

Item 13.F

The Leicestershire Local Access Forum (LLAF) wishes to clarify an issue with the planning permission and make an observation for your consideration based on concerns which have been expressed to us by a number of people

The management plan attached seems to indicate that security fencing is to be erected which will effectively close footpath N81 - from St Marys Lane, Snibston to Berryhill Lane, Donington le Heath involving two spurs

Is this indeed the intention? If so we can trace no stopping up order or temporary closure order. In any event given the likely length of time this development is likely to take we would strongly argue that there is no need for the path to be closed other than possibly for short periods when works are adjacent to the path and then only for safety reasons.

The LLAF is an independent statutory body, set up as a result of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CROW) 2000, and exists to represent the interests of everyone concerned with access to the countryside and the public rights of way network including footpaths, bridleways and byways, cycleways and areas of open access. Section 94 of the CROW act makes it a statutory function of the forum to give advice to a range of bodies, including local authorities, on access issues in respect of land use planning matters. The Secretary of State advised that in particular forums were asked to focus on the impact and options for minimising possible adverse effects, of planning policies and development proposals.

Our understanding is that this public right of way will remain when the development is finished. It is on the extreme edge of the development so consequently there is no need for this path to be closed. Any fencing can surely go on the east side of the footpath not enclosing the path within the security fencing. There is no alternative route apparent should this path be closed, and it's a much used local footpath and is a vital link in the network and is we believe a part of a promoted National Forest route. Any alternative would be much less direct, and would involve walking alongside busy roads - far less safe than walking alongside a building site where the activity will be confined to normal weekday working hours. It would also have an impact upon access to, and egress from, the Manor House at Donington le Heath.

Roy J Denney, Chairman, [Planning & Travel Committee](#)

Leicestershire Local Access Forum,
c/o Room 700, County Hall, Leicester, LE3 8RJ
(www.leics.gov.uk/laf)

Telephone - County Hall 0116 305 7086

Private 0116 233 8604