

Chief Executive Officer

9th August 1978  
IPN/EE  
JAW/MM

THE COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION : STUDY OF GREEN LANES

I refer to your memorandum dated 14th July 1978 in respect of the above mentioned matter together with a copy of a letter dated 12th July 1978 received by you from the Association of County Councils.

I confirm that there is a considerable mileage of 'Green Lanes' in the County and the exact mileage can be obtained from the County Surveyor. The legal status of the Green Lanes is that they are Unsurfaced County Unclassified Roads.

The needs of all types of user are being met whereby where complaints are received regarding obstructions, necessary remedial works required etc action is taken to ensure that the complaints are remedied as soon as is convenient. Conflicts between users do arise on the odd occasion e.g. between walkers and motorcyclists and between landowners and motor cyclists when these lanes are used for trail riding or scrambles.

Green Lanes make an immense contribution to the landscape and are of great value in fostering plant growth and animal sanctuary etc and provide a valuable means to the public of obtaining more access to the countryside.

These lanes are in fact highways by which much of the trade of the country was carried out but over the years with the improvement of other highways have deteriorated in many cases to where they are little more than footpaths.

It is my opinion that these Green Lanes do not, in the majority of cases, hinder farming activities but do in fact give access to fields though occasionally landowners do attempt to plough them up and incorporate them into adjoining fields which is to the detriment of the countryside and to the public.

I trust this information is of value to the Association but should they require any further information I will be pleased to supply it on request.

JW  
Mr. J.A. Willis

Me.   
 ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY COUNCILS

A. C. HETHERINGTON, C.B.E.  
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B. J. A. BINDER, M.A.  
(FINANCE)

P. J. COLES, M.Sc.  
(EDUCATION)

UNDER SECRETARIES

RECEIVED  
13 JUL 1978  
C.F.O.'s DEPT.

EATON HOUSE,

66A EATON SQUARE,

WESTMINSTER, SW1W 9BH.

TELEPHONE: 01-235 1200

YOUR REF:

OUR REF: 3A/W/H.36/1

12th July, 1978

Dear Sir,

Study of Green Lanes

A Report to the Countryside Commission  
by the Dartington Amenity Research Trust

I refer to my letter of 31st January 1978 in which I asked for your observations on DART'S report on "Modifications of Rights of Way".

DART have now informed me that following their earlier work, they have been asked by the Countryside Commission to carry out a study of Green Lanes. I understand that this will comprise a short desk study including any relevant literature and correspondence with interested parties, and a survey in a District of each of three counties. The South Hams area of Devon will be the first study area; the others are yet to be selected.

In each study area DART are to determine:-

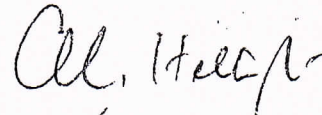
- (i) the mileage of "Green Lane" (appropriately defined);
- (ii) their legal status (none, footway, bridleway, RUPP, county road, etc.);
- (iii) the extent to which the needs of all types of Green Lane user are being met (and what conflicts occur between users);
- (iv) the contribution made by Green Lanes to the landscape;
- (v) their historical or archaeological significance;
- (vi) the extent to which Green Lanes assist or hinder farming activities.



DART have said that they would welcome any further information or comments on the points listed above, and they would be particularly interested to hear about any difficulties that the variety of designations which might be applied to Green Lanes can cause local authorities.

DART have asked for any comments the Association might have by the 11th August and I should be pleased to receive any observations you may wish to make.

Yours sincerely,



Secretary

The Chief Executive (or other appropriate officer) of the Counties of: Cheshire, Cumbria, Dorset, Gwent, Hertfordshire, Kent, Nottinghamshire, Powys, West Sussex, and Wiltshire.

as

# BOROUGH OF NEWPORT

T/E11

D.P. CARTWRIGHT, C.Eng., F.I.C.E.,  
F.I.Mun.E., F.I.Struct.E.  
Director of Technical Services.



