

Officer Delegated Decision
Proposed definitive map and statement modification order to correct
the line of Footpath W21/58, Beaminster Parish

Date: 19 March 2021 (see Report to the Executive Director for Place)

Decision:

That:

- (a) An order be made to modify the definitive map and statement of rights of way to record a footpath from point A1 to point B as shown on Drawing T577/20/1; and to delete that part shown from point A to point B.
- (b) If the Order is unopposed, or if all objections are withdrawn, it be confirmed by the Council.

To view a copy of the Report please see the Definitive Map Modification Order Register <https://mapping.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/rightsofway/definitivemap/register/Details/T577>

(Decision taken is detailed within the Scheme of Delegation in the Council's Constitution.)

Key Decision:

No

Please see definition below.

Reason(s) for Decisions:

- (a) The available evidence shows, on balance, that the proposed right of way subsists or is reasonably alleged to subsist and that the currently recorded route from point A – point B was recorded in error.
- (b) The evidence shows, on balance, that the route claimed should be recorded as a footpath as described. Accordingly, in the absence of objections the Council can itself confirm the Order without submission to the Planning Inspectorate.

Decision Maker :

Vanessa Penny
Definitive Map Team Manager
Spatial Planning

Alternative options considered and rejected:

None

Any conflict of interest declared by any member consulted:

None

Any dispensation granted in respect of any declared conflict of interest:

None

Definition of Key Decisions

Key decisions are defined in the Constitution as decisions of the Cabinet which are likely to -

- "(a) result in Dorset Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates namely where the sum involved would exceed £500,000; or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral wards in Dorset."

How to complete this pro forma:-

- (1) The date of the decision.
- (2) A brief description of the decision.
- (3) The reasons for the decision.
- (4) Officer title.
- (5) Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer when making the decision.
- (6) Any conflict of interest declared by any member who had been consulted by the officer which relates to the decision.
- (7) Any dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service in respect of any declared conflict of interest.

N.B Please avoid using acronyms



Report to the Executive Director of Place

Date: 19 March 2021

Report Title: Proposed definitive map and statement modification order to correct the line of Footpath W21/58, Beaminster Parish

Portfolio Holder: Cllr D Walsh, Planning

Local Councillor(s): Cllr Rebecca Knox – Lead Member for Beaminster Ward

Executive Director: J Sellgren, Executive Director of Place

Report Author: Anne Brown
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Report Status: Public

Recommendation:

That:

- (a) An order be made to modify the definitive map and statement of rights of way to record a footpath from point A1 to point B as shown on Drawing T577/20/1; and to delete that part shown from point A to point B.
- (b) If the Order is unopposed, or if all objections are withdrawn, it be confirmed by the Council.

Reason for Recommendation:

- (a) The available evidence shows, on balance, that the proposed right of way subsists or is reasonably alleged to subsist and that the currently recorded route from point A – point B was recorded in error.

- (b) The evidence shows, on balance, that the route claimed should be recorded as a footpath as described. Accordingly, in the absence of objections the Council can itself confirm the Order without submission to the Planning Inspectorate.

1. Executive Summary

This report considers the evidence relating to the recorded route of part of Footpath 58, Beaminster and considers modifying the definitive map and statement to realign the central section and amend the northern end of the route.

2. Financial Implications

Any financial implications arising from this proposed modification are not material considerations and should not be taken into account in determining the matter.

3. Well-being and Health Implications

Any well-being and health implications arising from this proposed modification are not material considerations and should not be taken into account in determining the matter.

4. Climate implications

Any climate implications arising from this proposed modification are not material considerations and should not be taken into account in determining the matter.

5. Other Implications

None

6. Risk Assessment

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: LOW

Residual Risk LOW

7. Equalities Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment is not a material consideration in considering this application.

8. Appendices

- 1 Drawing T577/20/1
- 2 Law
- 3 Documentary evidence

- Highway Certificate (1809)
- Ordnance Survey Map 25 inches : 1 mile (1901)
- Ordnance Survey Map 25 inches : 1 mile (1964)
- Beaminster Parish Survey Map (1950's)
- First Definitive Map (1966-67)
- Current Definitive Map (sealed 1989)
- Beaminster Parish Survey Statement (1950's)
- First Definitive Statement (1966-67)
- Current Definitive Statement (1989)
- Aerial Photograph (1947)

9. Background Papers

The file of the Executive Director, Place (ref. RW/T577).

Background

- 1.1. The anomaly was reported in 2013 when the Countryside Ranger discovered that the maintained route of Footpath 58 Beaminster did not follow the definitive line at the northern end. Further investigation revealed a possible minor misalignment in the central section of the footpath.

Description of the recorded route

- 1.2. The recorded route commences at Point A (on Drawing T577/20/1) at the entrance to Hams Mill from Bridport Road A3066. It then follows the northern bank of the River Brit in a westerly then south-westerly direction through Point B to Point C. Here the recorded route departs the riverbank and continues south-westerly to Point D and on to pass to the north of Mill Ground Cottages at Point E to join Bridleway 59 Beaminster at ST 4749 0060. The route between Point A and Point B is not available on the ground.

Description of the currently walked and originally claimed route at the time of the Parish Survey (1950s)

- 1.3. The original claimed route commenced at Point A1 on Bridport Road, to the north of South Lodge. It went westwards, following the south side of the River Brit tributary, then the River Brit to cross a footbridge over the river at Point B. From here it followed the western riverbank in a broadly south-westerly direction through Point C to Point C1. It then veered away from the riverbank in a south-westerly direction to Point D and continued as described above for the currently recorded route.

2 Law

A summary of the law is contained in Appendix 2.

3 Issue to be decided

- 3.1 The issue to be decided is whether there is evidence to show, on the balance of probabilities, that public rights subsist or are reasonably alleged to subsist, on the original route claimed. If so, it should be determined whether these are in addition to the currently recorded route, or in place of the currently recorded route. The Definitive Map should be amended accordingly.

