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Mr Glen Chipp  
Chief Executive  
Horsham District Council  
Parkside, Chart Way  
Horsham  
West Sussex RH12 1RL

28 September 2020

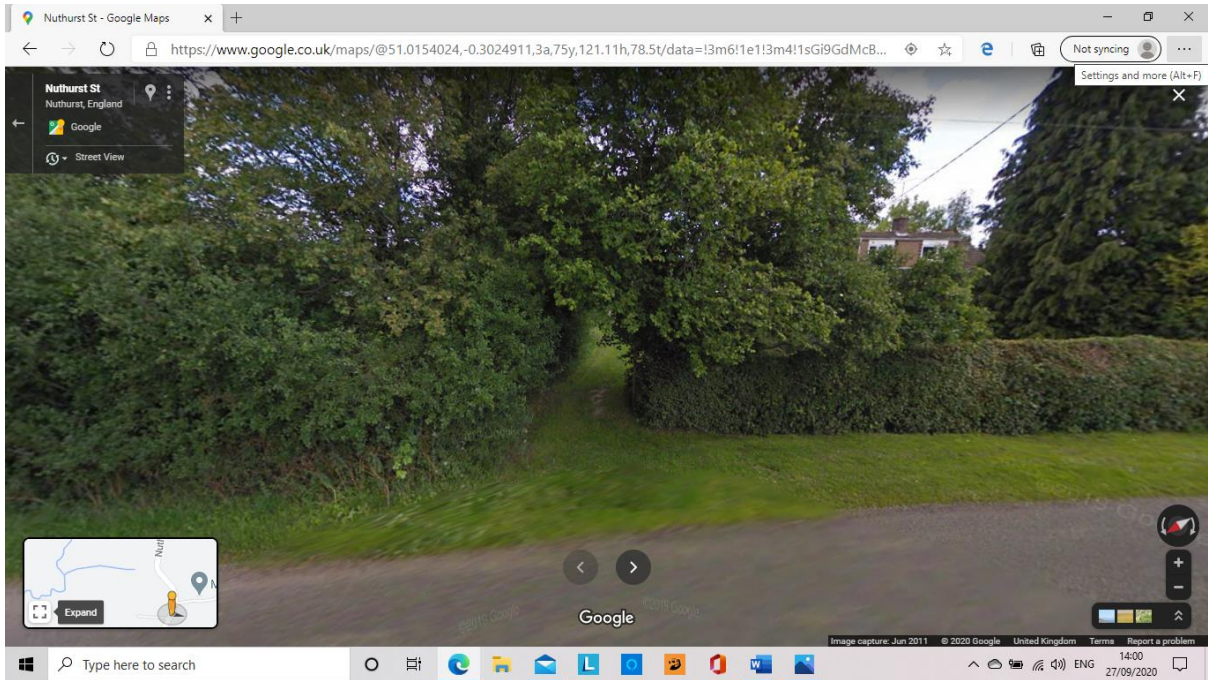
Dear Mr. Chipp

### **The Public Footpath at Nuthurst Street**

This footpath may seem an insignificant matter to planners, but local people are angered by Mr Burnham's repeated and deliberate flouting of regulations, including here at the public footpath in Nuthurst Street. To retain public respect the Parish Council suggests that HDC needs to be seen by the public to take firm and clear action to ensure that this footpath is returned as near as possible to its original rural appearance, as shown below.

In March 2020, at a site meeting between Mr Chipp, staff from HDC, WSCC Highways, PROW and Countryside, the District Councillor and the Parish Council agreed a specification for the return of the unlawfully constructed roadway to the field at its rear, to its former appearance as a green footpath. This included amongst other measures, the removal of the tarmac hardstanding, the kerbstones and the laying of a plastic Core Grass system to a maximum width of 2.5 metres.

## Appearance 2011 (Google Maps)



## Appearance today



As events have unfolded since March 2020, it appears that Mr Burnham has negotiated various “variations” to the specification behind the back of the Parish Council and without its knowledge. This is unacceptable, given that the Parish Council was originally involved in the matter.