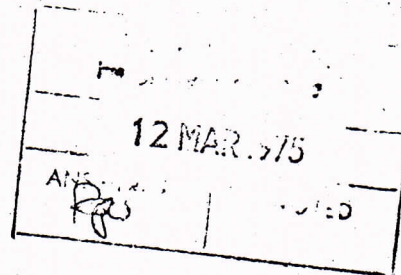
CIVIC CENTRE,  
NEWPORT,  
GWENT,  
NPT 4UR.

Tel: 0633 65491

Ext:

Please Quote: GWT/RSB/R.5

Your Ref:



10 March 1975

County Surveyor  
Gwent County Council  
Victoria Street  
CWMBRAN  
Gwent

Dear Sir

## UNCLASSIFIED ROADS - GREEN LANES

You may be aware that the County Planning Officer has carried out a Special Review of roads used as public paths' under the 1960 Countryside Act and the draft plans are currently on deposit for public comment.

The plans relating to the Newport District have been studied and I have noted that certain roads which are described in the schedules originally passed to this Authority by Gwent as unclassified county roads (green lane) are included in the review.

The proposal is that certain county roads should be downgraded to either footpath, bridge way or byway status and I am concerned that inappropriate and possibly invalid procedure is being carried out. My understanding of the 1968 Act is that the review should only apply to RUPP'S, which are shown as cart roads on the existing definitive maps. The present situation would therefore appear to be that county roads, maintainable at the public expense and with full highway status, albeit as green lanes are being proposed for down grading by means of inappropriate procedures.

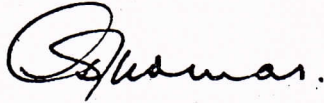
I should be pleased to receive any comments you may have as I understand that the advertisement period terminates at the end of this month.

Continued

The relevant roads within the Newport District are as follows:-

<u>County road No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>County Planners ref. No.</u>
C91.6	Percoed Lane	St Brides 1 and 2
C91.7	Pont Estyll	" 3
C91.9	Wheel Lane	" 5 and 4
C91.10	Wheel Lane to St Brides	" 6
C82.5	(Part) off Broadstreet Common	Peterstone 6
C100.23	Picked Lane	Nash 1

Yours faithfully



G W THOMAS  
For Director of Technical Services



Road No. Condition Status as agreed with County Surveyor Div. 6" Sheet Nos. Reclassification

CHEPSTOW RURAL DISTRICT

Road No.	Condition	Status as agreed with County Surveyor	Div.	6" Sheet Nos.	Reclassification
C 43 - 9	Cart track well used as access to cottages	Byway	2	20 40SE	BWs 12 and 18, Devauden ✓
43 - 14	Grass track between entrance to Tor-y-mynydd and 43-17 surfaced	Part surfaced, part BR	2	20 40SE	BR 10, Devauden ✓ FP 11, Devauden ✓
43 - 17	Surfaced	Surfaced	2	20 40SE ✓	
51 - 4	Cart track to first cottage on left going north, then narrow muddy path as far as wood. Evidence of use by horses. Part is stream bed	BR	2	21 50SW	BRS 91, 98, 117, Tintern ✓
51 - 13	Blocked both ends by barbed wire and fence therefore grown over	FP	2	21 50SW	FP 96, Tintern ✓
53 - 6	Unsurfaced hardcore track to house	Byway	2	26 59NW	BW 128, Tintern ✓
53 - 7	Width between 6 - 10 ft. Track varies between a grass surface to bare slabs of rock	FP	2	26 59NW	FP 46, Tintern ✓
53 - 14	Access from cobbled unclassified road too steep for wheeled vehicles. Used as FP to Grove Cottage and well	BR	2	26 59NW	BR 58, Tintern ✓
53 - 17	8 feet wide	BR	2	26 59NW	Part of BR 57, Tintern ✓
60 - 4	Track well used as access to various houses, 8 - 10 ft. wide. Gravel with grass in centre	Byway	2	20 40SE	BW 20, Devauden ✓

