONS AND CONDITIONS

The new sections of path described in Part 2 of the Schedule to this order are subject to limitations, which are:

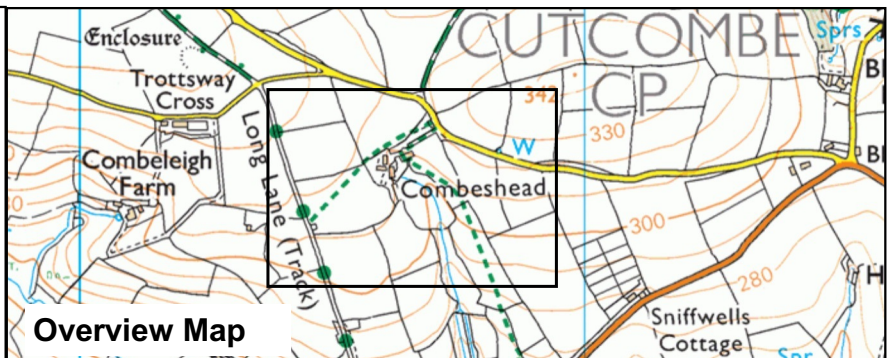
Position	Limitations and conditions
WL6/12	
J	Field gate to BS5709 – 2018
K	Pedestrian gate to BS5709 – 2018
L	Pedestrian gate to BS5709 – 2018
WL6/25	
M	Pedestrian gate to BS5709 – 2018
N	Field gate to BS5709 – 2018

**Public Footpath WL6/12 (part) & Public Footpath WL6/25 (part),
Parish of Cutcombe**



Grid References

A SS 9070 3948	J SS 9069 3951
B SS 9068 3948	K SS 9067 3951
C SS 9058 3944	L SS 9045 3930
D SS 9046 3930	M SS 9070 3948
E SS 9045 3929	N SS 9076 3934
F SS 9064 3944	
G SS 9075 3933	
H SS 9079 3924	



Scale 1:2,000

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