## **APPENDICES**



#### P.O.BOX 68, PENARTH, CF64 5XH

## TELEPHONE 029 20531830 FAX 029 20531830

26 January 2022

Dear Ms Mussell.

Re: your pre-order consultation evidential report of which we find parts to be incorrect and misleading.

#### Page 1 1.2

The earth mound behind the targets is our butts, which is designed to stop bullets and is maintained at an angle of 34 degrees, and up to the time when the Ministry of Defence (M.O.D) stopped using it in the early 90's had wooden fences across the top for various safety reasons as shown in photographs.

As to your counter evidence, we understand that the counter was situated near the M.O.D Range which is approximately 1 mile west of our Range and therefore does not lend evidence of usage on ours.

## Page 1 1.3

The barriers referred to were installed because our gates were cut up by vandals and on several occasions had cattle come through and if not stopped could gain access to the motorway and/or train lines which could result in a serious accident.

#### Page 4 2.8

There has been much criminal activity along this section of the sea wall, being gates constantly destroyed, fly tipping, arson, theft, and damage to our signs, target frames destroyed, scramble bikes on our target area, locks on our units being glued, flag poles stolen on 2 occasions, and constant drug use. We have Police reference and crime numbers to support this.

#### Page 4 2.12

The Sentry boxes were erected by the M.O.D when the sea defence wall was raised and the main reason is to watch for shipping into our danger area.

# Page 29 8.1

The target butts which I presume you call the crest of the sea wall, was never cut above sea wall height, and the sea wall was only cut once a year and we're told this was done to inspect the sea wall when needed.

# Appendix 5.1

Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation Letter dated 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 - page 1 Why does the report want to place a footpath over our butts when Mr Blomley now retired as Footpath Enforcement Officer, and his colleague Mr S. Pritchard put a notice on this route in 2020 because of the dangers faced because of the steep sides on this route, and both agreed for this route to be closed permanently.

They both commented that they could not understand why anyone would want to walk in front of 2 live firing ranges, at a meeting held on Wednesday 29 July 2020 at 11:00 on site.

I have been using this Range for nearly 50 years and have never had any issue with walkers, but I must raise the question, why do you want to modify the definitive map when an alternative route is already in place and being used?

Also enclosed is a signed petition objecting to these proposals.

**Yours Sincerely** 

**Richard Williams** 

Appendix 5.2
Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation
Letter dated 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 - page 2

#### **USER'S EVIDENCE**

# Refer to page 46:-

#### 11.1.

There has been no obstruction across the foot path as the foot path does not exist in that position.

## 11.2

Refer to the testimonials submitted to the order making authority.

- Mr Shute complained that the gates had been welded shut. Reason:- chains & locks continuously cut off allowing cattle & sheep possible access to railway & motorway. In order to prevent this they were welded shut, but later cut down with disc cutters.
- II) Mr Mayo stated he had been collecting with his friends spent bullets from the top of the sea wall factually incorrect. Spent bullets are only in the bullet catcher. He was trespassing and stealing.
- Mr J C Purnell is factually incorrect as well there has never been a path at the back of the bullet catcher and has never been backed filled. This bullet catcher was built by the MOD and always had a steep and dangerous drop to the river. I would like to point out that he states that we are builders again factually incorrect, I have never been a builder or am a builder. The fly tipping is access to the fore shore via gates to the west side of Severnside Range (photograph evidence provided). Gates was cut off.
- Iv) Mr Richard C Morgan, I note telephoned which would be regard as hear say he said people of Caldicot have walked there for generations, testimonial supplied by the from the people of Caldicot will state this, but he acknowledge that the definitive foot path is indeed in the river not the bank.
- v) Mr David Morgan (could be related to the above) states health and well being is particularly important, does not have concerns crossing 2 firing ranges.
- vi) Mr Phil Williams is correct in pointing out there is no clear signage to date, the fact Mr Shaun Pritchard has refused to install them after many requests
- vII) Mr Wheeler again factually incorrect the sea wall has always been used by local farmers with their live stock. They have grazing rights fencing are in place to prevent possible access to motorway and railway.
- vIII) Mr Monkey is again factually incorrect stating that the MOD range implements the same precautions as the Severnside Range. The MOD has far greater powers to stop people than a private range.
- Ix) Mr Humble comments irrelevant.
- x) Mr Matthews has never in the history of the range has never or asked for access for search and rescue operations and would be impossible to launch any rescue from that sea wall apart from the fact he would require permission to across private ground, obviously if it was requested it would be granted.
- Mr Smith completely wrong and misinformed the people have not been walking there for generations and the definitive map he refers to asks to ensure it remains, which is indeed in the river so walker rights have not been affected.
- Mr Evans is correct no substantial and clear signage has not been provided by Mr Shaun Pritchard even though after a number of requests, but he has stated public safety is no concern.