*It was the objection*

Road No.	Condition	Status as agreed with County Surveyor	Div.	6" Sheet Nos.	Reclassification
<u>ABERGAVENNY RURAL DISTRICT</u>					
C 1 - 2	Surfaced from Llanthony end as far as Llwyon-On, then narrow muddy winding track suitable as a BR as far as Tafallog Bridge. Then surfaced northwards.	Part surfaced, part BR	1	1 22NE/23SE	BRS 505, 506, 507, Crucorney ✓
1 - 7	Surfaced from eastern end as far as track off the South. Then steep grass track to end.	Part surfaced, part BR.	1	3 32SW	BRS 508 and 509, Crucorney ✓
2 - 2	South access is through farmyard and 2 gates. Sunken muddy track. Varying in width.	Part surfaced, part BR	1	3 32SW/32NW	BRS 510 and 511 ✓
3 - 1	From New Inn Farm to gate it is surfaced with wide grass strip in centre. From there to its junction with C 3 - 3 it is unsurfaced.	Part surfaced, part byway,	1	3 22NE/22SE	FPS 512 and 513, BRS 514 to 520, Crucorney ✓
3 - 2	Surfaced to farmhouse, then BR.	Part surfaced, part BR	1	3 22/SE	BRS 521, 523, 524, 525, Crucorney ✓
3 - 3	Surfaced from eastern end to 1/4 mile beyond Pen-rhiw, then centre track, which is used for motor rallies.	Part surfaced, part byway	1	3 32SW/22SE	BRS 538, 539, 540, 541, Crucorney ✓
3 - 4	Surfaced from southern end to Pentwyn and from there to Ty-Coch it is a grass track. From Ty-Coch to T. Chapel it is surfaced.	Part surfaced, part BR	1	3 22SE	BRS 528, 529, Crucorney ✓

G.M.Murray, Esq.,  
County Surveyor.

JAW/MM  
CS 477

30th November, 1971.

The Countryside Act 1968  
Special Review of County Green Lanes

The inspection of the County Green Lanes in Chepstow Rural District has now been completed.

3  
I enclose herewith a schedule together with the necessary plans indicating which category i.e. Footpath, Bridleway or Byway, these Green Lanes are to be included in the Special Review according to their condition.

I should be pleased to receive your observations on these proposals in due course.

Encl.



CHEPSTOW RURAL - ALTERATIONS TO GREEN LANES

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<u>Green Lane No.</u>		<u>Sheet No.</u>
43 - 9	Byway	40 SE >
43 - 14	Part surfaced, part BR	40 SE >
43 - 17	Surfaced.	40 SE >
51 - 4	B.R.	50 SW >
51 - 13	FP.	50 SW >
53 - 6	Byway.	59 NW >
53 - 7	FP.	59 NW >
53 - 14	FP	59 NW >
53 - 17	FP	50 NW >
60 - 4	Byway.	40 SE >
100 -10	Part surfaced, part BR	49 SW >
100 -11	Surfaced.	49 SW >

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNTY ENGINEER & SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

COPY FOR COUNTY PLANNING /  
OFFICER

477/382/32

KH/MD

11th March, 1971

The Countryside Act, 1968  
"Special Review"  
Green Lanes

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THE CLERK OF THE  
COUNCIL

With reference to your memo. of 21st January, my Divisional Surveyors have inspected all the scheduled Green Lanes in their areas and it is found that, rightly or wrongly, over the years a considerable number of them have been surfaced so as to bring them up to a standard equal to that of the average County Unclassified Road in rural areas. Some 36 Green Lanes, totalling 21.79 miles are involved and I should be glad of your assurance that there is no legal difficulty regarding the deletion of these routes from the Green Lanes to be investigated in the Special Review of Rights of Way. It is, of course, not necessary to consider re-classification as they are already a part of the County Council's Unclassified Road numbering system.

Please forward etc.

*JH*

# MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY ENGINEER & SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

SHEET

All Divisions

(N.B. This Sheet should refer to one subject only)

c.s. 473/1/4/GMM/JB

OUR REF.

3rd February, 1971

## Green Lanes

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THE ASSISTANT  
COUNTY SURVEYOR  
(M)

Discussions with the Clerk and the County Planning Officer have confirmed that the County's Green Lanes should be included in the Special Review of Public Rights of Way and re-classified as -

- (a) a "By-way open to all Traffic," or
- (b) a "Bridleway", or
- (c) a "Footpath".

This is, of course, a change from the previous review of Rights of Way and is a result of the provisions of the Countryside Act, 1968 which endeavoured to restore uniformity throughout the Country.