- 3.2 Any changes to the Definitive Map must reflect public rights that already exist. Decisions must not be taken for reasons of desirability or suitability. Before an order changing the Definitive Map is made, the Council must be satisfied that public rights have come into being at some time in the past. This might be demonstrated by documentary evidence and/or witness evidence.
- 3.3 Historical documentary evidence has been examined to see whether depictions of the route point to it having acquired public rights as a result of deemed dedication in the past. Any such rights are not lost through disuse. Unless stopped up by due process of law, any rights previously dedicated will still exist even if they are no longer used or needed. It is unlikely that a single map or document will provide sufficient evidence to justify a change to the Definitive Map, the evidence must be assessed holistically. The Council has a duty to record any rights that are found to exist.

4 Documentary Evidence (Appendix 3)(copies available in the case file RW/T577)

- 4.1 A table of all the documentary evidence considered during this investigation is contained in the case file. All documents considered relevant are discussed below. Examples of particular historical sources are included at Appendix 3 which should be read in conjunction with this section.

Highways Certificate

- 4.2 The Highways Certificate 33 and map (1809) illustrates the dedication of a 'New Footpath' beginning on the Bridport Road, north of the entrance to the Parnham Estate avenue (then called 'Parnham Walk') and south of the river (approximately corresponding to point A1). The path is then shown crossing the river at a bridge (at approximately point B) and continuing to the west of the river to some buildings (Parnham Mill) (approximately point E).
- 4.3 Officer comment: Although the map is not of the detail or accuracy of more recently surveyed maps, the location of the path relative to key features e.g. river / bridges / tree lines is clear.

Ordnance Survey Maps

- 4.4 The Ordnance Survey maps at a scale of 25 inches : 1 mile (1889 and 1901) indicate a wide fenced / hedged route A1 – B with a footbridge at B. No through route is illustrated A – B and any such route would have crossed the tail race from the mill, there being no bridge illustrated.
- 4.5 From B – C – C1 – D – E there is a path marked 'F.P.' with a double pecked line. No direct route C – D is marked which corresponds with the currently recorded route.
- 4.6 The Ordnance Survey Map at the same scale (1964), the closest date to the parish claim for the footpath, replicates the situation seen in the earlier maps in respect of A - B and A1 – B; a route is shown starting at A1 following the southern bank of the river and continuing to B over a footbridge. The currently recorded route A – B appears to be unavailable and is obstructed by the tail race from the mill.
- 4.7 The route from B – D however, in 1964 follows a different line from the earlier maps and lies further west than the currently recorded route, missing out points C and C1, and joining the currently recorded route just before point D.

Dorset Council Records

- 4.8 The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 required the Council as "Surveying Authority" to compile the record of the public rights of way network and the District and Parish Councils were consulted to provide the Council with information for the purposes of the survey.
- 4.9 The Beaminster Parish Survey Map (1950's) appears to be drawn on a 6 inches : 1 mile scale map from 1904. It claims the route A1 – B, then B – C – C1 – D – E.
- 4.10 The accompanying Parish Survey Statement describes the route (then footpath number 79):

"Starts just N. of lodge at N. entrance to Parnham on Bridport Rd. Short lane to F.B. and iron H.G., notice board on right "*This foot path is for pedestrians only. Other users will be prosecuted.*". Good track across fields down valley. K.G. by Mill Ground Cottage and second K.G. at junction with B.R.82. H.Gs. etc. in good condition and path in constant use."

- 4.11 The Draft Map (1953) shows the route (then footpath 79) A – B – C – D – E. There appeared to be no explanation for the difference from the parish claim and there were no objections to the Draft Map.
- 4.12 Officer comment: It is possible that the notation marking the river on the base-map was mistaken for the notation for a path, resulting in a drafting error. The discrepancy between the Parish Survey Map and the Draft Map not being challenged could possibly have been due to the small scale of the map resulting in an error going un-noticed.
- 4.13 The Provisional Map (1963) and the First Definitive Map (1966-67) show the route (now Footpath 58) in the same way as the Draft Map; A – B – C – D – E.
- 4.14 The Statement accompanying the First Definitive Map describes Footpath 58 as:
- “From Bridport Road near The Lodge (479009) to join path No. 56 (475006)”.
- 4.15 Officer comment: The grid references quoted are of insufficient detail to distinguish between point A and point A1.
- 4.16 The Revised Draft Map (1974) does not show the route starting from Bridport Road, but instead sweeping north from the Old Mill and being continuous with what is now, and was previously, Footpath 57. This situation is repeated on the current Definitive Map (sealed 1989).
- 4.17 Officer comments:
- a) The apparent new alignment of Footpaths 57 and 58 north of point B shows them passing through buildings that were present at the time.
 - b) Without any legal evidence that Footpaths 57 and 58 were combined into one path, and without any legal evidence that the paths no longer joined Bridport Road, it is assumed that these changes were due to poor drafting of the maps.
- 4.18 The Revised Draft Map shows that section south of point B as following a route more directly from point B – D - E, missing out both point C and C1.

- 4.19 Officer comment: This map depicts an alignment of the route south of point B which is different from the line recorded on all Dorset Council Mapping up to this date. There is no indication that this re-alignment was for a legal reason.
- 4.20 The current definitive map (sealed 1989) shows the route south of point B following the line B – C – D – E.
- 4.21 Officer comment: This map shows the position of the route from point B – C – D – E in the same position as the Draft Map, the Provisional Map and the First Definitive Map. With respect to that part of the route from point A – B it is in the same position as that shown on the Revised Draft Map.
- 4.22 The Statement accompanying the current Definitive Map repeats the details shown on the Statement accompanying the First Definitive Map, and describes details for a separate Footpath 57, also commencing on Bridport Road.

