

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Roberts, Ali](#)
Cc: [John Crawford](#)
Subject: Mud Lane Application P/2023/013
Sent: 16/07/2025 12:28:59

[REDACTED]
Dear Mr. Roberts,

I object to this application which is identical to an application (PL2023/05363) that was considered and refused by an Inspector in November 2012 following a public Inquiry. I presume that you will have a copy of that decision in your records.

Mud Lane is an ancient sunken right of way. Historical records show that it was in use as a drovers' way as far back as 1200 and that it was probably used by the occupants of the iron- age camp at Ringsbury, which is a scheduled ancient monument. The path was little used for many years because it had not been maintained and became overgrown and unlawfully obstructed. Like many other bridleways in the Parish, it floods in wet weather.

The Inspector considered the arguments from Wiltshire Council, the landowner and other parties in support of the proposed diversion. The objectors included the Parish Council, Purton Historical Society, local environmental groups, the Ramblers Association and many Parish residents.

The Inspector acknowledged that the diversion would bring some benefits to the landowner, but he refused to confirm the order. He said: "The loss of such an historic route as the existing bridleway would have a serious negative effect on the enjoyment of many current and potential users of the right of way". He concluded that Wiltshire Council's proposed order did not meet the criteria set out in the Highways Act 1980.

I submit that the applicant's statements in support of the application are not supported by adequate evidence, and nothing has changed since the Inspector made his decision in 2012. The application should be refused.

Yours sincerely,

John Crawford

[REDACTED]

Pond Lane

Purton Stoke

SN5 [REDACTED]