The bulk of this work will, of course, be carried out by the Footpaths Section of the County Planning Department, but I should be glad if Divisional Surveyors would have a preliminary look at all the Green Lanes in their areas to see which of them should now properly be regarded as normal Unclassified Roads owing to their condition having been improved in the past. This should remove a certain number from those which have to be investigated by the Planning Department. They will, of course, be getting in touch with the Divisional Surveyors and should be given every possible assistance regarding local knowledge of the history of any of these roads and the extent to which they are normally used by wheeled vehicles.



G.N. Murray, Esq.,  
County Surveyor

JAW/SK/EE  
CS 477 GMM/JSB

14th January, 1971.

The Countryside Act, 1968  
"Special Review"

I refer to yesterday's telephone conversation between Mr. Murray, the County Surveyor, and Mr. Willis of this Department in respect of the unsurfaced County Green Lanes which are indicated on the Highways Map as County Unclassified Roads.

I am of the opinion that under the provisions of The Countryside Act, 1968 it is intended that these unsurfaced Green Lanes should be indicated on the Rights of Way Maps as either Bridleways or Byways open to all traffic, depending of course on their existing surface condition, width, etc.

In view of the fact that the "Special Review" is being carried out at present this would appear to be an opportune time to resolve this question.

I should, therefore, be pleased to receive your comments and observations in due course, and maybe you would like to pursue this matter with the Clerk of the County Council to whom I have sent a copy of this memo for information.

25 days overdue

National Parks and Access to Countryside Act 1949  
Review of Rights of Way  
Additions and Deletions - General

1.

ABERGAVENNY BOROUGH

- FP No. 69 - Added to map to give continuity to FP 197 in Llantilio Pertholey - Approved by Abergavenny Borough Council and Rural District/Parish Council.  
Sheet 21 NE - 2916
  
- BR No. 28 - Deleted as it is a District Road in Abergavenny Borough (Belgrave Road).  
Sheet 21 SE - 2814/2914
  
- BR No. 76 - This Bridleway was previously shown in Parish of Llantilio Pertholey as BR's 1 and 2 this was found to be incorrect and the Map has been amended to show it correctly in Abergavenny Borough.  
Sheet 31 SW - 3013
  
- FP No. 8 - Part deleted as it has been made up and is a District Road in Abergavenny Borough (Belmont Close).  
Sheet 31 SW - 3013

CHEPSTOW RURAL DISTRICT

PARISH OF CAERWENT

- BR No. 3 - Extended to join BRs No. 2 and 4 to give continuity to route - agreed by Parish and Rural District Councils. Omitted in error from Definitive Map. Sheet 49 SW - 4494
- FP No. 10 - Deleted as being a short length of Footpath with no connection to any County Road or Right of Way and considered as being of no further use to the Public. Approved by Parish and Rural District Council. Sheet 49 SE - 4990
- FP No. 73 - As above. Sheet 49 SW - 4390
- FP No. 66 - Extended to Old Caerwent Road in order to make Map agree with original statement. Sheet 49 SE - 4690
- BR No. 108 - Added to the Map at request of Parish Council. Omitted from Definitive Map in error. Approved by Rural District Council. Sheet 48 NW, 49 SW, - 4489 - 4490
- FP No. 109 - Added to map to give continuity to route. Approved by Parish and Rural District Councils. Sheet 48 NW - 4489

PARISH OF CALDICOT

- FP No. 42 - Added to Map at request of Parish Council. Approved by Rural District Council. Omitted from Definitive Map in error. Evidence of Public use. Sheet 48 NE - 4788
- FPS No. 74 & 75 - As above. Sheet 48 NE - 4788

PARISH OF DEVAUDEN

- BW No. 264 - Added to map to give continuity to FP 150 and to give outlet to village of Devauden. It would appear that it was assumed to be a County Road at Original Survey. Approved by Parish and Rural District Councils. Sheet 49 NE - 4890
- FPS No. 97 265, 266, 267, 268 - As above. Sheet 49 NE - 4999



