

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Dudley Borough Local Access Forum <[dblaf@btinternet.com](mailto:dblaf@btinternet.com)>  
**Date:** 16 February 2009 09:28:05 GMT  
**To:** David Jacobs DMBC <[david.jacobs@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:david.jacobs@dudley.gov.uk)>, Peter Reed <[peter.reed@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:peter.reed@dudley.gov.uk)>  
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**Subject:** Coombeswood Application to Modify Definitive Footpath Map

**FAO David Jacobs & Peter Reed of DMBC  
16th February 2009**

**Dear David & Peter**

I have been inundated with calls from people who are concerned that the St Modwen application has been recommended for approval whilst their application for the footpaths has not been determined. They feel that the approval of the St Modwen application will prejudice fair consideration of the footpaths. Their concerns may well be justified if they are correct.

My advice to them is to ask for David's report in respect of the St Modwen application and for them to email both of you for clarification. If their footpath application has been dismissed without notifying them then they might have a justifiable complaint and may be able to lodge an appeal. The detail of the situation is important and they need to establish the facts.

The Forum supported the application to add the paths to the definitive map because it would regularise the situation that the Council, in previous reports, had already recognised. The network of paths, most of which are not currently on the definitive map, are important to the continued enjoyment of this area. of open countryside.

As the Forum had previously expressed an interest I consider it important that we are also formally updated in respect of the footpath application.

Of course other possibilities exist and the Council might agree with the footpath application!

—  
*Mick Freer*  
**Chairman**  
**Dudley Borough Local Access Forum**  
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Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council is required, in accordance with section 94(5) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to have regard to relevant advice from this forum in carrying out its functions.