



The Planning Inspectorate

Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Direct Line: 03034445136
Customer Services:
0303 444 5000

Email:
RIGHTSOFWAY2@PLANNINGINSPECTORATE.GOV.UK
www.gov.uk/planning-inspectorate

Mrs Claire Waters, Castle Hedingham Parish
Council and Burial Board
25 Bayley Street
Castle Hedingham
HALSTEAD
CO9 3DG

Your Ref:
Our Ref: ROW/3316971

20 October 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

Highways Act 1980 - Section 119
Order Making Authority: Essex County Council
Title of Order: Footpath 25 Castle Hedingham Public Path Diversion Order 2022

Further to my letter of 31/08/2023, I can advise you that an inquiry into the above Order will be held at 10.00am on 05/03/2024, at Gosford Village Hall (a.k.a Maurice Rowson Hall), Church Road, Gosfield, Essex CO9 1TL. The inquiry is currently scheduled to last 2 day(s). The length of the inquiry will partly depend on the number of witnesses who give evidence. To ensure we have allowed enough inquiry time, please let me know as soon as possible whether you intend to call witnesses, and if so, how many. Please let me know within 7 days if you think more time is needed.

Whilst most inquiries will be completed within the scheduled period, some may be shorter and some need to be extended, depending on the amount of evidence produced or the number of people wishing to be heard. It is therefore very important that if you wish to speak, give evidence or contribute to the inquiry in any way, that you attend on the opening day.

It would be useful for the Inspector if you could confirm whether or not you will be attending the inquiry. You should notify me immediately if your circumstances change or you change your mind nearer the date of the inquiry.

It is open to anyone who has made an objection or representation and anyone else with an interest in the Order to attend the Inquiry. However, if you have asked to be heard, you are expected to attend (or send a representative^[1]). If this does apply to you, please ensure that you are familiar with paragraph 8.4 of our booklet *Definitive Map and Public Path Orders* concerning costs. If you will be unable to attend, please notify me in writing immediately.

If you are responsible for instigating a petition, we trust that you will pass these details to all the signatories.

The start date for this Order is as stated on the enclosed notice of order.

The enclosed notice, which will appear on our website, contains information about the Order, where queries about the Order should be directed, when and where documents relating to the Order can be inspected by the public and the timetable for sending statements of case and proofs of evidence. Please ensure you read the notice carefully.

All parties must keep to the timetable to ensure that statements of case are with us on time. If you plan to attend and give evidence, you will need to submit a statement of case, along with copies of any documents you wish to submit in evidence and a list of those documents. Late documents will be returned. As I have given details of the timetable, I will not send you reminders.

If you are disabled and concerned about what facilities will be available at the Inquiry, you should write to or contact the Council to confirm that the provisions to meet your specific needs will be available. Additionally, please contact the Council if you would like to know what equipment (over head projector, screen etc.) will be available at the venue for you to use.

We are encouraging local authorities to retain pdf copies of their submission bundle to the Planning Inspectorate. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact Essex County Council to find out if one is available.

Please ensure our case reference number is quoted in all correspondence.

Definitions:

Statement of case – a written statement containing full particulars of the case which a person proposes to put forward at a hearing or inquiry; it includes copies of any supporting documents which that person intends to refer to or put in evidence, and a list of those documents.

Proof of evidence - a document containing the written evidence which a person at a public inquiry will speak about. It should not rehearse all of the available evidence but should focus on the matters in dispute. It should not contain supporting documents.

[1] Please refer to paragraphs 4.11 and 8.4 of our booklet *Definitive Map and Public Path Orders*

Yours faithfully,

Joanne Reid

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-inspectorate-privacy-notice>

