

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Explanatory Statement to Accompany Definitive Map Modification Order

THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT FORM PART OF THE ORDER

Public footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways and byways open to all traffic are recorded on definitive maps and statements. These maps and statements provide conclusive legal evidence of public rights of way. We (Oxfordshire County Council) are responsible for the Definitive Map and Statement for Oxfordshire and must amend them if they are inaccurate or incomplete. We make these changes using Modification Orders made under section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. They do not come into effect until confirmed. Please see below for more information.

We have made a Modification Order to record a width for part of West Hanney Byway Open To All Traffic No.2 on the Definitive Statement in West Hanney Parish. Oxfordshire County Council has made this order after the discovery of documentary evidence, sufficient to infer the dedicated width of part of BOAT No.2. This should therefore be recorded on the Definitive Statement. The evidence on which the decision to make the order is based may be seen free of charge at Oxfordshire County Council. Please telephone 01865 810808 or email countrysiderecords@oxfordshire.gov.uk to make an appointment.

If you wish to object or make a representation to the Order, you must do so in writing to the **Principal Officer, Countryside Records, Oxfordshire County Council, County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND**, by **27th September 2019**. You must include details of the grounds you rely on. Anyone has a legal right to object to an order but should do so in a reasonable way. Our costs in dealing with objections to orders are normally awarded against objectors only in cases of unreasonable behaviour.

Please note: *To be relevant, objections or representations need to be about whether or not a public right of way exists at the width stated. We cannot consider the suitability of the way for public use or any other effects of confirming an order as part of this legal procedure. For more information, or to see the evidence, please contact the Countryside Records Office on 01865 810808.*

If we receive no objections (or if any made are later withdrawn) we may confirm the Order. This would change the Definitive Map and Statement. If any objections remain we must send them, with the Order, to the Planning Inspectorate. They can appoint an inspector to decide the case by holding a local public inquiry or hearing or an exchange of written representations. The inspector may then decide whether or not to confirm the Order.

For more information on Definitive Map and Statement procedures see:

Oxfordshire County Council Guidance notes: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/modificationsanddiversions

Natural England: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/211280>

Planning Inspectorate: www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning/countryside/rightsofway/

GDPR and Data Protection Act: We will consider all correspondence, objections and representations we receive in response to this order. We may disseminate them widely and make them available to the public.