

## Response to Request for Information

**Reference:** 5581  
**Date:** August 2015  
**Type of request** FOI

### Recent Changes to the Footpath on Ditton Meadows

In relation to the footpath(s) on Ditton Meadows near Fen Ditton which run from Fen Ditton High Street towards Cambridge could you please release:

Correspondence and agreements with the landowner(s) or their agents, and local elected representatives, in respect of the recent changes, including the installation of gates, fencing, path surfacing, posts, signs etc., in the area. I am referring to a programme of work which has either recently been completed or may be currently in progress.

Documents FOI\_5581\_App\_files1 and FOI\_5581\_App\_files2 include all correspondence regarding these footpaths.

Please note that some information from these documents has been redacted and is being withheld under section 40(2). Section 40(2) provides that where information includes personal information for third parties, then that personal information is exempt from release.

In this instance, the Council receives contacts from other private sector organisations as well as members of the public. As such, personal information comprising mainly of names and contact details has been withheld.

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and does not require the performance of a public interest test.

The amount spent by the council on the recent changes.

The installation of the timber-sided stone walkway with 1.2-metre, self-closing Marlow gates at each end cost £1,950 plus VAT. This cost includes the purchase of the gates.

Any evidence of the established use of path(s) in the riverside field(s).

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) has a duty to maintain Public Rights of Way that are recorded on the Definitive Map and Statement. As the route used on the river side of the hedge is not recorded on the Definitive Map and statement CCC are not obliged to undertake any maintenance. It is possible for the public to claim that Public Rights exist and add these to the Definitive Map. There is more information on how to make such a claim on the CCC website at:

[http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/info/20012/arts\\_green\\_spaces\\_and\\_activities/199/definitive\\_map\\_and\\_statement](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/info/20012/arts_green_spaces_and_activities/199/definitive_map_and_statement)

If a claim regarding Public Rights is made, then CCC may establish the use of paths when considering the claim made. To date no claims for public Rights on the river side of the boundary hedge have been made and therefore CCC have no evidence regarding the established use of the path.

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