

From: Cllr. Cherry Brooks <cllrcherry.brooks@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 5:05 PM
To: Michelle Harrington <clerk@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk>
Cc: Kevin Humphreys <kevin.humphreys@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk>
Subject: Purbeck Park Footpath

Hello Michelle

Please see below our response to the questions raised at the Parish Council meeting regarding Purbeck Park :-

The DC design team are still working on the land plan but I understand that they are still trying to work out what land they will need to accommodate drainage works which may entail carrying out site investigations.

Back in early 2018, DC commissioned a feasibility report which came up with five different route options to get people between the Park and Ride site and the Castle View Visitor Centre. The other four routes were discounted because they proposed the use of Skew Bridge which Swanage Railway Trust wanted to preserve for miniature railway use, increased the distance people had to walk/cycle and involved crossing the A351 twice or would have used even more of a single landowner's land. In the end the stakeholder group (Corfe Castle PC, Swanage Railway Trust, National Trust, CyclExperience) chose the route that we are now trying to deliver. It was suggested that we use the line of the existing footpath on the other side of the A351 but this makes a longer walking/cycling route and would mean crossing the busy road twice. Also, the priority for spending the Wytch Farm LAE funding is for the north of the A351.

Rest assured that this scheme is very much alive and we are keen to deliver it as soon as practically possible but we just have a few design issues to bottom out before we can progress to the next stage.

Regards

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