- FPs No. 269, 270 - Added to map to give continuity and outlet to the County Road for FP No. 164. Approved by Rural District and Parish Councils.  
Sheet 49 NE - 4899
- FP No. 272 - Added to map to preserve public access to Methodist Chapel and afford continuity of route. Approved by Rural and Parish Councils.  
Sheet 49 NE - 4899
- BR No. 273 - Added to map to give access to County Road and continuity to route.  
Sheet 59 NW - 5097
- BR No. 250 - Upgraded from FP to BR at request of Parish Council to give continuity to route. Approved by Rural District Council.  
Sheet 59 NW - 5097

PARISH OF LLANGWM

- FP No. 127 - Added to map at request of the Parish Council. Approved by Rural District Council. Omitted in error from Definitive Map.  
Sheet 40 SW - 4300

PARISH OF MATHERN

- FP No. 63 - Deleted from Definitive Map - no longer exists. Original Statement roads:- "No sign of path obstructed by settlement smallholdings - Formerly (prior to 1914) a public path". Approved by Rural and Parish Councils.  
Sheet 59 SW

PARISH OF ROGIET

- FPS 24, 25 - Added to map at request of Parish Council - omitted in error from Definitive Map. Approved by Rural District Council.  
Sheet 48 NE - 4687/4688

PARISH OF SHIRENEWTON

- FP No. 9 - Line amended to avoid Farm Buildings at request of Parish Council. Approved by Rural District Council.  
Sheet 49 NW - 4195
- FP No. 23 - Line amended to agree with prevailing site conditions as requested by the Parish Council. Approved by Rural District Council.  
Sheet 49 NW - 4396
- FP No. 42 - As above.  
Sheet 49 NW - 4396/4495
- FP No. 74 - As above  
Sheet 49 SW - 4494

DEVAUDEN

265	FP	49 NE	Bryn Jones	Objection to downgrading	County Green Lane, should be re-class as a By Way
			<i>Negotiate. RKJ etc.</i>		
<del>180</del>	<del>FP</del>	<del>49 NW</del>	<del>Monmouthshire</del>	<del>Objection to downgrading</del>	<del>No change between</del>
<del>179</del>	<del>FP</del>	<del>49 NW</del>	<del>Motor Cycle</del>	<del>downgrading</del>	<del>Definitive and Review</del>
<del>182</del>	<del>FP</del>	<del>49 NW</del>	<del>Club</del>		<del>Maps. Therefore not</del>
<del>184</del>	<del>FP</del>	<del>49 NW</del>			<del>a valid objection.</del>
<del>185</del>	<del>FP</del>	<del>49 NW</del>			
266	FP	49 NE	Monmouthshire	Objection to	County Green lane
265	FP	49 NE	Motor Cycle	<i>Negotiate. RKJ etc</i>	should be re-classified
			Club		as a Byway.
<del>185</del>	<del>FP</del>	<del>49 NW</del>	<del>Brain Goad</del>	<del>Objection to downgrading</del>	<del>No change between</del>
			<del>11 Gwladys Pl.</del>		<del>Definitive and Review</del>
			<del>Caerleon</del>		<del>Maps. Therefore not</del>
					<del>a valid objection.</del>

Chief Executive Officer

6th September, 1974  
IPN/  
JAW/MM

THE COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1968  
SPECIAL REVIEW OF PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

I refer to the letter dated 20th August 1974 received by you from the Sports Council for Wales in respect of the above mentioned matter.

As you are aware that in carrying out the Special Review of Public Rights of Way as a general rule no alterations were made which in any way altered the existing Public Rights over any path or track i.e. Cartroad/Bridleway were reclassified to Bridleways and Cartroad/Footpaths were reclassified to Footpaths.

Certain County Green Lanes were also included in this Review and these were inspected and reclassified according to their condition to either Footpath, Bridleway or Byway open to all traffic.

Any persons aggrieved by the proposals can submit, within the time allowed, objections which have to be forwarded to the Secretary of State at the Welsh Office for determination in accordance with the Statutory Procedure laid down.

Therefore under the existing legislation the views and interests of all sections of the community have the right to be heard and are taken into account and it is not intended to deprive any person of any facility that they may have enjoyed in the past.

Mr. J.A. Willis