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**Formation of footpath, Land South of Kirkettle Farm Rosewell
21/00904/DPP**

The site of this path is within the boundary of Rosewell and District and will connect an unnamed B road to the large housing development currently planned at Rosslynlee.

Rosewell & District Community Council (RDCC) offers the following comments on the above plan taken in conjunction with applications 17/00980/PPP and 17/01001/DPP

On comparison to RDCC's letter of **24th January 2017 regarding 17/00980/PPP**, it is noted that the following items within our response are relevant to this proposed cycle / footpath improvement

1. RDCC acknowledge that the Council seeks to develop an active green travel network to promote sustainable travel and give priority to walking, cycling and public transport initiatives over developments provision for car-based travel. *The proposed cycle/ footway will connect to an existing footway network.*
2. Developer contributions should be sought towards Midlothian Green Network and Core Paths network. Specifically, a combination of existing and planned routes including infrastructure with road space dedicated to encourage walking and cycling to work, and for recreation and leisure.

However,

We note that the section of path to be renovated is currently designated "**other path (part of the wider network)**" rather than a "core path" on Midlothian's Core Path map and plan. The Core Paths Plan states that a core path can "**be anything from a tarmac path to a grassy field margin**" Therefore please clearly state the reason this path development has been proposed. An aspirational core path lies just one field width to the south of the proposed path (the Roslin to Peebles Cycleway). Is this an alternative to the current aspirational path?

RDCC seek more information on the details of the surface material used in the construction of the path. If the path is intended to be a 'multi-use path', accessible to horses then an unsurfaced path with adequate drainage would be more appropriate. If this is to be an alternative to the aspirational core path or cycleway from Roslin to Peebles, then a fully surfaced / tar path would be more appropriate. Again, what is the proposed purpose of the path and who are its intended users?

If a core path, it is a requirement to be free from obstruction. Whilst we acknowledge that there is a document showing the cycle path guard rails, it is pertinent to note that where 2 of these gates are positioned in an offset manner, they could continue to create an obstruction for bicycles towing a child



trailer or disabled buggy. I quote the document **"Final position and size to be agreed with West Lothian Council prior to erection on site"** It's clear that the document has been copied for Midlothian Council purposes but it would be pertinent to consider the gate positioning appropriately or consider an alternative bollard system.

We and residents have grave concerns for livestock in this area. The resident farmer has contacted us on several occasions informing us of unrestrained dogs causing sheep worrying incidents resulting in pregnant sheep aborting and also direct attacks on sheep that have ended their lives. What level of fencing is proposed along the path?

We ask that you take our comments into account when determining the decision on this proposed development.

Yours sincerely

Edith Cameron
Secretary
Rosewell & District Community Council