Aerial photographs and other photographs

- 4.23 Tree cover and shadows mean that very little can be judged from the aerial photographs from 1947 – 1997 for the area A – B and A1 - B. However, the photograph from 1947 indicates that the worn route on the ground followed a line corresponding approximately to B – C – D at that time.
- 4.24 A photograph provided by a witness and published in the Bridport News is reported to date from 1894. It is taken from the Bridport Road at approximately point A1, looking towards point B. The route is a rough lane, partly obstructed by a small hand gate. There are pedestrians using the lane.

Summary of documentary evidence

- 4.25 The Highways Certificate of 1809 is strong evidence that a route A1 – B – E was dedicated as a public right of way at the time. The quality of the map does not permit precise alignment to be judged.
- 4.26 The Parish Survey Statement and Map confirm that a similar route continued in common usage some 140 years later.
- 4.27 This route is supported by Ordnance Survey mapping whereas the currently recorded route A – B was not available at the time, it being obstructed by the tail race from the mill. Route A – B is still obstructed and unavailable.

- 4.28 The evidence for the exact route across the field between point B and Mill Ground Cottage (point E) is less clear and it seems to have drifted over time, as is common with paths across meadows. However, the route claimed at the parish survey; B – C – C1 – D – E was available on the ground as shown by the 25 inch : 1 mile Ordnance Survey map of 1901 (used to record the parish survey). However, the aerial photograph 1947, the Draft, Provisional, First Definitive and Current Definitive Maps all show the route following a line across the meadows corresponding to B – C – D – E. Therefore, it is most likely that the parish survey claim was misrepresented because of the age of the base map used to record the survey.
- 4.29 The Draft Map, Provisional Map and First Definitive Map of rights of way showed the route following A – B at the northern end. There was no reason given why the route claimed on the Parish Survey had been altered and there was no evidence of objection. The definitive statement remained the same, describing route A1 – B. It is believed that the alteration to show route A – B was a drafting error.
- 4.30 Subsequent to this the Revised Draft Map and the Current Definitive Map introduced a further drafting error where the route was shown not to join the Bridport Road but continue north (through houses) to St Mary's Well Street. This change was not supported by a legal order or other evidence and it is believed it was erroneous. Again, the definitive statement continued to describe route A1 – B.
- 4.31 Ordnance survey mapping supports the continued existence of the original claimed route A1 – B – C but then some variation between C and E.
- 4.32 The existence of a route A1 – B is supported by the photograph of 1894.

5 User evidence

No user evidence was submitted.

6 Landowner correspondence (copies available in the case file RW/T577)

- 6.1 The land over which the proposed modifications A1 – B and C – C1 – D pass is all owned by Parnham House LLP. They did not respond to consultation.

- 6.2 The owner of the land over which part of the currently recorded route A – B passes expressed concern about the perceived recording error of this northerly section prior to buying the property. He has maintained since that the part of the route A – B has been incorrectly recorded and the definitive map should be amended to show the used route A1 – B. No evidence was provided except reference to Ordnance Survey mapping.

Officer comment: The landowner submission provides support for the proposed change A1 – B but does not include any evidence to be considered.

7 Consultation responses and other correspondence (copies available in the case file RW/T577)

The following points were raised:

- 7.1 A local resident wrote saying that the currently used path A1 – B had been used as long as could be remembered and was officially signed.
- 7.2 Officer comment: This indicates support for the proposal but does not provide any evidence.
- 7.3 Another local resident wrote supporting the proposal to amend that part of the route A – B to A1 – B, citing evidence of C19th mapping (not provided). This resident disputes the realignment of C – D to C – C1 – D based on a map from the “mid C 20th” and recent photographs of the worn route on the ground.
- 7.4 Officer comment: This indicates support for that part of the proposal A1 – B but against that part C – C1 – D. The available Ordnance Survey mapping has already been discussed in paragraphs 4.4 – 4.7 above. The location of a worn route on the ground in the present day has no bearing on the legal line of the route.
- 7.5 Another local resident wrote that the path A1 – B had been used as long as he could remember, and was signed by Dorset County Council, whereas nobody could remember the route A – B and it would be obstructed by a telegraph pole.
- 7.6 Officer comment: This provides support for the proposal A1 – B but provides no evidence.
- 7.7 Another local resident questioned the alignment of the route C – C1 – D and said that in their experience from 2003 – 2013 the walked route ran C – D.

- 7.8 Officer comment: As previously explained, the walked route in recent times does not alter the legal line of the right of way and is irrelevant.
- 7.9 Two further residents questioned the accuracy of the currently recorded line of Footpath 58 at Point E; they propose that it should lie further to the north, outside the hedge-line of Mill Ground Cottages. They claimed to have had an agreement from Dorset County Council on this matter in 2015 but copies were not supplied and could not be located in Dorset Council records. Evidence was supplied that the currently walked route lies to the north of the hedge-line.
- 7.10 Officer comment: Without any evidence of the previous investigation, a new investigation was carried out using original historic documents from the era of the parish survey, when the route was first formally recorded. This showed that the current alignment from point D – point E is in agreement with the path which was claimed during the parish survey. No evidence of a diversion order could be found, but it appears that the boundary of the curtilage to the cottages has been moved. Without a legal order, the line of the right of way cannot have changed, therefore, the available evidence suggests that the currently recorded route of Footpath 58 between point D - E is correct.

8 Analysis of the evidence under common law

- 8.1 This matter can be considered under common law, where it is considered whether the owners were aware of, and acquiesced in, the use of the path by the public. The users must be able to show that it can be inferred from the conduct of the landowners that they had intended to dedicate the route as a public right of way of the type that has been applied for. This may be by an express act of dedication, or it may be implied by a sufficient period of public use without force, secrecy or permission and the acquiescence of those landowners in that use. This is needed to meet the two requirements for the dedication of a highway – that is dedication and public acceptance of that way by use. The length of time that is required to demonstrate sufficient user is not fixed under common law and depends on the facts of the case. The use must be obvious to the landowners, who may rebut any suggestion of a dedication by acts such as turning people back, putting up a physical barrier or erecting notices stating that the route is not a public right of way of the type being claimed.

