

From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
Date: 22 March 2022 19:57:20

Application Reference No. : DOC/2022/0014 Site Address: Former Railway Line Barnfield Road Leek
Staffordshire Comments by:
From:

Burton Street
Leek
Leek

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments: I note that CVR have submitted revised plans for the footpath alongside the railway line. I note from a recent site visit that work has already commenced on the footpath.

I have three points of concern:

1) As the footpath will not be alongside the track for some distance, the views over the Churnet Valley towards Ladderedge and St Edwards Park will be lost. It is impossible to see that beautiful landscape from below the height of the trackbed. This amenity must be protected. It is perfectly feasible for the footpath to run alongside the proposed new track at the same level - as can be evidenced by the current development in Birchall tunnel, where the path will indeed run alongside at the same level as the proposed new track.

2) The plans - specifically drawing K758-100 Revision L - do not specify how access from the new footpath to the existing footpath, which runs from Beswicks to the trackbed, is to be provided once the platform and track and in place. This is a vital and frequently used route for access to the canal and Ladderedge Country Park. Walking from Morrisons, along the old trackbed to Beswicks, and then across to the canal is considerably safer, and much less polluted, than the alternative of walking along Barnfield Road. Access from the new footpath to the end of Barnfield road in order to provide safe access to the canal and Ladderedge Country Park must be provided. CVR must provide detailed plans of the access before the platform, station, and track reinstatement commence at this location.

3) The application states that development has not yet commenced. This is patently false, as the works are obvious and clear to see. A quick visit to the site can demonstrate this. This may be an oversight by the applicant, but given their recent attitude towards the residents of Leek, it personally seems more deliberately misleading than accidental.

My objection will stand until such a time as I am satisfied that my concerns presented here are resolved by the applicant to my satisfaction.

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