

Public questions to Council – 4 March 2016

Question from Mr P McKay, Leominster

Question 1

Highways records

Council has advised under FOI that when undertaking the LSG upgrade requiring highway dedication codes to be registered, that our unadopted highways that HC simply must be aware of such as those in regular public use such as Rockfield Road, cul-de-sac's leading to public places such as Dinedor Camp, and to public paths mentioned on the written statements as road to which path connects, are to be registered without any public highway dedication rights of use, expecting instead our parish councils to apply for registration with supporting evidence. I view the legislation and DfT Code of Practice as requiring Council to self-register these unadopted highways, which could be supported by an Evidence Base outlining earlier decisions made when the present records were raised, providing transparency so that all may be aware, HC having the evidence, expertise and responsibility for doing this.

I therefore ask what further instruction/guidance does Council require Government to raise before they would undertake self-registration, which surely would be a more cost effective way forward with completion of the highway records, providing connectivity, and to the standard that the public and parishes expect?

Answer from Cllr P Rone, cabinet member transport and roads

Herefordshire Council considers that it complies with current government guidance in this area. As has previously been advised, the council has a finite resource available for researching and establishing highway rights and these will be prioritised in the first instance to addressing properly made applications.