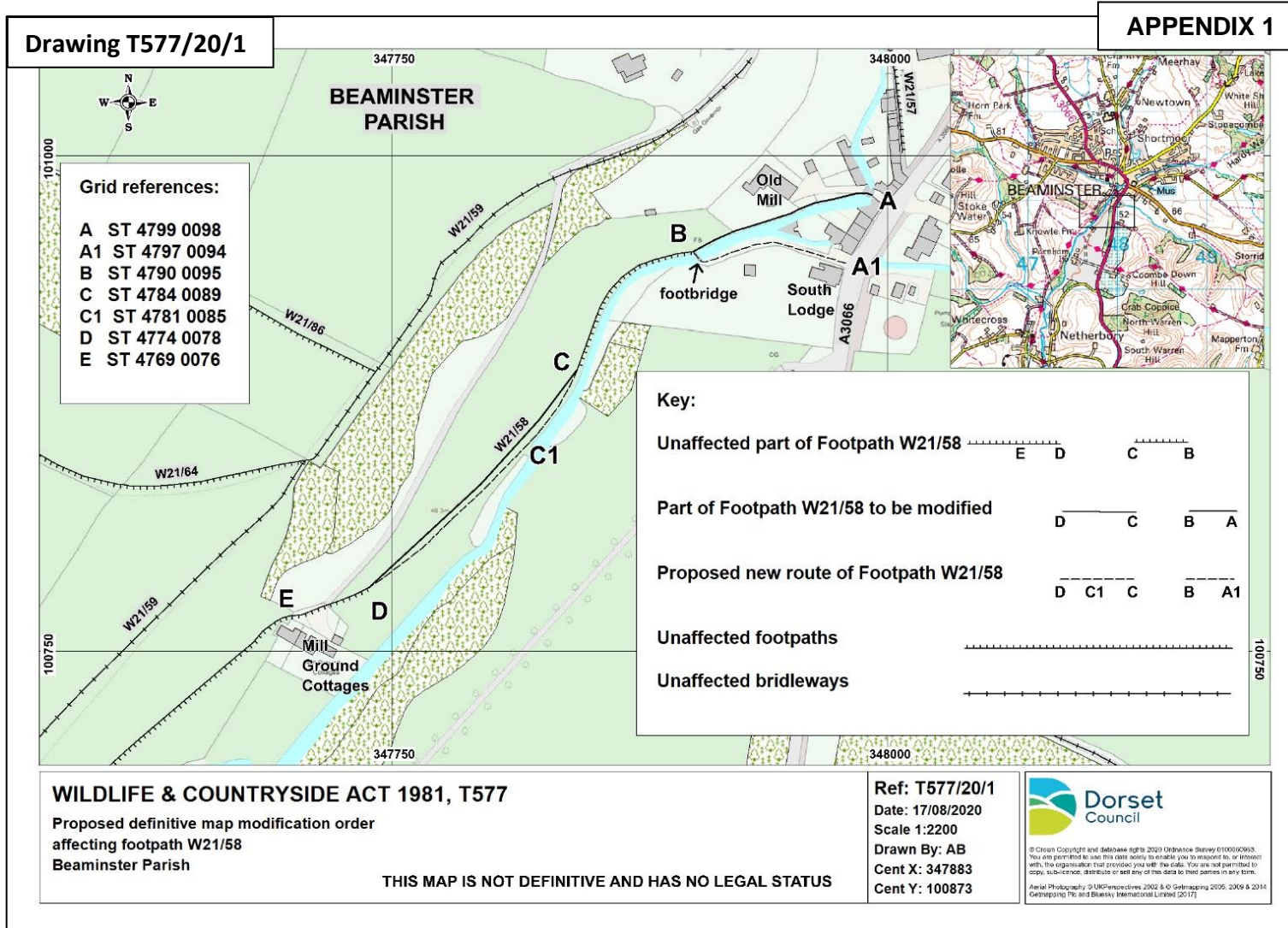
Conclusions under common law

- 8.2 The documentary evidence indicates that route A1 – B has been available and in use since the route was first expressly dedicated as a footpath in 1806. The continued use of the route A1 – B – C and continuing on to D and E is evidenced by the parish survey of 1950's. There is no evidence that the route A – B has been available or in use during this time.
- 8.3 The documentary evidence indicates that the route between C and D has varied over time but that since at least 1947 it has followed a route closest to that shown B – C – D – E.

9 Conclusions

- 9.1 In deciding whether or not it is appropriate to make an order, it must be considered whether public rights subsist or are reasonably alleged to subsist on the proposed route and/or the balance of evidence shows that the route ought to be recorded with a different status.
- 9.2 The documentary evidence indicates that the through route from Bridport Road at point A1, crossing the river at point B and continuing to Millground Cottages at point E has been in existence for over two hundred years. The current definitive statement still records these rights today. There is no documentary evidence that these rights have been legally stopped up or altered in any way.
- 9.3 There is no evidence that the currently recorded route from point A – B has ever been available for use or used by the public as a right of way.
- 9.4 The balance of evidence suggests that in 1947, just before the route was formally recorded under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act (1949), the route between the river crossing at point B and Millground Cottages at point E followed the line of B – C – D – E. There is no documentary evidence that this route has been diverted, therefore this is the alignment that should still be recorded today.
- 9.5 Therefore, the recommendation is that Footpath 58, Beaminster be amended on the Definitive Map and Statement to follow the line A1 – B instead of A – B, and then maintain the currently recorded route B – C – D – E.

