

**From:** [Lay, Jacqui](#)  
**To:** [Roberts, Ali](#)  
**Cc:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Highways Act 1980 S.118 S.26 - PURT104  
**Sent:** 16/10/2025 18:02:26

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Dear Ali – I realise that one point that is being considered is that the agricultural field appears to have now been made to look like a garden – without permission. However mowing a field to look like a lawn does not make it a garden – particularly when there is a garden on the other side of the property. I note that one of the supporters actually mentions that the permissive path is kept really well – presumably the same as the rest of the field – as a footpath it is not a garden even though it might look like one.

My own parents owned an agricultural field in Tandridge District Council area, with a public path running alongside one side and they kept this mown to look like a lawn but the council clearly made it clear this did not change its designation of agricultural to garden land. They owned the land from the 1970's through to 2023 and at no time would we have considered the field a garden. In fact at one point of the path the feeder stream to the Mill had eroded away the path, hence we could have asked for a complete closure however we did not as it was an important walking route for many people.

Bearing in mind the history of the Mud Lane route, its historic history and also the history of the footpath discussions, I think it is very clear that the landowners would understand that the field is a field no matter what it looks like and should remain as a field.

I can see why they would want a diversion and understand the concerns they have. The permissive path gives walkers etc. the option to walk further away but there are likely to always be those who want to walk the ancient routes around this community.

Kind regards  
Jacqui Lay  
Wiltshire Councillor for Purton

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**From:** Roberts, Ali <Ali.Roberts@wiltshire.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 16 October 2025 08:06  
**To:** Clerk <Clerk@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk>; Lay, Jacqui <Jacqui.Lay@wiltshire.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Geoff Greenaway <geoff.greenaway@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk>; Green, Janice <janice.green@wiltshire.gov.uk>; Neil Saunders <Neil.Saunders@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Highways Act 1980 S.118 S.26 - PURT104

Good morning Deborah,

I acknowledge receipt of Purton Parish Council's duly made representation in objection to the orders for PURT104 and have added the objection to the public register which can be viewed following the attached link [P/2023/013 - Rights Of Way - Wiltshire Council](#) or the page can be accessed on Wiltshire Council's website via our rights of way pages/ Changing a right of way/Public Path Order (PPOs)/ Rights of Way Public Path Orders Search the Register ... and this will take you to the registers page where you will be able to search for applications.

Kind regards,

Ali

Please note that any responses to this letter will be available for public inspection in full. Information relating to the way Wiltshire Council will manage your data can be found at:  
<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/recreation-rights-of-way>

Ali Roberts (Miss)  
Definitive Map Officer  
Definitive Map and Highway Records  
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