

Comments on draft ASI itinerary – Borough of Bedford Local Access Forum

We suggested two points to be included in the ASI, the first has only been partly accepted and the second is excluded. Given that the Local Access Forum we had only requested two points in the roughly 15km of PROW within the sites in Bedfordshire, we fear that the failure to accept these recommendations may be indicative of a tendency to ignore the impact on PROW.

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)

We recommended that this bridleway in Site A should be visited from Manor Farm Pertenhall to the far western end of the development. Only part of it is included within the draft itinerary. We consider that the whole length can be visited in the same timeframe, if the farmyard section is visited on foot and the rest of the route by vehicle, with stops at key points.

The BHS has set this out in more detail, and we agree with their position.

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

We suggested this point, in the centre of Site B, because it will give the ExA 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.

It is said in the Applicant’s response to our RR that this point is considered in the viewpoint visualisations – which is entirely the point as visiting this PROW junction will give the ExA to compare the reality of his experience with the visualisations presented.

Visiting this position will require some time as it would necessitate a short walk from point K in the draft itinerary.