- 9.6 If no objections are received, then the Council can itself confirm the order provided the criterion for confirmation has been met. An order can be confirmed if, on the balance of probability, it is shown that the route as described does exist. It is considered that the evidence is sufficient to satisfy this test.



LAW

General

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

- 1.1 Section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 requires that the Council keep the definitive map and statement under continuous review and in certain circumstances to modify them. These circumstances include the discovery of evidence which shows that a right of way not shown in the definitive map and statement subsists or is reasonably alleged to subsist.
- 1.2 Section 53 of the Act also allows any person to apply to the Council for an order to modify the definitive map and statement of public rights of way in consequence of the occurrence of certain events. One such event would be the discovery by the authority of evidence which, when considered with all other relevant evidence available to them, shows that a right of way not shown on the definitive map and statement subsists.
- 1.3 The Council must take into account all relevant evidence. They cannot take into account any irrelevant considerations such as desirability, suitability and safety.
- 1.4 For an application to add a right of way, the Council must make an order to modify the definitive map and statement if the balance of evidence shows either:
 - (a) that a right of way subsists or
 - (b) that it is reasonably alleged to subsist.

The evidence necessary to satisfy (b) is less than that necessary to satisfy (a).
- 1.5 An order to add a route can be confirmed only if, on the balance of probability, it is shown that the route as described does exist.
- 1.6 For an application to change the status of an existing right of way, the Council must make an order to modify the definitive map and statement if the balance of evidence shows that it ought to be recorded with that different status.
- 1.7 The confirmation test for an order to change the status of an existing right of way is that same as the test to make that order.
- 1.8 An order to add a right of way and change the status of an existing

right of way as part of the same route should only be made if the balance of the evidence shows that the new route exists and the existing route should be recorded with a different status.

- 1.9 Where an objection has been made to an order, the Council is unable itself to confirm the order but may forward it to the Secretary of State for confirmation. Where there is no objection, the Council can itself confirm the order, provided that the criterion for confirmation is met.

2 Highways Act 1980

- 2.1 Section 31 of the Highways Act 1980 says that where a way has been used by the public as of right for a full period of 20 years it is deemed to have been dedicated as highway unless there is sufficient evidence that there was no intention during that period to dedicate it. The 20 year period is counted back from when the right of the public to use the way is brought in to question.

- (a) 'As of right' in this context means without force, without secrecy and without obtaining permission.
- (b) A right to use a way is brought into question when the public's right to use it is challenged in such a way that they are apprised of the challenge and have a reasonable opportunity of meeting it. This may be by locking a gate or putting up a notice denying the existence of a public right of way.
- (c) An application under Section 53 (5) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 for a modification order brings the rights of the public into question. The date of bringing into question will be the date the application is made in accordance with paragraph 1 of Schedule 14 to the 1981 Act.

- 2.2 The common law may be relevant if Section 31 of the Highways Act cannot be applied. The common law test is that the public must have used the route 'as of right' for long enough to have alerted the owner, whoever he may be, that they considered it to be a public right of way and the owner did nothing to tell them that it is not. There is no set time period under the common law.

- 2.3 Section 31(3) of the Highways Act 1980 says that where a land owner has erected a notice inconsistent with the dedication of a highway, which is visible to users of the path, and maintained that notice, this is sufficient to show that he intended not to dedicate the route as a public right of way.

- 2.4 Section 31 (6) of the Highways Act 1980 permits landowners to deposit

with the Council a map and statement indicating what ways over the land (if any) he admits to having been dedicated as highways. A statutory declaration can be made at intervals of not more than 20 years stating no additional ways have been dedicated since the date of the deposit. In the absence of proof to the contrary, this is sufficient to establish that no further ways have been dedicated. Prior to the Highways Act 1980 a similar facility was available under the Rights of Way Act 1932 and the Highways Act 1959.

- 2.5 Section 32 of the Highways Act 1980 says that the Council must take into consideration any map, plan or history of the locality. Documents produced by government officials for statutory purposes such as to comply with legislation or for the purpose of taxation, will carry more evidential weight than, for instance, maps produced for tourists.

3 Human Rights Act 1998

- 3.1 The criteria for definitive map modification orders are strictly limited to matters of fact and evidence. In all cases the evidence will show that the event (section 53) has already taken place. The legislation confers no discretion on a surveying authority or the Secretary of State to consider whether or not a path or way would be suitable for the intended use by the public or cause danger or inconvenience to anyone affected by it. In such situations where the primary legislation offers no scope for personal circumstances to affect the decision on the order, the Planning Inspectorate's recommended approach is to turn away any human rights representations.