# Appendix 5.3

Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation Comments on user evidence - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 - page 3

# Factually Answers to Summary 12

#### 12.1

Factually incorrect. Ref to summary 12.1 the target holders have never been put up on soft earth sand as stated they are installed in steel target frames. 12.1 suggests regular movement of the mould I can only assume the earth mould that is refer to is the bullet catcher not a mould which does not have regular movement. It must remain at 34% angle.

## 12.2

Again factually incorrect. there are more than 2 clubs that use Severnside Range e.g.. Bristol Zoo, The Police.

#### 12.3

Again Factually incorrect and totally wrong. Usage on the sea wall and bullet catcher is made by members and look outs and the line top counter is totally irrelevant as it is on the MOD Range 1 mile to the west.

#### 12.4

Again factually incorrect. Registered foot path is in the river.

#### 12.5

Actually correct. Public safely is a issue.

#### 12.6

Under common law usage for criminal activity gives the rise to acquisition of rights. (Photographs supplied) with continuous damage all logged with Gwent Police.

## 12.7

Again factually incorrect.

#### 12.8

Again factually incorrect. Used by employees and members of the range.

# 12.9

Again factually incorrect, as it is important of any realignment as it will be used to perpetrate any criminal damage.

#### 12.10

Again factually incorrect. Sentry boxes were installed for the use of shipping look outs not for the public.

# Appendix 5.4 Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation Comments on summary - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 - page 4

## 12.11

WCP path has been provided at the tax payers. Why would you put the public in danger

#### 12.12

Factually correct

## 12.13

Correct this have never happened as there was no need too WDC provided.

## 12.14

Public foot fall does have impact on SSI sites, particularly Caldicot, Rogiet moors as walkers continuously set fires to the banks.

## 12.15

Not relevant

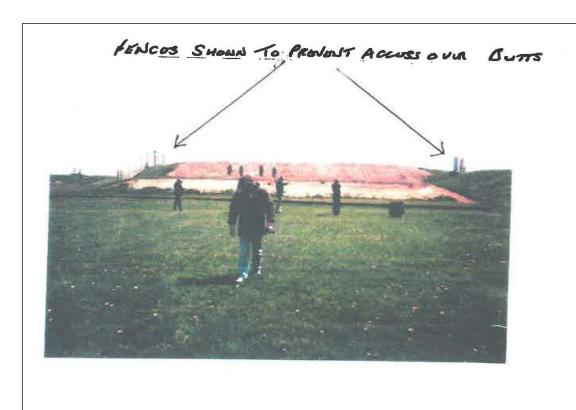
#### 12.16

Registered foot path long gone in river bed.

# 12.17

It would be far from sensible to record one single alignment. It would put the public at risk common sense should prevail, especially when alternative route is provided.

# Appendix 5.5 Severnside Rifle Range — Reply to Pre-order consultation Comments on summary - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 - page 5





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OF BUTTS

THUSE PHOTOGRAPS WORKETAKEN IN 1990 DURNS

# Appendix 5.6 Severnside Rifle Range — Reply to Pre-order consultation Site photographs showing fencing - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022



PHOTO OF THE MILITARY RANGE TO THE WEST SIDE OF SEVERNSIDE RANGE ACCESS BY SUPPLIED PHOTOS DEMONSTRATES THAT THE WALKERS ARE USING THE MILITARY RANGE NOT SEVERNSIDE RANGE. THE LINE TOP COUNTER MM04 IS ON THE MILITARY RANGE, SO PAGES 49 - 11.5 AND 11.6 ARE FACTUALLY INCORRECT (IT IS THE MILITARY RANGE NOT SEVERNSIDE RANGE)



