

## Killay Community Council Public Rights of Way Committee

### Meeting with Chris Dale, Countryside Access Team Leader 16/6/23

**Present:** Community Councillor Sarah Gee (SG), Community Councillor Rhiannon Barrar (RB) County Cllr Louise Gibbard (LG)

RB and SG had raised the following issues in KCC meeting on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Cllr LG offered to set up a meeting with Chris Dale:

- Lack of Signage for PRoW in Killay with particular reference to KI103 and KI114
- More information which will facilitate accessibility – health and wellbeing.
- That PRoWs have intrinsic value for the community.
- The obstruction to footpath KI 114 by the tenant farmer at Lledglawdd Farm, North of Hendrefoilan Road

CD gave some background to the designation of Swansea PRoWs which had mainly taken place in the 1980s. KI103 is the result of the work of former Dunvant Councillor Jen Raynor. CD agreed that better signage was appropriate. This path begins on the main road at Garrod Avenue, Dunvant and crosses the Clyne Valley track at land farmed by tenant farmers. At this point it falls in the Killay boundary.

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021, under the Countryside Act 1981, modification order 507 confirmed by Welsh Ministers that KI114 was legally designated KI114 as a PRoW. The Landowner of the farm and fields has no objection to gates being installed but has asked CD to communicate with the tenant Farmer at Lledglawdd Farm. He has refused to allow access to this path and has refused to remove the three barbed wire fences across three fields. Historical objections were motor bikers using the fields frightening mares in foal. He has also placed further obstructions at the points where access would be. CD said that many walkers had complained about the obstructions (especially during lock down) and had sought to remove the obstructions themselves. The tenant farmer continually replaces the obstructions. CD has offered council provision of kissing gates at the appropriate points, but the tenant farmer has refused this.

#### **Action:**

##### KI103

- CD and his team will discuss ways of funding signs which will be located on the grass verge of the Clyne Valley track.
- CD proposed a metal sign with a finger pointing direction and indication of the destination of the path.
- Consider placing signs further along the path where it forms a junction with another path.
- CD will provide photo examples of signs.
- CD will provide an A3 printable, up to date map of Killay footpaths.

##### KI114

- CD is looking for funding for outside legal advice from a PRoW lawyer on how prosecution proceedings can take place against the tenant farmer. CD is of the opinion that the case is strong against him as the evidence is very clear.
- To strengthen the case, CD asks that the clerk and chair of KCC to write to him and the Chief Executive and the Chief Executive of the City and County of Swansea Council on behalf of

KCC asking that action is taken to force the tenant farmer to remove the obstacles, emphasizing the legal imperative for it; recognizing the concern the tenant farmer has for his livestock, the CD Countryside Access, team leader has offered a reasonable solution to mitigate this by the provision of kissing gates.

- Cllrs Louise Gibbard, Mary Jones and Jeff Jones make representations to the Chief Executive and Chris Dale in the same way.

Rhiannon Barrar June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023