

Suggested location for Inspectors site visit – Borough of Bedford Local Access Forum

In our submission (RR-1252) we suggested that the Inspector ensure that he visits two key points in the Bedford rights of way network affected by this proposed development:

Pertenhall BW 26 and Bolnhurst & Keysoe BW 37 (APP-121 Masterplan sheets d and c, APP-010 Streetworks plan sheets 1, 2 and 3, APP-160 Outline PROW mgmt plan and APP-070 Visual Receptors Figure 5-4a)

This bridleway in Site A runs from Manor Farm Pertenhall to the far western end of the development. Although it is private land, we assume that access for a site visit can be arranged with the landowner.

This has also been suggested by The British Horse Society and we will not duplicate the rationale, save to say that we agree with the Society's views.

The 'crossroad' junction of B&K FP13 and B&K FP47 within Site B – this is viewpoint 33 in APP-129 and APP-135.

This point is in the centre of Site B. This position can probably be reached in an off-road vehicle but if not, it is only 250m from B&K FP36 which can be accessed by vehicle, with the landowner's permission.

We suggest this point because it will give the Inspector an opportunity to appreciate the open views available at present and the long-term adverse impact of the proposed development on those views at a point that will be in the centre of one of the sites.

BOBLAF however does fully support the representations made by both BHS and Bedford Borough Council that Public Rights of Way should be considered a Principal Issue, with all aspects of the impact on PROWs being considered together rather than as additional aspects of other topics. In particular, the need for additional access should the development proceed must be addressed.