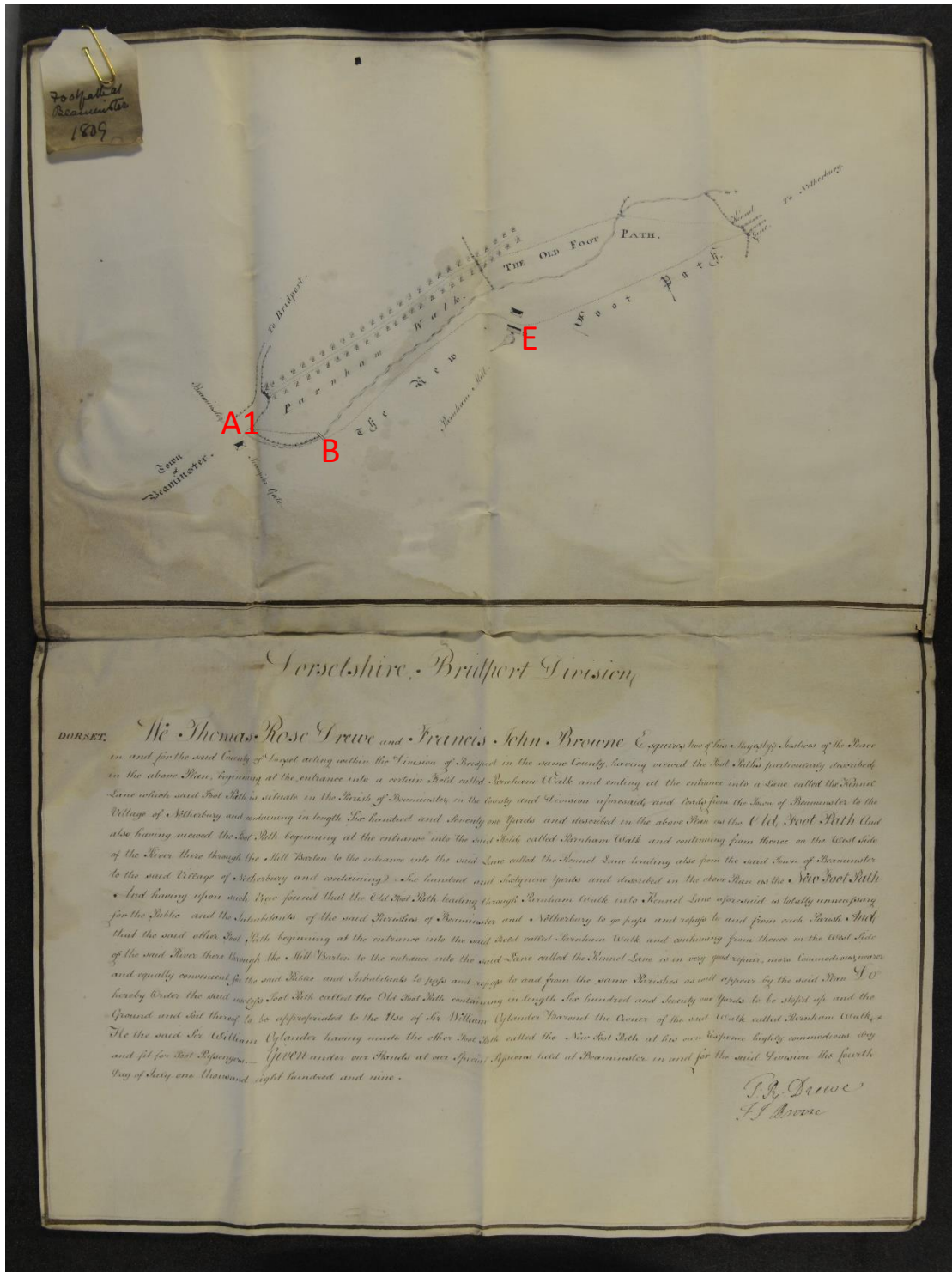
- 3.2 A decision confirming an order made under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 would be lawful (under domestic law) as provided by Section 6.2 of the Human Rights Act 1998 even in cases where the Convention was apparently infringed, where it was impossible to interpret the 1981 Act in such a way that it is compatible with the Convention rights (section 3 Human Rights Act 1998).

4 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949

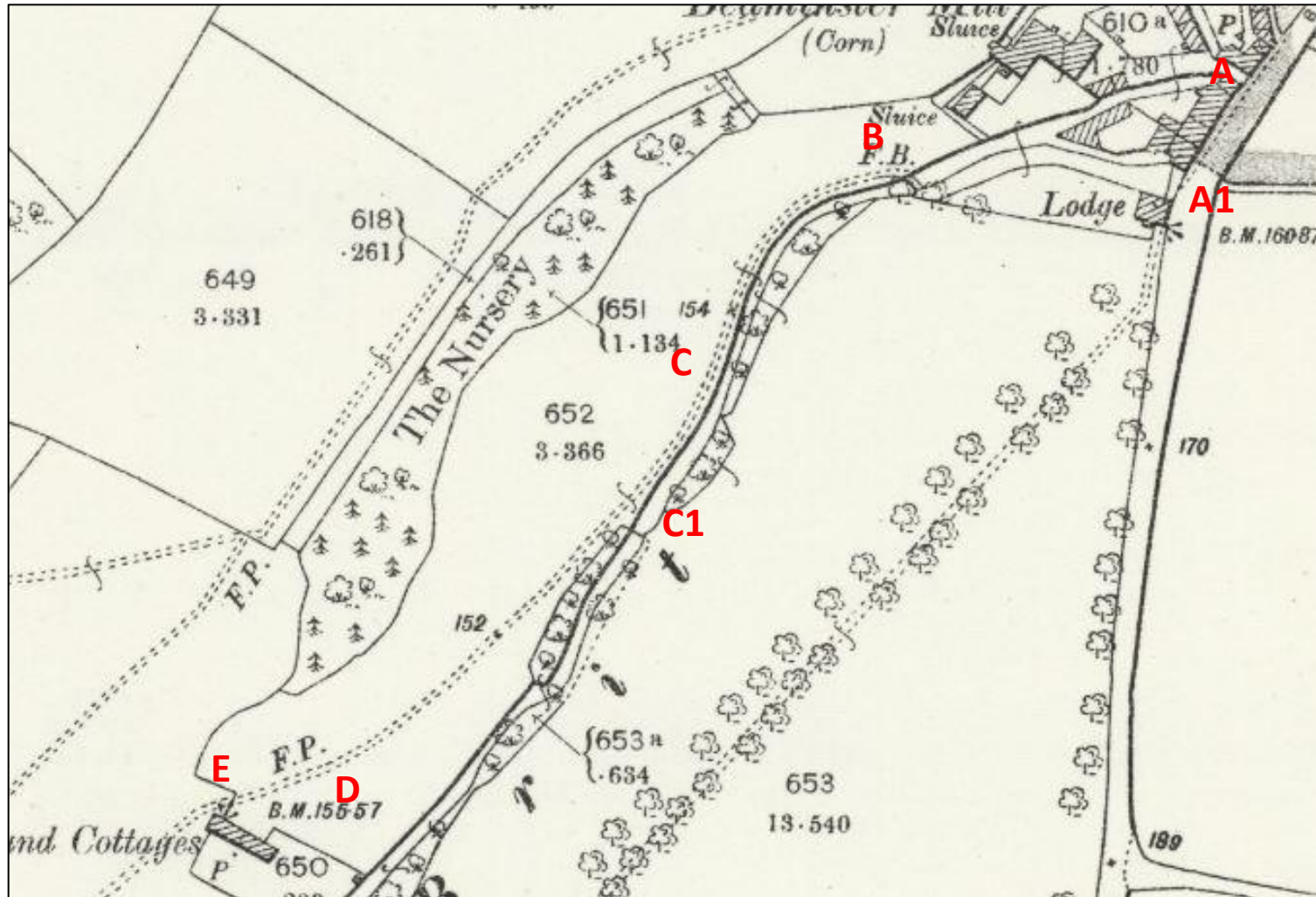
- 4.1 The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 required the County Council as "Surveying Authority" to compile the record of the public rights of way network and the District and Parish Councils were consulted to provide the County Council with information for the purposes of the survey.

