

# Coastal Access – Mablethorpe to Humber Bridge



## Representations on MHB 2: Saltfleet Haven to Humberston and Natural England's comments

October 2022

---

### List of Contents

1.	Introduction	[1]
2.	Background	[2]
3.	Record of 'full' representations and Natural England's comments on them	[3]
4.	Summary of 'other' representations making non-common points, and Natural England's comments on them	[7]
5.	Supporting documents - North Somercotes Parish Council Map	[9]

### 1. Introduction

This document details representations we have received on the stated coastal access report. These fall into two categories:

- Representations received from persons or bodies that must be sent in full to the Secretary of State ('full' representations, reproduced below); and
- Those which have not come from those persons or bodies whose representations we are required to send in full to the Secretary of State ('other' representations, summarised below).

It also sets out any comments that Natural England choose to make in response to these representations.

## **2. Background**

Natural England's compendium of reports setting out its proposals for improved access to the coast from Mablethorpe to Humber Bridge was submitted to the Secretary of State on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021. This began an eight week period during which representations and objections about each constituent report could be made.

In relation to the report for MHB 2, Natural England received 4 representations, of which 2 were made by organisations or individuals whose representations must be sent in full to the Secretary of State in accordance with paragraph 8(1)(a) of Schedule 1A to the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. These 'full' representations are reproduced in Section 3 of this document together with Natural England's comments where relevant.

As required by the legislation this document also summarises and, where relevant, comments on the 2 representations submitted by other individuals or organisations, referred to here as 'other' representations. Natural England's comments on 'other' representations are set out in section 4.

Before making a determination in respect of a coastal access report, the Secretary of State must consider all 'full' representations and our summary of 'other' representations, together with Natural England's comments on each.

No further representations were received after the period of eight weeks beginning with the date on which the report was first advertised on Natural England's website.

### **3. Record of ‘full’ representations and Natural England’s comments on them**

**Representation number:**

MCA/MHB2/R/1/MHB1551

**Organisation/ person making representation:**

Ramblers – Lincolnshire

**Route section(s) specific to this representation:**

MHB Report 2 all sections

**Other reports within stretch to which this representation also relates:**

N/A

**Representation in full**

The Ramblers fully supports Natural England’s proposals. We are very pleased to have a continuous route which will give people a pleasant coastal walking experience. We are particularly pleased that the route at Donna Nook will follow the landward edge of the beach, outside of seal pupping season. We would like to thank the Natural England team for their work and all the stakeholders at Donna Nook for their efforts in creating a truly coastal path in this location.

**Natural England’s comments**

Natural England would like to thank the Ramblers Lincolnshire for its representations and welcome its support for the proposals.

**Relevant appended documents (see section 5):**

**Representation number:**

MCA/MHB2/R/1/MHB1551

**Organisation/ person making representation:**

Environment Agency

**Route section(s) specific to this representation:**

Report MHB 2, Map MHB 2j

Report MHB 2, Map MHB 2e

Route sections MHB-2-SO37-MHB-2-SO40

Route sections MHB-2-A006 &007

**Other reports within stretch to which this representation also relates:**

MHB 4

**Representation in full**

The majority of the proposed Trail is situated on Flood and Coastal Risk Management (FCRM) assets (i.e. flood banks and walls) which are maintained under permissive powers by the Environment Agency, and in some locations, owned by the EA. These assets have historically, and will continue into the future, to be improved, realigned or decommissioned to maintain or enhance flood risk protection for local communities, especially to mitigate for the predicted impacts of climate change. These capital works necessitate the temporary (from

days to years) diversion of existing paths to ensure public safety is not compromised by exposure to construction activities. It needs to be acknowledged that these FCRM assets are not temporally and spatially static through time and consequently it should not be assumed that they will always provide the physical basis for secondary purposes such as a walking route. Sustained dialogue will be required between Natural England and the Environment Agency to mutually understand the evolving FCRM requirements on the estuary. In addition where the EA is landowner, Estates and Legal matters will need to be discussed on a site-specific basis.

Between Tetney outfall and North Cotes point the proposed coastal path is aligned along the Humber tidal defences rather than using the existing designated PROW along the landward historical bank. This is one of several sites under consideration for future managed realignment for the new Humber flood risk management strategy. We require further discussions around the provision of a roll back line in the order for areas identified for future managed realignment. We request that table 2.3.1 in report MHB 2 is updated to propose roll-back potential in reference to map MHB 2j.

Any construction of new structures or alterations to existing structures on or within 8m of the toe of a main river defence or 16m of a sea defence could require a flood risk permit under EPR legislation. Please see the link below for more information about permits or email [psocoastal@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:psocoastal@environment-agency.gov.uk)  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-activities-environmental-permits>

New steps at the interface between MHB-2-A006 & 007 could require a permit depending on the location specific to the defence line.

A permit may also be required for location 1 where new pedestrian gates near Tetney sea doors and along tidal defences are proposed. We would welcome early discussions on this. Please consult us on any structures that may require a permit.

The area between East Halton Skitter and New Holland is one of several sites under consideration for future managed realignment for the Humber flood risk management strategy. We require further discussions around the provision of a roll back line in the order for areas identified for future managed realignment. We request that table 4.3.3 in report MHB 4 is updated to propose roll-back potential in reference to maps MHB 4f-k.