Consequently, the public footpath now has an urban appearance, as shown in the photo above. This was not the objective of the original enforcement order dating back to January 2018 or the specification agreed in March 2020.

Following work carried out by Mr Burnham, the public footpath now has a solid surface that is 2.7m wide, has kerbstones along its full length, the full depth of the tarmac has not been removed and electricity services have been laid under the ground along the southern edge. In the opinion of the Parish Council, all this non-compliance is a precursor to Mr Burnham submitting a second, planning application to build houses over the field to the rear of the public footpath. This is a field that Mr Chipp said at a Parish Council meeting was a “red zone” as far as he was concerned.

The Parish Council trusts that the HDC’s enforcement team will be clear and firm in requiring Mr Burnham to remove all of the tarmac and the kerbstones and retaining concrete. Otherwise, in our increasingly dry summers, the grass will not survive and the oak trees that the specification requires him to plant will have their root systems deprived of the moisture needed for their healthy growth and will likely die.

The Parish Council is asking HDC to be clear and firm in requiring Mr Burnham to comply exactly with all the specifications contained in the specifications dating to March 2020, even though this will require him to undo work he has already carried out. The non-compliance is not accidental but deliberate and the public needs to see that HDC will deal with developers who will not honour the rules.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Sarah Hall

Clerk to Nuthurst Parish Council

Copies to: Barbara Childs, Emma Parkes, Madeleine Hartley and Will Jones, HDC; Nigel Bird, Ian Hayward and Charlotte Weller, WSCC; Toni Bradnum, District Councillor for Nuthurst; and Nigel Jupp, County Councillor for Nuthurst.

## Agreed specification following March 2020 meeting

Nuthurst St - Google Maps x Surface-SpecificationHDC.pdf x +

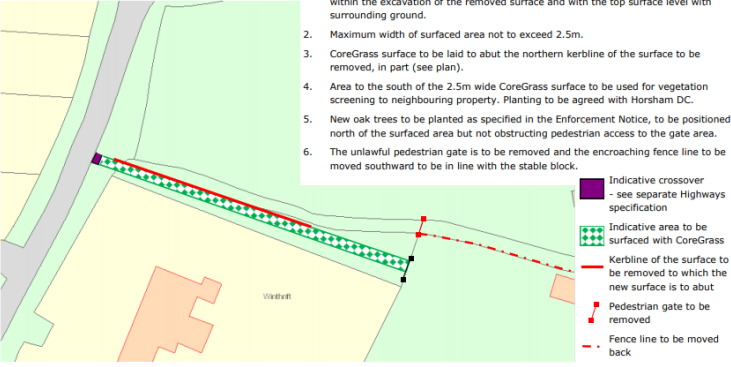
File | D:/Documents/Nuthurst%20PC/PlanningApplications/GypsyMillersMead/Surface-SpecificationHDC.pdf

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**Specification for Surface Reinstatement of Nuthurst FP 1806**

**NOTES**

1. CoreGrass surface to be laid in accordance with the manufacturer's specification within the excavation of the removed surface and with the top surface level with surrounding ground.
2. Maximum width of surfaced area not to exceed 2.5m.
3. CoreGrass surface to be laid to abut the northern kerbline of the surface to be removed, in part (see plan).
4. Area to the south of the 2.5m wide CoreGrass surface to be used for vegetation screening to neighbouring property. Planting to be agreed with Horsham DC.
5. New oak trees to be planted as specified in the Enforcement Notice, to be positioned north of the surfaced area but not obstructing pedestrian access to the gate area.
6. The unlawful pedestrian gate is to be removed and the encroaching fence line to be moved southward to be in line with the stable block.



Indicative crossover - see separate Highways specification

Indicative area to be surfaced with CoreGrass


Kerbline of the surface to be removed to which the new surface is to abut

Pedestrian gate to be removed

Fence line to be moved back

**NOT TO SCALE**

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	<b>Ref:</b> WSCC/PROW/1806/118860
	<b>Date:</b> 16.03.20 <b>Rev:</b> A <b>Drawn:</b> NJB

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