

RURAL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

To consider responding to a consultation to divert MPA 135 on the Painswick Golf Course

The Committee recommends to the Parish Council that the Council does not support the proposal. The Committee's reasons for the recommendation are:

- a. That the bridleway (MPA 135) lies on the Cotswold Way which is a path of national importance.**
- b. The designated footpaths and bridleways on the Painswick Beacon Common have no relevance in law, given the right of unfettered access accorded to the general public by the Painswick Manorship. Any diversion could be misinterpreted that walkers and other users are required to stick to using only the paths.**
- c. The current path is wide and in the open and popular with riders. The diversion to the lower bridleway (MPA 133) would be both disadvantageous and less attractive because it is narrow, muddy and in a wooded area.**
- d. The issues regarding safety for users of the common are not isolated to this one area, it is an issue for much of the common which shares the space with the golfers.**

The Committee would like to add that instead of a diversion, if all users were to be tolerant and give each other some mutual respect, this would be a far better outcome for everyone. To address this particular issue, the Committee recommends that signage is installed to warn 'Golfers' that walkers and other users could be in the area, so take care. Plus an installation of steps similar to those already used at the 17th tee.