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Person dealing with the matter: Ken Wainman.
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My Refs: PR 737

Hello,

Proposed manège on land to the east of Winterfield lane, Hulme, Stoke-on Trent

Mrs Rosemary Gibson and Miss Sinead Gibson are very keen horse riders, Mrs R Gibson has owned horses all her life, and her daughter Sinead Gibson has followed the same interests and owned her own horses from a very young age. They both enjoy the local horse community and like to attend all the local shows to compete in both in-hand and ridden classes and Mrs R Gibson enjoys competing in cone courses with her driving horses.

Unfortunately it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep the horses trained and fit for competing, when hacking out around the surrounding area over the past few years they have found that riding out locally is becoming increasingly dangerous on the local lanes and bridle ways due to drivers deliberately spooking the horses by speeding past with passengers shouting and beeping as they go past on numerous occasions making it very unsafe, and inconsiderate dog walkers and cyclist on the bridle ways not controlling their dogs or not altering when they are coming past with their bikes, on one occasion Miss S Gibson's horse was badly spooked and the horse began to bolt resulting in Sinead having a bad fall and been air lifted to hospital with a broken pelvis. And with the recent death of friend who was riding as a passenger on a horse drawn carriage on the road, they are even more reluctant to put their selves and their horses at risk on the roads.

They have been trying to manage the horses training and keep them fit and in show and driving condition on the land but it is impossible because during the autumn and winter the land is prone to flooding and becomes sodden putting the horses at risk of injury trying to work in boggy wet ground an in the dry months the ground is very uneven and too hard under foot making the horses uncomfortable.

Mrs Gibson and Miss S Gibson currently own 6 horses, 4 horses that are established and go competing and 2 younger home bred horses which are now ready to begin their ridden and driving training but as the ground is unsuitable to ride and train on, and it been too dangerous to hack them they have not been able to start their training. Because both the younger horses and the more established horses have not been able to be kept in constant training, they have become unfit and difficult to ride/drive resulting in Miss S Gibson and Mrs R Gibson been forced to cancel their plans to compete.

The reasons for the ménage are to create a safe and suitable environment for the horses to be trained in throughout the year without the risks and dangers involved with taking the horses out on the roads and bridle ways. Sinead and Rose would really like to once again be involved in the local community and take their horses to events, shows and competitions which they have not been able to do due to the horses not been kept regular work.

From the photos attached you can see Sinead and Rose trying to work their horses on the land, and also out competing at shows. Also, you can see how the land becomes extremely flooded and waterlogged during the wet months.

Kind Regards

Ken Wainman

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