

From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
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Application Reference No. : CON/2024/0006

Site Address: Area known as Killer Hill West Leek Staffordshire Leek

Comments by: Steven Moss

From:

Woodcock Farm
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Submission: Objection

Comments: I currently have a couple of horses stabled at Westwood hall farm and used the facilities there under the previous owner attending showjumping events gymkhanas and hiring the amazing cross country course Mr Plant created there in the the 1990's to suggest that Mr plant never challenged any trespassers/wakers on the land is a total fantasy. When using the cross country course I came across a walker and a loose dog which spooked my horse on my return to the yard mentioned it to the owner and he set off down the field and gave them a right telling off in no uncertain terms . When Mr plant became house bound with illness his wife's brother took over stewardship of the land on their behalf .Mr David Pearson had no end of run ins with trespassers and found the job of keeping the fencing secure to allow liveries into the fields a herculean task as fast as he was repairing fences trespassers were committing criminal damage and cutting and breaking fences . making the turning out of stock a nightmare . there was no end of dog dropping scattered around the paths and land which incase unknown to people can cause disease in cattle and make them abort calfs. No end of litter was left around the place . Also the advertising of this planning application was very poor for such a large issue its virtually impossible to find information about it I even attended a district council planning meeting on 21/05/2024 and they could not bring up information about it at the meeting and said they would right to county council pointing out the lack out access and the need for more public consultation I did eventually find a notice in the leek post and times on line but it was not headed land at Killer Hill and if it was not read to the very last sentence people would not know what the application related to. The headline on notice was SPRING GARDENS ,LEEK - THE REGISTRATION OF LAND AS A VILLAGE GREEN very misleading and could easily be past over assuming the land was at spring gardens . When it was searched for as killer Hill nothing came up . another objection is there is already and established registered and legal foot path not 100 yards from the land on the opposite side of the river. from which virtually the same views and amenity can be gain so for those arguing it does wonders for their mental health I'm sure there mental health would be just as well served on the legal footpath on the other side of the river . ive seen arguments that sporting events took place on the land and I would agree but all of them that I know to were sanctioned by Mr Plant cross country runs etc its says on the application that carol singing was carried out there this is laughable who were they singing to the cows and horses do these people really know where this land is. More seriously this application relates to an area of land of some 40 acres if this was to be passed I believe it would be the biggest village green in the country it represents nearly a third of the total area of the holding .A holding that a young farmer and his family (wife and five small children) have purchased through a mortgage and has to be paid for. If pasted the land could not really be used in any meaningful way to produce an income to service his mortgage in is grotesque not only in size and audacity so that a small number of self entitled dog walkers and the like can short cut back into the estate use the proper legal footpaths why don't you . Lastly there is no legal access to get onto the land at the Rudyard track as far as I am aware the railway track only has permissive access granted by the railway which could removed at any time and dose not constitute legal public right of access. So I am wholly against this application and think that all right minded people would be of the same opinion it is a totally ridiculous application and is nothing like a typical village green application and should be dismissed out of hand.

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