



Eastleigh

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17 April 2024

Dear Summer,

RE PLANNING APPLICATION F/23/96589 – MOORLANDS FARM, BOTLEY ROAD, WEST END, SOUTHAMPTON

Thank you for your Council's letter of 10 April 2024 consulting on the revised plans added to the above Planning Application. On behalf of the Ramblers' Association, we hereby lodge an objection to the above application on the grounds that inadequate consideration has been given to the relationship of the proposed access road to Footpath No 10 West End.

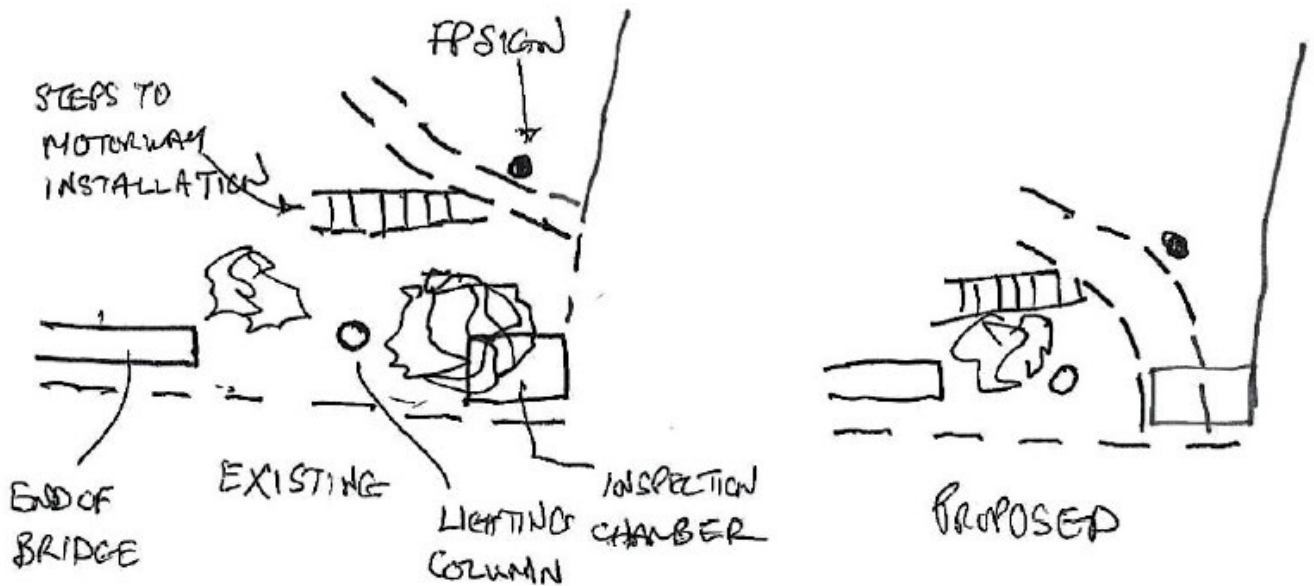
The footpath was created as a result of a diversion when the motorway was constructed and we have added an extract from the plan in the Diversion Order of 18 November 1981. At that time the path would have been part of the land acquired for the construction of the motorway and the diversion of the path. The land over which the footpath was created passed from the Department of Transport to Hampshire County Council as a result of a Side Roads Order.

Please see the sketch below.