Appendix 5.8

Military Rifle Range — Reply to Pre-order consultation

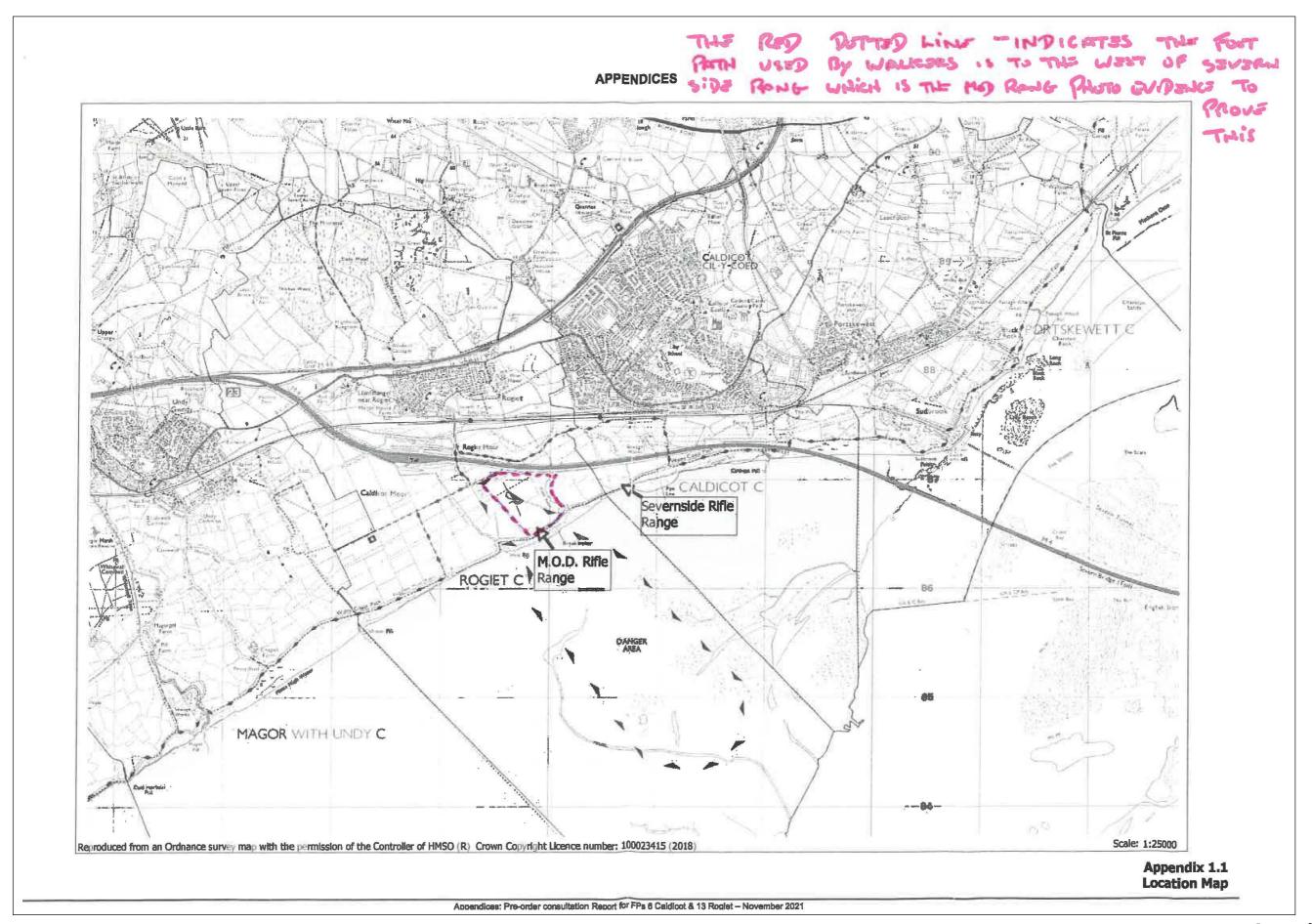
Photograph: Signage at main gates - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022



Appendix 5.9

Military Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation

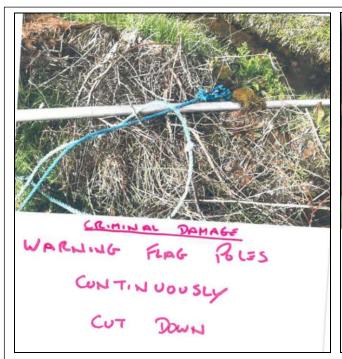
Photograph: Footpath at the Military Range - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022



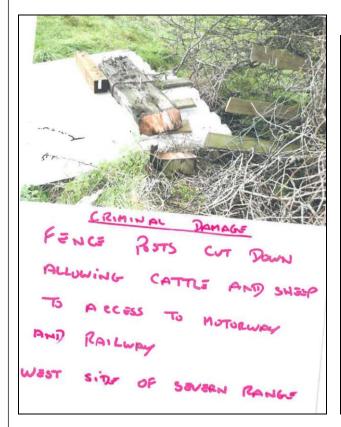
Appendix 5.10

Military Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation

Red dots marking location of footpath not on Severnside Range - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022









Appendix 5.11 Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation Reporting criminal damage - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

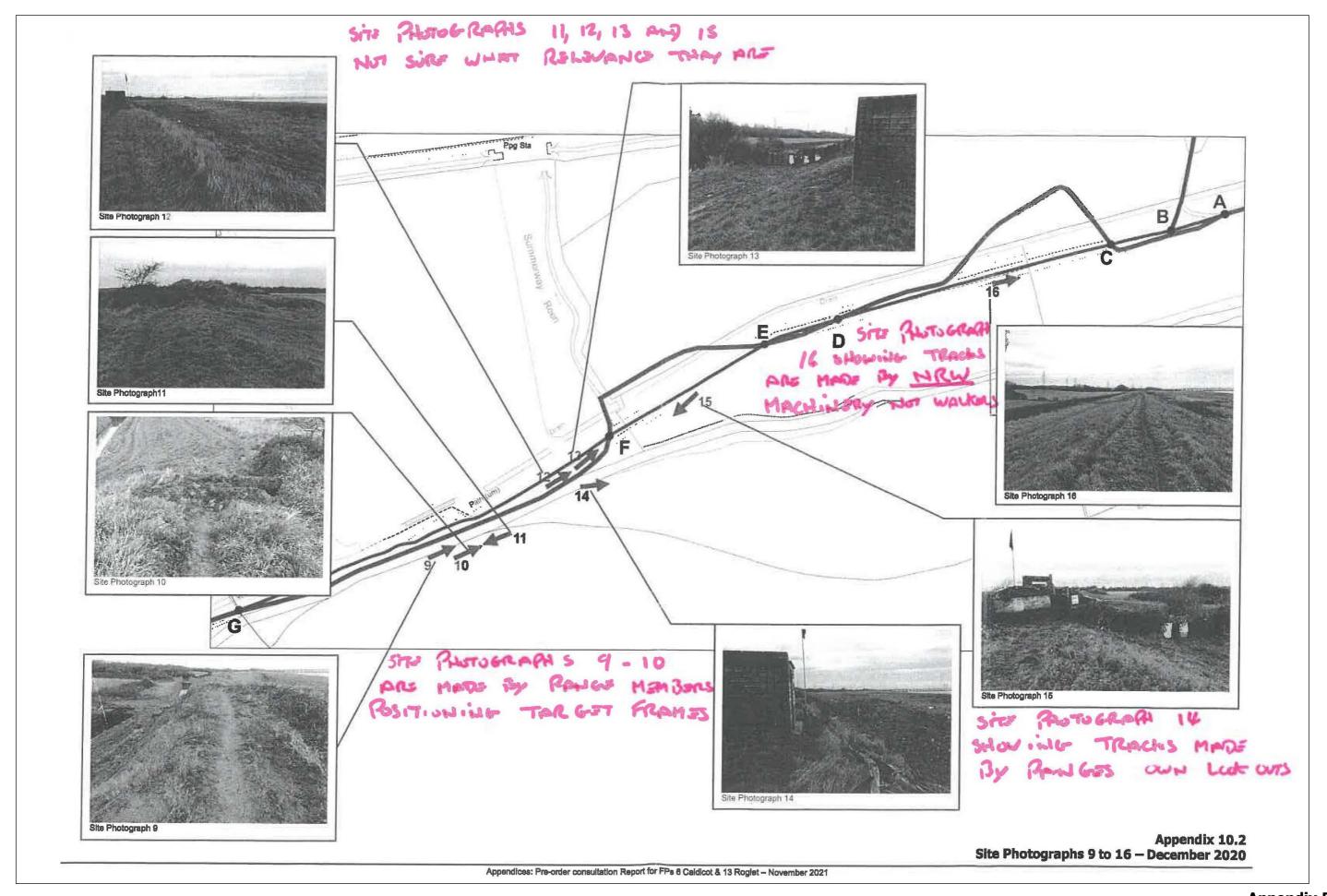


Appendix 5.12 Severnside Rifle Range — Reply to Pre-order consultation Photograph: Reported criminal damage - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022



PHOTO OF COASTAL FOOT PATH TO THE NORTH-EAST SIDE OF SEVERNSIDE RANGE WHICH DEMONSTRATES IS WELL USED BY WALKERS AND NO EVIDENCE OF WALKERS TURNING TO THE WEST TO CROSS SEVERNSIDE RANGE

# Appendix 5.13 Severnside Rifle Range — Reply to Pre-order consultation Photograph: The northeast section of coastal path - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022



Appendix 5.14 Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation Site photographs 9 to 16 with additional comments - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

To whom it may corcern. I was brought up until my late teen's at Royiet and then moved to Caldicot, I played down the moor's on the foreshore, we know that there was a military shooting range on the forehore at Caldicot, When the red flags were flying one when we could here firing we would keep well away, I was never awake of a foot path through it. Yours faithfully. Playre. PETER GRAHAME PAYNE. L COBB CRESCETT

Appendix 5.15
Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation
Letter from Mr P. G. Payne - 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

L Kealaher 14 Shakespeare Close Caldicot NP26 4LN 18/01/22

To whom it may concern,

Whilst walking my dog last year near Oak's Bridge, Caldicot on the coastal foot path I was approached by a male who introduced his self as Shaun Pritchard, Public Rights of Way Enforcement Officer

E-mail: shaunpritchard@monmouthshire.gov.uk.

He asked if I was going to walk across the sea wall throughout Severnside Range I said that I did not think I was allowed as it was private ground and a shooting range.

