

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

**Notice by the Secretary of State under section
52 of the National Parks and Access to the
Countryside Act 1949**

Dunball Wharf and St Audries Bay, Somerset

January 2016

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Introduction

On 24 September 2015 Natural England submitted a coastal access variation report (“the report”) relating to proposed changes to the approved coastal access provisions at Dunball Wharf and St Audries Bay, both of which are located on the coast between Brean Down to Minehead. The report was submitted to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs under section 55 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 (“the 1949 Act”) pursuant to its duty under section 296(1) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (“the 2009 Act”).

The report proposed changes to the approved proposals in the notice which was published by the Secretary of State on 10 July 2014 [Reference PB14177].

In reaching his determination under section 52 of the 1949 Act the Secretary of State has considered:

- a. Proposed Changes to the England Coast Path at Dunball Wharf and St Audries Bay, Somerset - Natural England’s report submitted to the Secretary of State on 24 September 2015; and
- b. in accordance with paragraph 16(1)(d) of Schedule 1A to the 1949 Act, inserted by Schedule 19 to the 2009 Act (“the Schedule”), representations made by a person within paragraph 2(2)(b) to (f) of the Schedule, and Natural England’s comments on those representations which it sent to the Secretary of State on 25 November 2015.

In this notice –

(a) “objection” means an objection about the report which is made under paragraph 3 of the Schedule; and

(b) “representation” means a representation about the report which is made under paragraph 7 of the Schedule.

The Secretary of State has determined to approve the proposals set out in the report so far as they relate to those parts of the route (and associated coastal margin) in relation to which no objections or representations were made.

The conclusions and observations of the Secretary of State in relation to the representations are set out in **Annex A** to this notice.

The Secretary of State has made available at www.gov.uk a copy of this notice. Natural England has also made available at www.gov.uk:

- a. Proposed Changes to the England Coast Path at Dunball Wharf and St Audries Bay, Somerset - Natural England’s report; and

- b. Representations made by a person within paragraph 2(2)(b) to (f) of the Schedule, and Natural England's comments on those representations, which it sent to the Secretary of State on 25 November 2015.

Annex A

The Secretary of State has considered, in relation to the report, the following representations made under paragraph 7 of the Schedule.

Representation No: MCA\Brean Down to Minehead\R\54\BDM0444\VR1

Name of representation: The Ramblers

Map and route sections:

Map 2

BDM-VR1-S003 to BDM-VR1-S008

Secretary of State's conclusion and observation:

Secretary of State welcomes the representation and approves route sections BDM-VR1-S003 to BDM-VR1-S008.

Representation No: MCA\Brean Down to Minehead\R\55\BDM0444\VR1

Name of representation: The Ramblers

Map and route sections:

Map 1

BDM-VR1-S001-FW to BDM-VR1-S002

Secretary of State's conclusion and observation:

Secretary of State notes the representation and approves route sections BDM-VR1-S001-FW to BDM-VR1-S002.

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