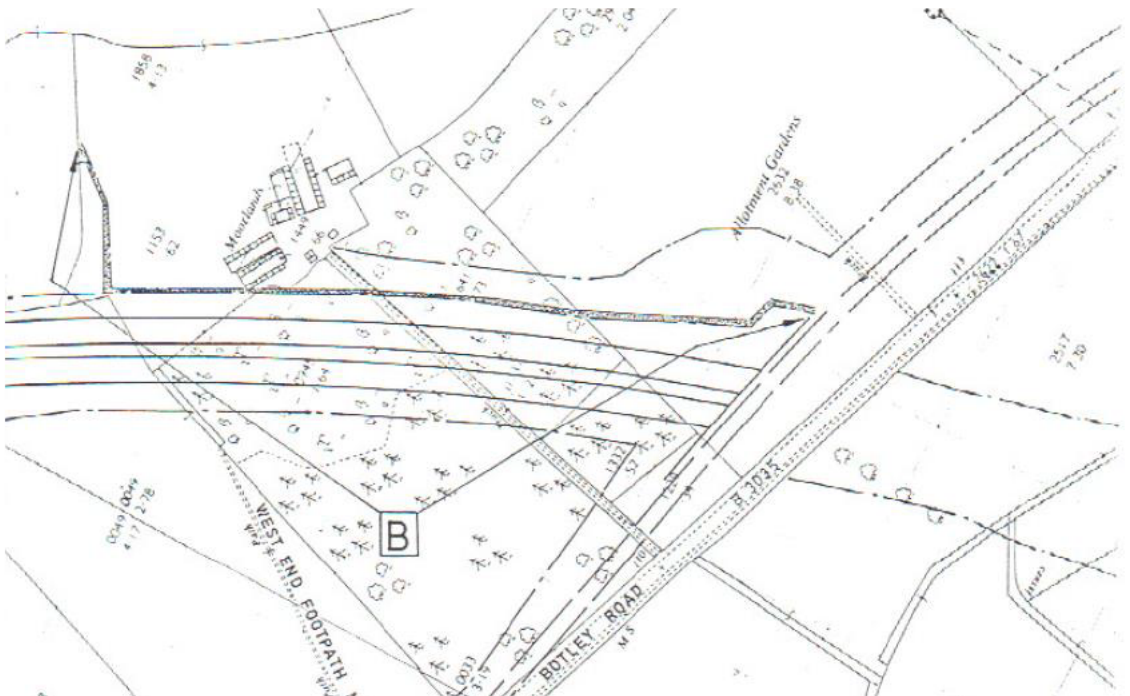
There needs to be a much more detailed plan of the works at the entrance from Botley Road for the following reasons and to show how the features referred to will be taken into account and how the entrance will be made to work as shown on the site plan -

- (a) there are works under the ground that will be associated with the bridge structure;
- (b) there is part of the bridge structure above ground;
- (c) there is a lighting column adjacent to the bridge which will have associated wiring;
- (d) there is an inspection chamber which will have associated services;
- (e) the first part of the footpath is used as an access to services below the bridge via steps;
- (d) across the other side of the entrance is a fence beyond which is a very steep slope down to the adjoining premises and logic suggests that the owners of that property had the right to cut back the ground to form that slope and that the entrance must be accommodated to the west of it;
- (e) the footway along Botley Road and across the bridge is a shared use footpath/cycle route and there needs to be a proper design to avoid accidents at the proposed entrance with tactile drop kerbs, signposts and road markings;
- (f) Crash barriers will be needed at the top of the steep slope referred to above and an assessment of whether the roadway as constructed would take the weight of the vehicles proposed without causing a landslide.

The footpath physically is not where it is shown on the site plan and it fails to show it continuing to the back of footway on Botley Road as per the Diversion plan. With the clearance of the bushes to the east of the lighting column it would be possible to create a footpath to Botley Road as shown on the sketch below. This is essential on safety grounds to avoid conflict with industrial traffic coming into the entrance. The inspection chamber should be shown as within the footpath and the footpath route protected and defined by road kerbs.



Above proposed footpath from across the Botley Road – below close up.



Above Extract from Diversion Order Plan

Yours sincerely

[Redacted signature]

Richard C. Kenchington FRICS IRRV (Hons),
Footpath Secretary, EASTLEIGH RAMBLERS

To
Summer Sharpe
EASTLEIGH BOROUGH COUNCIL
Copy to
Countryside Service,
HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL