PROPOSED CLOSURE OF PART OF TOWNEND LANE, DEEPCAR, SHEFFIELD

Coordinates - 428618:397460

Area to be closed
From:
To: 
Subject: Closure of part of Townend Lane
Date: 16 December 2012 15:01:40

Dear Mr,

We are emailing you with regards to the proposed closure of part of Townend Lane, Deepcar.

We have objections and concerns regarding this matter pertaining to the section of land involved in this proposal.

We have lived at during this time we have seen the fencing running across the backs of properties 4-10 Rookery Rise, encroach further and further onto the verge, which I believe was considerably wider prior to our moving to Townend Lane. Not only have the property owners continuously taken land which does not belong to them, they have repeatedly caused damage to the mature trees, which I notice you claim are protected by a condition in the planning consent numbered 03/0583P. (Letter to ). This ‘protection’ is of little use if not enforced. Once a tree is removed, it is gone, and cannot be replaced. Some of the property owners on Rookery Rise have little regard for the importance of these mature trees, and, it would appear, would prefer them to be removed. This will be a lot easier for them, if those trees are allowed to be absorbed into their gardens.

Before the properties on Rookery Rise were built, despite great objection from the local community, the environment in this area was very rural, with excellent access to stunning views of the countryside. The protection of the verge area was made in response to the objections raised at this time. The verge, initially was wide enough to encompass a foot path which ran up Townend Lane, beyond the mature trees which these property owners have seen fit to take into their gardens. From this, it is easy to see how much land has been taken, over a number of years, with no regard for our properties on Townend Lane, the home owners who actually look directly onto this section of land.

One of the attractions of this area, are the beautiful mature trees and shrubs which form part of this verge. I am sure the property owners on Rookery Rise, must be unaware of the detrimental effect that taking even more of this land will have on the homeowners of Townend Lane. When the properties on Rookery Rise were purchased, that verge was already there, their gardens were established, and they still chose to buy. Surely, you cannot just choose to take land which does not belong to you for your own gain at the cost of others?

You state that the verge, which will be left, if the proposal is granted, will be approximately 4 metres. The verge directly opposite our property and that of our neighbours, is considerably less than 4 metres. This is of great concern.

We strongly object to the proposal put forward to close part of Townend Lane, and would like these objections to be raised when this proposal is presented to the magistrates court, early in 2013.

Our objections and concerns reflect the opinion of many home owners on Townend Lane, many of whom are elderly and have lived here since the houses were built in 1975. We hope our objections, and their feelings, are not disregarded for a second time.

Thank you for your time and attention. We await your response.
Development Services
Howden House
1 Union Street
SHEFFIELD
S1 2SH

10th December 2012
Yr Ref. BM/HR/3933/jt

Dear Sir/Madam,

**CLOSURE OF PART OF TOWNEND LANE, DEEPCAR, SHEFFIELD**

In response to your letter dated 14 November 2012, we would like to object to the application you have received to close an area of highway on Townend Lane, Deepcar.

It states in your letter that the area of verge remaining will be approximately 4 metres wide and is not used as a through route and therefore closure of the area will not affect pedestrians. The residents of these properties have already moved the fences, including gates, nearer to the highway giving them a through route. Also, I don't believe that there is anything like 4 metres of verge remaining, therefore making it extremely dangerous for motorists driving up Townend Lane, as they will not be expecting people stepping out onto the highway from behind the shrubs.

Shrubs were planted there as a condition of the planning permission to create a privacy screen, but the residents of The Rookery continue to cut back the shrubs so that the can gain access to the rear of their properties. They also dispose of their garden waste there and the highways department have had to come out on several occasions to ask the residents to remove paving slabs, cuttings etc.
In our opinion, the only way for the closure to be acceptable, is for a condition to be put into place, that the residents are to remove the gates from the boundary fence prohibiting access and the dumping of garden waste and that the shrubs should be left to grow.

Yours sincerely,