Also, the route in sections MHB-4-SO58 and MHB-4-SO59 at Goxhill Haven are on a piece of land that is expected to be used as a habitat mitigation site which may be impacted by the national trail. We require further discussions around this. We request that table 4.3.3 in report MHB 4 is updated to propose roll-back potential in reference to map MHB 4h.

Natural England's comments

Natural England would like to thank the Environment Agency for its representation.

Please note some changes suggested by EA are dealt with in the relevant chapter 4 responses

We appreciate that flood banks require maintenance including closures or diversions. Where that is the case, we will work with the EA to ensure that ECP is not an impediment to this taking place. We have several tools available to us including diversions of the route, exclusions of access and informal management measures.

We acknowledge the information provided regarding consents and permits required and confirm that we will seek the necessary permissions during the establishment stage of the path.

As requested, NE propose that table 2.3.1 in report MHB 2 is modified and table 2.3.3 be inserted to propose roll-back potential in reference to map MHB 2j. We ask the Secretary of State to note this change and to approve the proposals as modified.

1	2	3	4	5a	5b	5c	6
Map (s)	Route section number(s)	Current status of route section(s)	Roll-back proposed? (See Part 7 of Overview)	Landward margin contains coastal land type?	Proposal to specify landward boundary of margin (See maps)	Reason for landward boundary proposal	Explanatory notes
MHB 2i and Map 2j	MHB-2-S035 to MHB-2-S038	Other existing walked route	Yes-see table 2.3.3	Yes - bank			
MHB 2j	MHB-2-S039	Other existing walked route	Yes-see table 2.3.3	Yes - bank	Path	Clarity and cohesion	
MHB 2j	MHB-2-S040	Other existing walked route	Yes-see table 2.3.3	Yes - bank	Track	Clarity and cohesion	

2.3.3 Roll-back implementation – more complex situations: Map MHB 2i to MHB 2j: North Coates

Map(s)	Route section number(s)	Feature(s) or site(s) potentially affected	Our likely approach to roll-back
MHB 2i to MHB 4j	MHB-2-S035 to MHB-2-S040	North Coates Point Managed Realignment	Managed realignment is under consideration in the area. The trail is likely to be adjusted to follow the new coastal defences.

**Relevant appended documents (see section 5):**

N/A

**Summary of ‘other’ representations making non-common points, and Natural England’s comments on them**

**Representation ID:**

MCA/MHB2/R/2/MHB1473

**Organisation/ person making representation:**

North Somercotes Parish Council

**Name of site:**

Somercoates Haven

**Report map reference:**

MHB 2f

**Route sections on or adjacent to the land:**

MHB-2-S021 to MHB-2-S024 FP

**Other reports within stretch to which this representation also relates**

N/A

**Summary of representation:**

Identifies a mapping inaccuracy between our mapping data and the definitive map of PROW NS18.

Has a concern that the proposed long-term access exclusion shown on Direction Map MHB 2E: Donna Nook would affect the used of PROW NS18.

**Natural England’s comment:**

Natural England would like to thank North Somercotes Parish Council for their representations.

NE acknowledge and apologise for the mapping discrepancies of PROW NS18. This is due to an inaccuracy in the Defra PROW mapping layer. The discrepancy does not affect the alignment proposal.

The proposed long-term access exclusion for sensitive wildlife S26(3)(a) for no public access shown on Direction Map MHB 2E: Donna Nook, will result in no limitations or restrictions in the use of PROW NS18.

**Relevant appended documents (see Section 6):**

Definitive Map extract submitted by North Somercotes Parish Council

**Representation ID:**  
MCA/MHB2/R/2/MHB1473

**Organisation/ person making representation:**  
North Somercotes Parish Council

**Name of site:**  
Foreshore, Red Farm Track to Stonebridge

**Report map reference:**  
MHB 2d to MHB 2e

**Route sections on or adjacent to the land:**  
MHB-2-S012 to MHB-2-S019

**Other reports within stretch to which this representation also relates**  
N/A

**Summary of representation**

The Parish Council asserts that there is a right of way, as of right, to the beach and foreshore which joins the long-standing historic walked beach paths that are now to be the main route of the ECP at this location. Therefore, while it fully supports both the main trail – which uses these historic used beach paths - and the seasonal alternative route, from the Red Farm Access round to Stonebridge to MHB-2-S018 and MHB-2-A009, access to the beach path and foreshore and the coastal path routes from NS28 must be maintained, by a DMMO if necessary for a permanent diversion. An appropriate temporary diversion order to join the path at MHB-2-A009/MHB-2-S018 would then be needed during the seal season. The Parish Council unanimously resolved on 28/6/21 to apply for a DMMO to assert the right of the public to freely pass and repass at will without let or hindrance to access/exit the beach and foreshore on NS28 on the basis of demonstrable, unfettered, and long-standing historic use, without permission.

**Natural England's comment:**

Natural England would like to thank North Somercotes Parish Council for their representations.

**We note the information provided.**

**Relevant appended documents (see Section 5):**

## 4. Supporting documents

Definitive Map extract submitted by North Somercotes Parish Council