He proceeded to tell me that he was going to make it a foot path and he encouraged me to write to his office stating that I used it regularly and the more people that wrote in he would make sure that the path is forced through even though it is private ground.

This I declined to do.

Challes

I feel I need to bring this man's actions to someone's attention.

L Kealaher

We the undersigned strongly oppose the definitive map modification order to record routes 83 Caldicot and 27 Rogiet as public footpaths in the communities of Caldicot and Rogiet near the Severnside Rifle Range as an alternative Route is already in place.

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5. Raikes	Sparce

Appendix 5.17
Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022
Petition page 1

We the undersigned strongly oppose the definitive map modification order to record routes 83 Caldicot and 27 Rogiet as public footpaths in the communities of Caldicot and Rogiet near the Severnside Rifle Range as an alternative Route is already in place. Name Signature ANGELA LEIGH

Appendix 5.18
Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022
Petition page 2

We the undersigned strongly oppose the definitive map modification order to record routes 83 Caldicot and 27 Rogiet as public footpaths in the communities of Caldicot and Rogiet near the Severnside Rifle Range as an alternative Route is already in place.

Name	Signature
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GRAHAM COPPIN	GR. COPPON
Kern Casack	K Cusack
ROGOR WILLIS CHIDERT	R-Willi
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Appendix 5.19
Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022
Petition page 3

Severnside Rifle Range as an alternative Route is already in place. Name Signature acolleges GERM AN Sharon Brooks TRACEY WILLIAM HICKS KEVERNE (TODDARD NILLIAMS CMIlum WILLIAMS

We the undersigned strongly oppose the definitive map modification order to record routes 83 Caldicot and 27 Rogiet as public footpaths in the communities of Caldicot and Rogiet near the

Appendix 5.20
Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022
Petition page 4

We the undersigned strongly oppose the definitive map modification order to record routes 83 Caldicot and 27 Rogiet as public footpaths in the communities of Caldicot and Rogiet near the Severnside Rifle Range as an alternative Route is already in place.

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Appendix 5.21
Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022
Petition page 5

Severnside Rifle Range as an alternative Route is already in place. Name Signature Jessica Green WILLIAMS Mikhail Blake HOBBS MURRAY

We the undersigned strongly oppose the definitive map modification order to record routes 83 Caldicot and 27 Rogiet as public footpaths in the communities of Caldicot and Rogiet near the

Appendix 5.22
Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022
Petition page 6

We the undersigned strongly oppose the definitive map modification order to record routes 83 Caldicot and 27 Rogiet as public footpaths in the communities of Caldicot and Rogiet near the Severnside Rifle Range as an alternative Route is already in place. Name Signature

Appendix 5.23

Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Petition page 7

Severnside Rifle Range as an alternative Route is already in place. Name Signature JODIE HILL 0551 ANDreus ANDREWS -

We the undersigned strongly oppose the definitive map modification order to record routes 83 Caldicot and 27 Rogiet as public footpaths in the communities of Caldicot and Rogiet near the

Appendix 5.24
Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022
Petition page 8

Caldicot and 27 Rogiet as public footpaths in the communities of Caldicot and Rogiet near the Severnside Rifle Range as an alternative Route is already in place. Name Signature eoves Kealaher MONDI

We the undersigned strongly oppose the definitive map modification order to record routes 83

Appendix 5.25
Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022
Petition page 9

We the undersigned strongly oppose the definitive map modification order to record routes 83 Caldicot and 27 Rogiet as public footpaths in the communities of Caldicot and Rogiet near the Severnside Rifle Range as an alternative Route is already in place. Name Signature KEALAHER Goodwin

Appendix 5.26
Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022
Petition page 10

Caldicot and 27 Roglet as public footpaths in the communities of Caldicot and Roglet near the Severnside Rifle Range as an alternative Route is already in place. Name Signature

We the undersigned strongly oppose the definitive map modification order to record routes 83

Appendix 5.27
Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022
Petition page 11

We the undersigned strongly oppose the definitive map modification order to record routes 83 Caldicot and 27 Rogiet as public footpaths in the communities of Caldicot and Rogiet near the Severnside Rifle Range as an alternative Route is already in place. Name Signature Edwards

# Appendix 5.28 Severnside Rifle Range – Reply to Pre-order consultation – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 Petition page 12

From: Purnell, Gary <Gary.Purnell@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>

Sent: 05 January 2022 09:52

To: Mussell, Mandy <MandyMussell@monmouthshire.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: 01 '20Mod - Seawall Caldicot Rogiet Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) 036

Good Morning Ms Mussell

Please find attached (below) response to the above consultation which relates to our flood risk management

interests and the coastal flood defences at this location.