Documentary Evidence

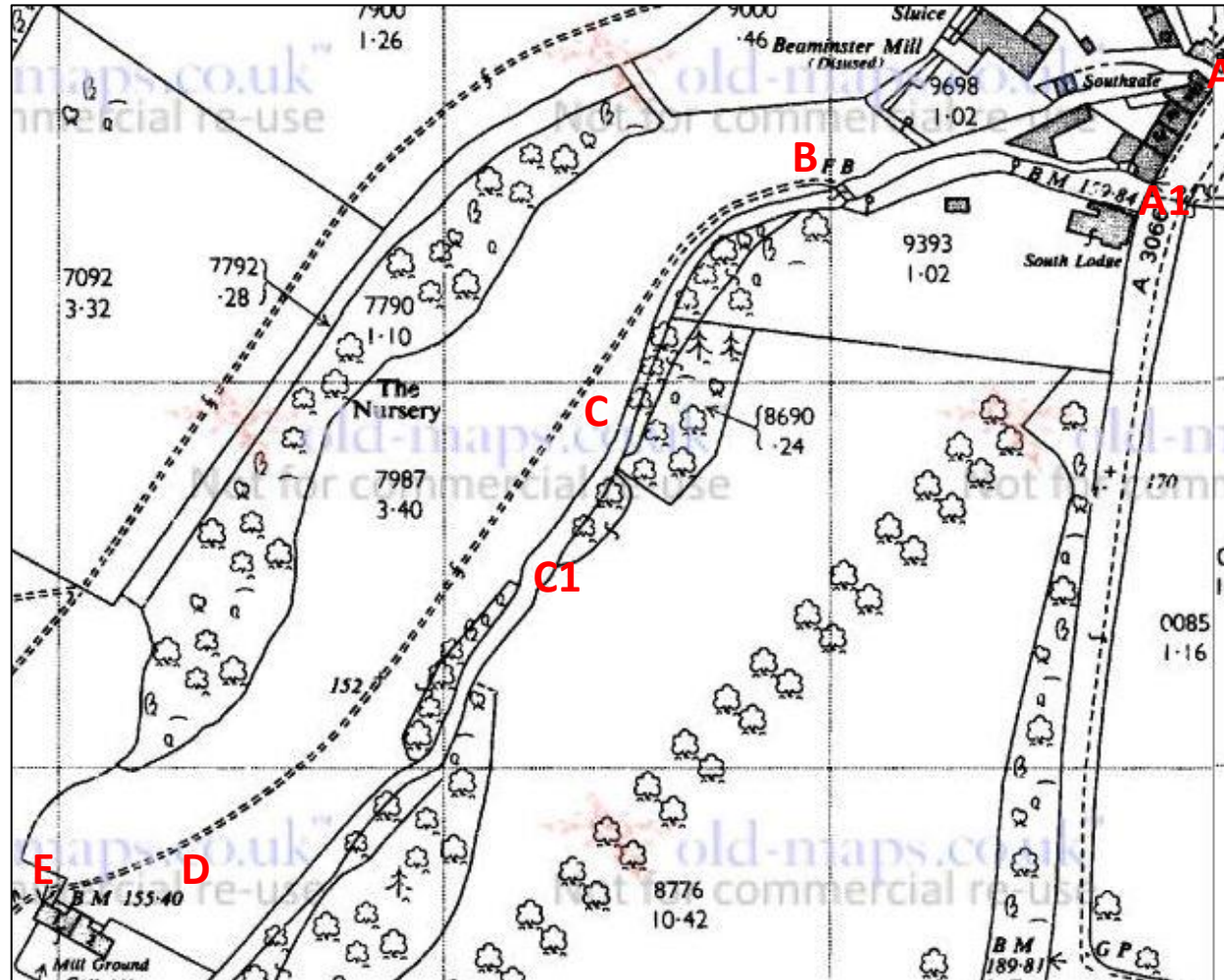
Highways Certificate (1809)



Ordnance Survey Map 25 inches : 1 mile (1901)



Ordnance Survey Map 25 inches : 1 mile (1964)



