

Dear Sam Tweedale

Attendance at the Unrecorded Ways Research Workshop on 18<sup>th</sup> April for parishes was good being over 50 persons, with presentations made regarding the registration of our unadopted roads that are no longer used by vehicles on the Definitive Map, but nothing about the registration on the Street Works Register of those still in use by vehicles and not within scope of the Definitive Map, or for which registration on the Definitive Map is not considered necessary, which not being legally conclusive is a far less costly process. The second Briefing Note raised for GO&SC by HC says under *'Powers applying to local councils and to parish meetings where there is no council'* that parish has the power *'To make representations to the highway authority that a highway has been unlawfully stopped-up or obstructed. The authority must act unless satisfied that the representations are incorrect - HA 1980 s 130(6)'* so the suggestion is would GO&SC advise HC to adopt a) a low cost light touch approach to record representations made by parishes for unadopted roads, enclosed paths similar to urban footways, and the like, on the Street Works Register, with HC having a legal duty to record those that it is aware of anyway and having a protocol in place to process any objections, by raising a protocol specifically for parish use similar to that raised in 1950's when gathering information to raise the Definitive Map, i.e., Forms FP1, FP2, FP3 & FP4 attached, rather than b) accepting putting everything through the high cost fully researched and reported upon process applicable for those that have fallen out of vehicular use, paths over farmers fields and the like, used to create the legally conclusive Definitive Map, as per presentations made by HC at that workshop, even when registration on the Street Works Register would be appropriate ? Use of costly fully researched and reported procedures may apply to representations by members of the public but surely ought not to representations by parishes for recording on a document that is not legally conclusive ?

A 'Blue Book for Roads', also attached, has also been published on the Defra NE LAF Huddle web page with all invited to edit and improve it, even rewrite if thought appropriate, with no feedback as yet, with the next logical step by HC being to raise an Evidence Base covering what has been done in the past, thereby identifying and justifying undertaking what remains to be done to raise complete and correct highway records, reference item 4 on page 2, avoiding the otherwise costly outcome reference item 7 on page 2 which has now commenced.

My concern is that I see no attempt to use least cost procedures, yet alone to maximise the use of least cost procedures, with intention instead being to use high cost procedures in all instances, hence my suggestion that this be subject of scrutiny.

Rgds

Peter McKay

Leominster