Kind Regards

Gary

Garv Purnell

Senior Advisor (Development & Flood Risk)

Uwch Ymgynghorydd (Datblygu a Pherygl Lifogydd) Natural Resources Wales / Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru

Tel/Ffôn: 03000 653116

Office Location:

Plas Gwendraeth, Heol Parc Mawr, Cross Hands Business Park,

Cross Hands, Llanelli, Carmarthenshire SA14 6RE

#### WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 SECTION 53:

DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER TO RECORD ROUTES 83 CALDICOT AND 27 ROGIET AS PUBLIC FOOTPATHS IN THE COMMUNITIES OF CALDICOT AND ROGIET NEAR THE SEVERNSIDE RIFLE RANGE

## <u>Development & Flood Risk (South) - Gary Purnell</u> (gary.purnell@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk)

The proposed route of the path along the crest of the existing coastal flood defences between points F and G (extract below) has created an issue for NRW in respect of unpermitted works to our coastal flood defences. These works comprise of an oil drum/skip barrier that has been constructed by the Severnside Rifle Range to prevent illegal access and subsequent vandalism within their site. The barrier does have a negative impact on the integrity of NRW's coastal flood defences, primarily within the area of point F and the eastern sentry box. Your authority i.e. Shaun Pritchard (previously lan Blomeley) has been aware of this issue and the concerns of NRW in relation to those unpermitted works to the coastal flood defences.

The owner of the Severnside Rifle Range (Mr Richard Williams) proposes to implement security type fencing with the prior approval of NRW via the Flood Risk Activity Permitting (FRAP) process. This will also enable those unpermitted works to be removed from the defences. However, considering the proposed route of FP83 (between F and G) this would not enable the site owner to properly secure the site, as any such fencing would in theory need to extend beyond the crest of the defences and down into the estuary along the seaward toe of the scheme. Whilst we have no objections to the proposed route, it is essential that the Severnside Rifle Range owner is contacted (may have already been included in the consultation) with regards the ongoing issues of trespass and vandalism within their site and, whether measures can be put in place to prevent this happening as a result of the proposed definitive route along the crest of the coastal defences.

The route of the unaffected footpath (FP354/6) along the seaward toe of the coastal defences would have no material impact with the implementation of such security fencing proposed by the rifle range.

The increase in numbers of users that may result from a formalised footpath route along the coastal flood defences may cause damage. Your authority may be liable for such damage and be responsible to instigate any remedial repairs to ensure that the level and the integrity of these defences are not compromised.

# Integrated Engineering - Philip Poole (Philip.Poole@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)

From a maintenance perspective we have no significant concerns with this, on the basis that the path/track installed does not prevent NRW from using our usual plant/kit i.e. Aebi mower, tractor flail etc.

We will need assurance from your authority with respect to us not needing to apply for formal notices for footpath closures when we do carry out maintenance on the bank. This can have an adverse impact with the delivery of our annual maintenance programme.

For any proposed fencing, kissing style gates or stiles that may be installed, it is essential that we have suitable access (including keys to gates if applicable) through these structures for our plant and machinery. These structures are also likely to require a Flood Risk Activity Permit (FRAP) from NRW.

Please be aware that using the crest of the existing coastal defences does raise public safety concerns with the potential for slips, trips and falls from height on either side of the raised defences. This is also independent of the location next to a firing range which has its own specific risks.

# Appendix 5.29 Natural Resources Wales (NRW) – Reply to DMMO Pre-order consultation 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022



Neuadd y Sir, Y Rhadyr, Brynbuga, NP15 1GA Ffom/Pfacs: 01633 644644

E-bost: contact@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Monmouthshire County Council

County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA

Phone/Fax: 01633 644644

E-mail: contact@

mandymussell@monmouthshire.gov.uk Fffm/Tel-01633 644813 Ein Cyt/Our Ref.: 01\_20Mod\_Cal.Rog2020

Bach Cyf/Your Ref.:

Ebort/E-Mails

9th February 2022 Dyddiad/Date:

Mr G. Purnell Natural Resources Wales Senior Advisor (Development & Flood Risk) Gary.Purnell@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Dear Mr Purnell,

RE:

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 SECTION 53 - DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER TO RECORD ROUTES 83 CALDICOT AND 27 ROGIET AS PUBLIC FOOTPATHS IN THE COMMUNITIES OF CALDICOT AND ROGIET NEAR THE SEVERNSIDE RIFLE RANGE.

Thank you for your reply to the consultation, dated 5th January 2022 (included below for reference).

I am aware of the ongoing issues regarding the unpermitted works to NRW costal flood defences as these also obstruct the public footpaths 354/6 and 378/13.

It is these unpermitted works that have brought the route alignment into question. Having investigated all the available historic documentation, it has revealed two route alignments. One route is the registered footpaths 354/6 and 378/13 that occasionally follows the crest and the seaward toe of the seawall. In some locations the alignment of the registered footpath travels further in land. The other route follows the crest of the seawall and the removal of kissing gates and the placement of "oil drum/skip barrier" has brought this alignment into question.

Landowners are permitted to install boundary fences if they wish to. However, they would have to ensure that the public right of way is open and available for use. A gap in a boundary fence is the initial requirement in accordance with the Equality Act 2010. If a barrier is required for stock control or is needed to protect the safety of the public, then a kissing gate, or pedestrian gate may be permitted after the landowner makes an application for a footpath fumiture license under sections 147 or 66 of the Highways Act 1980. The installation and continuous maintenance of footpath furniture is the responsibility of the landowner.

The landowner and site manager have been included in this pre-order consultation. The ongoing issues of trespass and vandalism are concerning but are not considered under section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The perceived experience of an alleged public right of way combined with any associated and anticipated need, nuisance and/or security, surrounding the arguments for and against the registration of a claimed route, are not considered under this legislation and will not inform whether it should or should not be registered. The legislation for a Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) allows for anyone to register a route on the Definitive Map and Statement (DM&S) that is shown to "subsist or is reasonably alleged to subsist" and if either of these tests are satisfied then the Order Making Authority is duty bound to make the Order and on the "balance of probabilities" to confirm that Order.

The recorded unaffected footpaths, FPs 354/6 and 378/13, were originally on the crest of the previous alignment of the seawall. At the time of the redevelopment of the coastal defences no consideration was given to reposition the public footpaths correctly and formally. The security fencing proposed by the landowner would obstruct any right of way in the area. Furthermore, due to the redevelopment of the seawall sections of the recorded footpaths have been left unavailable for use.

There are other sections of the recorded footpaths that utilise the crest of the seawall that show no significant damage or change in the surface even with the increased usage due to the pandemic in 2020. You have previously described the use of the crest of the seawall as follows: "I haven't had any reports of concerns we have with walking along the defences as this tends to happen with a lot of our flood alleviation schemes."



P.T.O

Mae BywydMynwy yn grŵp gwasanaeth a gaiff ei reoli gan Gyngor Sir Fynwy

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg, Saesneg neu yn y ddwy iaith. Byddwn yn cyfathrebu â chi yn ôl eich dewis. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arw The Council welcomes correspondence in English or Welsh or both and will respond to you according to your preference. Corres sponding in Welsh will not lead to delay.

# Appendix 5.29.1 Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) reply to Natural Resources Wales (NRW)

The Authority will not be liable for any damage and responsible for any repairs to the integrity of the seawall as it is evident that footfall usage over many years has not caused any significant damage. Moreover, the legislation specifies that a way not previously recorded in the DM&S but added by means of a modification order depended on the evidence and was likely to be maintainable at public expense only if the way existed in 1835, or there was subsequent agreement to maintain it then it is maintainable at public expense. Additionally, section 23 of the Highways Act 1835 applied to 'roads', and according to the meaning then attached to the word 'road' it was held not to apply to footpaths. This means that as footpaths were outside of the Highways Act 1835, they continued to be maintainable by the inhabitants at large, and did so irrespective of whether they came into existence because of express dedication or presumed dedication at that time, under common law. The responsibility of surface maintenance is not down to the local authority. However, some routes in the area are maintained to the level for ordinary traffic, that is to footpath status, which is currently undertaken by Monmouthshire County Council's field wardens who regularly cut the up growth. In this instance due to the obstructions made by the landowner in 2020 a DMMO has been instigated to record the claimed alignment. If this leads to a confirmed order, then the Authority will have to enforce the removal of any obstructions. I hope this clarifies the position with regards to the legislation in connection with the Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) process. Yours sincerely, Mandy Mussell Definitive Map Officer

Appendix 5.29.2

Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) reply to Natural Resources Wales (NRW)

Page 2 of 2 - 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022



Cyngor Sir Pynwy

Neuadd y Sir, Y Rhadyr, Brynbuga, NP15 1GA County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA

Ffon/Pfacs: 01633 644644

E-bost: contact@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Monmouthshire County Council

Phone/Fex: 01633 644644

Pfon/Tel:

mandymussell@monmouthshire.gov.uk 01633 644813 Ein Cyf/Our Ref.: 01\_'20Mod\_Cal.Rog2020

Each Cyf/Your Ref .:

Dwidtad/Date: 9th February 2022

Mr P. Poole Natural Resources Wales Philip.Poole@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Dear Mr Poole.

RF:

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 SECTION 53 - DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER TO RECORD ROUTES 83 CALDICOT AND 27 ROGIET AS PUBLIC FOOTPATHS IN THE COMMUNITIES OF CALDICOT AND ROGIET NEAR THE SEVERNSIDE RIFLE RANGE.

Thank you for your reply to the consultation, dated 5th January 2022 (included below for reference).

The perceived experience of the existence of a public right of way and any associated and anticipated maintenance, need, nuisance and/or security surrounding the arguments for and against the registration of the claimed route are not considered under this legislation and will not inform whether it should or should not be registered.

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 allows for a Definitive Map Modification Order to be submitted by anyone to register a route on the Definitive Map and Statement. If the claimed route is shown to "subsist or is reasonably alleged to subsist" and if either of these tests are satisfied, then the Order Making Authority is duty bound to make the Order and on the "balance of probabilities" to confirm that Order.

No, the authority is not able to give assurance with respect to NRW not needing to apply for formal notices for footpath closures when you carry out significant maintenance on the bank. Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) is not exempt from paying for and posting notices on site with regards to the current closure in place for the recorded and unrecorded footpaths. However, formal notices have not been required to date and a banks man or similar approach would probably be acceptable and negate the need for formal

The proposed fencing, kissing gates, pedestrian gates and/or gates that may be installed will be the responsibility of the landowner. However, it has been reported that the route over the top of the seawall was maintained by MCC's field wardens, to the level for ordinary traffic, that is to footpath level. MCC's Field Officer reports having in the past contacted the landowner to unlock gates so that the up growth (grass) could be regularly cut with machinery, you would have to take a similar approach.

I hope this clarifies the position with regards to the matters you have raised and the legislation in connection with the Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) process.

Yours sincerely, Mandy Mussell Definitive Map Officer



Mae BywydMynwy yn grŵp gwasanaeth a gaiff ei reoli gan Gyngor Sir Fynwy

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg, Saesneg neu yn y ddwy iaith. Byddwn yn cyfathrebu â chi yn ôl eich dewis. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi. The Council welcomes correspondence in English or Welsh or both and will respond to you according to your preference. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay

# Appendix 5.29.3 Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) reply to Natural Resources Wales (NRW) 9th February 2022

From: Williams, Kristian J < Kristian Williams@monmouthshire.gov.uk>

Sent: 07 December 2021 10:18

To: Mussell, Mandy <MandyMussell@monmouthshire.gov.uk>

Cc:

Subject: RE: 01\_'20Mod - Seawall Caldicot Rogiet Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) 08

I'm aware of the MOD site.

The H&S issues on the private range are more concerning given its proximity to the path and the allegations made by the operators that walkers have disregarded safety measures. The rear backstop has said path located on top of it of course. I've visited Severnside range and met the operators on several occasions now, including a recent site visit with Police, NRW, RoW and MCC Councillors to discuss safety, access, and vandalism.

As Environmental Health Officers enforcing H&S at Work (we're synonymous with HSE Inspectors of H&S) we're aware of the operators responsibilities which remain whether there is a DMMO or not. I've also witnessed the control measures they have in place when the range is live and these are similar to those used on the MOD range. So there are no enforcement expectations from my Department at this stage, other than to point out the obvious risks associated with the location of the path, but take your point regarding the designation process and it's terms of reference under the Act which doesn't consider suitability or indeed safety.

I don't enforce H&S on the MOD site, being a Crown premises, the HSE takes primacy.

Kind regards,

Kris

#### Mr Kristian Williams

# **Specialist Environmental Health Officer**

**Environmental Health - Commercial Team** 

#### Good evening Mandy

Many thanks for the consultation letter and links.

I'm an EHO with Monmouthshire CC and my Department has an enforcement role in terms of Severnside firing range's duties under health & safety legislation. I note Mr Williams objections contained in the pre-order consultation report. Any comments I would make are in relation to safety and I note that concerning the *status of routes* under section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, *need, nuisance, security or suitability cannot be taken into account.* 

I take it then, that any comments at this point are not officially required from me in terms of the designation process?

Purely from a safety perspective, I can only reiterate observations I have made to date regarding this matter. It is self-evident that locating a public right of way behind an active firing range poses some obvious challenges to safety management and presents a risk of injury or death, should a pedestrian stray onto the range when it is live. Severnside firing range mitigates this risk through the use of red flags and sentries when the range is live. The range is managed by Mr Williams (Range Conducting Officer) who is in radio communication with posted sentries. It is alleged by Mr Williams that some walkers have flagrantly disregarded these safety measures, thereby placing themselves at risk. Mr Williams has raised other safety concerns in his objections. My understanding is that there is an alternative route available to walkers to circumvent Severnside firing range — namely the Wales Coastal Path. Irrespective of the designation process, the same reasonably foreseeable risks present themselves given the open nature of the coastline in this area, specifically between A and G, and in any case it would be necessary for Severnside firing range to implement reasonably practicable control measures, including those described above. Whilst my comments above might not be required at this stage, I thought them relevant given Environmental Health's remit in enforcing the provisions of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974.

Kind regards,

Kris

#### **Mr Kristian Williams**

Specialist Environmental Health Officer Monmouthshire County Council Environmental Health - Commercial Team

# Appendix 5.30 Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) Environmental Health Officer reply to DMMO Pre-Order consultation – 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021