



ramblers
at the heart of walking

Sussex Area:

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Date 5th November 2014

Dear Ms. Katie Matthews,

Roedean Footpath DMMO Claim

In response to your invitation, dated 4th November (believe October), to make comments upon the DMMO claim, I have been asked to respond on behalf of the Rambler's Association.

We wish to support the Roedean Resident's claim for the additional path located on the north and east sides of the Paddock, shown as B to C (north) and C to D (east) on your plan.

The section of path C to D on the east side of the Paddock aligns with the countryside path from Red Hill located to the north of Roedean Road and was most likely the original extension of that countryside path prior to the development of the Roedean Cliff Estate and the supply road (Roedean Road).

The existing BHCC card index record system indicates that the registered path on the west side of the Paddock was incorporated in 1898. Information provided by Carl Hearsam in his message in reply to the Resident's previous claim for the path on the west side of the Paddock.

The Rambler's submission is that the previous path location was re-routed following the building of houses in the Cliff (road) and the construction of Roedean Road. We believe that in 1898 there was no legislative system to extinguish an existing path and therefore the section C to D on your map is still an established right of way.

The supposition that the route of the original path prior to 1898 passed down the eastern side of the Paddock is strengthened by the location of the ancient steps on the east side of the Paddock to descend the bank to Marine Drive.

In respect of the north section of the path shown as B to C on your plan, we consider that any path closed at one end would be unacceptable and users would have the right to deviate the route to continue forward access. The fact that for over 100 years this north path has been used by residents and visitors is far more than the minimum time limit to justify this claim. The section of the claimed path A to B uses land which gives access to

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the registered path on the west side of the Paddock which is therefore already a right of way.

Finally we wish to record the reason for the path diversion back in 1898. This was brought about by the existing countryside path on the north side of Roedean Road from Red Hill being diverted to the west because the Roedean Road level was below that of the surrounding land and it was necessary to gradually descend the path (access roadway) to the supply road level.

We trust that these comments will be considered alongside the claimant's submissions.

Yours sincerely,

P.J.Jarman – Local Footpath Secretary
Rambler's Association