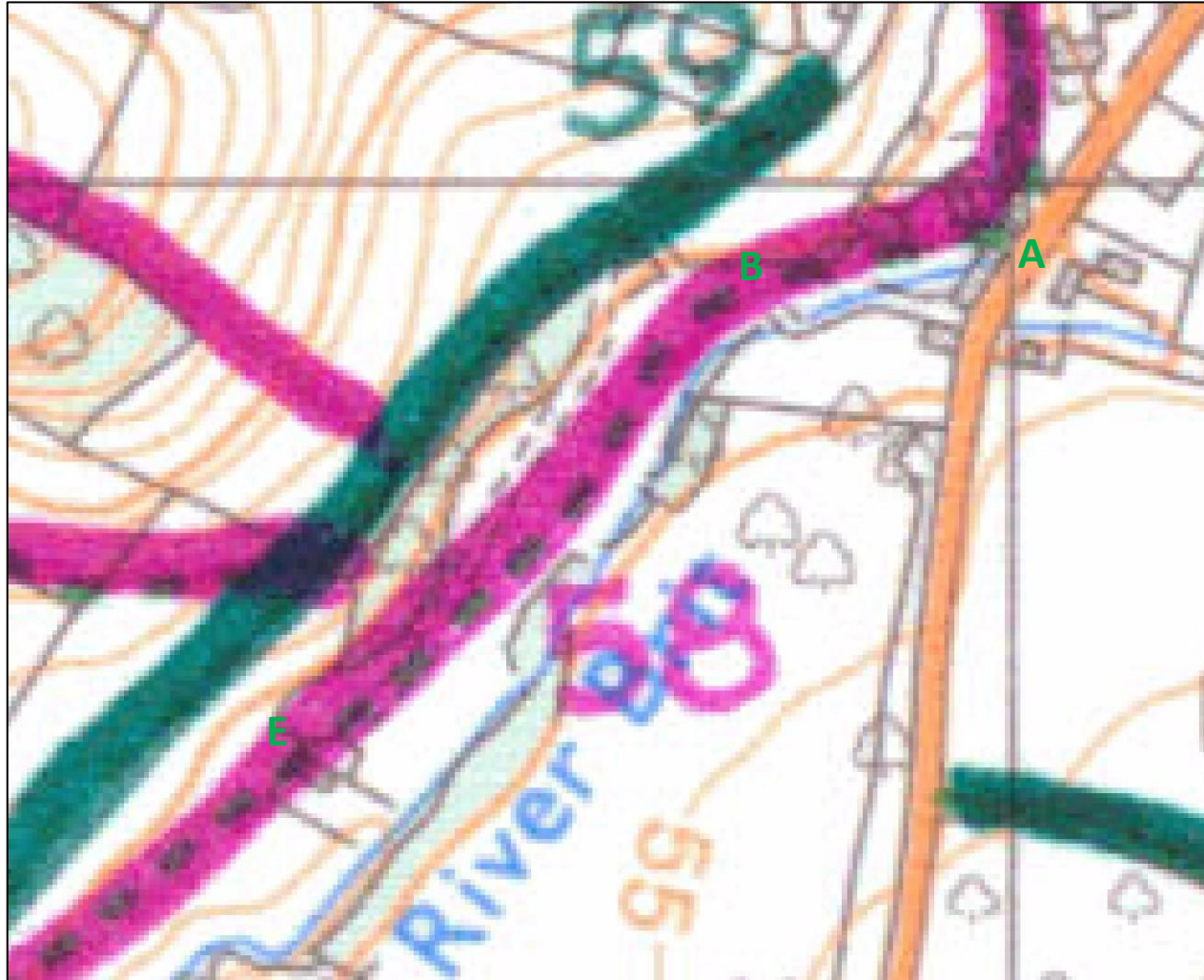
Beaminster Parish Survey Map (1950's)



First Definitive Map (1966-67)



Current Definitive Map (sealed 1989)



Beaminster Parish Survey Statement (1950's)

BEAMINSTER PARISH.

F.P.⁷⁹ to Netherbury.

Starts just N. of lodge at N. entrance to Parnham on Bridport Rd. Short lane to F.B. and iron H.G., Notice board on right "This foot path is for pedestrians only. Other users will be prosecuted".

Godd track across fields down valley. K.G. by Mill Ground Cottage and second K.G. at junction with B.R. 82. H.Gs. etc., in good condition and path in constant use.

First Definitive Statement (1966-67)

DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL
National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949
Part IV - Public Rights of Way
45.

STATEMENT annexed to the Definitive Map in respect of:
(Parish) BEAMINSTER (Local Authority) BEAMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT
Relevant date in relation to the preparation of the Provisional Map: 1st January, 1953

FP BR or BY	Path Number	From	National Grid Map Ref	To	National Grid Map Ref
	52	Road north of Mapperton Farm	497995	Bridport Road at Furze Lane	479007
	53	Bridport Road at Coombe Down Farm	478002	Join Path No.52	484002
	54	Path No.52 via Coombe Down Farm	488999	Join Bridport Road	479004
	55	Path No.52 near Coombe Down Barn	492996	Netherbury Parish Boundary	487995
	56	Bridport Road via Parnham	478002	Stoke Abbott Road	471012
	57	Bridport Road at Hams	480010	Beaminster	479011
	58	Bridport Road near The Lodge	479009	Join Path No.56	475006
	59	End of Road near the old Gas Works	479010	Join Path No.56	475006

Current Definitive Map Statement (1989)

STATEMENT ANNEXED TO THE DEFINITIVE MAP IN RESPECT OF:
(PARISH) BEAMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL (LOCAL AUTHORITY) WEST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL

DATE 1 APR 1989

FP BR or BY	PATH NUMBER	FROM	NATIONAL GRID MAP REFERENCE	TO	NATIONAL GRID MAP REFERENCE
FP	54	Path No 52 via Coombe Down Farm	488999	Join Bridport Road	479004
BR	55	Path No 52 near Coombe Down Barn	492996	Netherbury Parish boundary	487995
BR	56	Bridport Road via Parnham	478002	Stoke Abbott Road	471012
FP	57	Bridport Road at Hams	480010	Beaminster	479011
FP	58	Bridport Road near The Lodge	479009	Join Path No 56	475006
BR	59	End of Road near the old Gas Works	479010	Join Path No 56	475006

Aerial Photograph 1947



Recommendations accepted:

Signed:

REDACTED RED/
REDACTED RED/
REDACTED RED/

.....

Date:.....19 March 2021.....

Vanessa Penny

Definitive Map Team Manager

Spatial Planning