

Standard NEWS

Water Park residents' anger at six-year 'temporary' footpath closure

3:02pm Monday 7th October 2013 in [News](#)



Residents from the Lechlade and Kempford area gather where the footpath ends at Lakes by Yoo. Pictured are: Neil Kinch, Parish Cllr Sue Griffin, Teresa Griffin, John Pinnington and Richard Holmes from the Ramblers, Stephen Funnell, Alison Ward, Richard C



RESIDENTS are fighting against the temporary closure of a popular public footpath in fear of it being permanently sealed off.

The footpath at Bowmoor Sailing Club near Lechlade has been closed for six years since Coln Park and Lakes by yoo bought the lake in 2007 to start developing holiday lodges.

Residents of Fairford, Lechlade and Kempford have expressed their outrage at the constant closure.

Although the footpath is within the privately owned Bowmoor Sailing Club, locals claim they have been walking on it for decades. Only a week before Coln Park put in place its first temporary closure, one resident succeeded in making the path a public right of way.

"We've all been so patient with this temporary closure," said Whelford resident Teresa Griffin. "It's such a shame. We're really lacking footpaths in this area."

Residents are doing everything they can to alert the authorities about the issue. Teresa said she has written to

the Secretary of State multiple times and has corresponded with [Gloucestershire County Council \(GCC\)](#) public right of way officer Mike Barton.

"When anything is reviewed or if I notice anything happening on the footpath, I write to the Secretary of State," said Teresa. "It's difficult to notice though when I have no access to the footpath."

Teresa has also been receiving support from Cirencester Ramblers and said they have been a big help to the cause.

[Ads by Google](#)
[Dunelm® Online](#)
 Save Big on Bedroom

HOME SERVICES

[SEND YOUR NEWS, PICTURES & VIDEOS](#)

[Cheltenham](#)

Like 0

[Email](#)

[Print this page](#)

[Comment \(1\)](#)

[ADS BY GOOGLE](#)

[Gifts for the Outdoors](#)

Create a map with a Personalised Title and Cover Photo. Only From [ordnancesurvey.co.uk/sho](#)

[Buy a UK Holiday Caravan](#)

Static Caravan inc 2013 Site Fees, Connections & More: All For £5,995!

[Park-Resorts.com/Caravan](#)

FEATURED JOBS

[Skilled Decorators Wotton-under-Edge](#)

[Working Foreman Wotton-under-Edge](#)

[Forecourt Cashier Cirencester](#)

[Mechanic/MOT Tester Cirencester](#)

[Carer South Cerney](#)

[Teaching Assistant Stroud](#)

MOST READ

1. [Bogus cop car pulls over woman driver](#)
2. [Karen Gillan: I forgot I was naked](#)
3. [Police road block on South Cerney Road due to crash](#)
4. [Wanted man tracked down after Crimewatch appeal](#)
5. [Water Park residents' anger at six-year 'temporary' footpath closure](#)
6. [Dog left to die at Cotswold Water Park](#)
7. [Wakeboarder death on Spine Road still unresolved](#)
8. [Man arrested after picture is posted on facebook](#)
9. [Pre-School new building appeal races ahead](#)
10. [Appeal for Witnesses on hat argument that lead to assault](#)
11. [Building work starts on Westonbirt Arboretum visitor centre](#)
12. [MOTORCYCLING: Kurtis Drew enjoys taste of success at Mallory Park](#)
13. [Op Rapier: Thousands of pounds of cannabis seized in Newnham](#)
14. [Enraged BMW driver launches hammer at another car](#)
15. [Lechlade Music Festival nominated for two awards](#)
16. [Appeal for driver to come forward after collision on Avenalls Parade](#)
17. [Inquest into death of South Cerney man records open verdict](#)
18. [Missing Chippenham man Graham Stevens found safe and well](#)
19. [Cirencester's Old Memorial Hospital falls victim to vandalism](#)
20. [FOOTBALL: Cirencester Town force replay at Didcot](#)

Open Evening
October 23rd, 6pm onwards

MOST READ YESTERDAY

1. [Wanted man tracked down after Crimewatch appeal](#)
2. [Karen Gillan: I forgot I was naked](#)
3. [Lechlade Music Festival nominated for two awards](#)
4. [Wakeboarder death on Spine Road still unresolved](#)
5. [Man arrested after picture is posted on facebook](#)
6. [Dog left to die at Cotswold Water Park](#)
7. [Cirencester's Old Memorial Hospital falls victim to vandalism](#)
8. [Enraged BMW driver launches hammer at another car](#)
9. [New study could help prove existence of big cats](#)
10. [MOTORCYCLING: Danny Kent splits with Tech3 team](#)

MOST COMMENTED

1. [Water Park residents' anger at six-year 'temporary' footpath closure \(1\)](#)

[CLICK2FIND](#)

[Churches Together In Stroud](#)

[View details »](#)

[More Churches](#)

Secretary and footpath officer at Cirencester Ramblers Richard Holmes said he had gone as far as contacting Ramblers Central Office in London and asking the solicitor to send a letter to GCC.

"The reply was not particularly helpful," Richard said. "GCC is still saying the path is closed for public protection."

Principle Public Rights of Way Officer at GCC John Lane said that at the beginning of the project, the developers closed the path for health and safety due to the amount of building equipment and construction vehicles moving on and off the site.

"We assessed the site and closed the footpath for a period of six months. However, the building work has continued and each year the developer has applied for a continued closure which the Secretary of State has then approved," he said. "We expect to see the footpath reopened once the work is complete and the area becomes safe for walkers once again."

Director for Coln Park Giles Baker said: "We have had extensive, open and ongoing discussions with the three parish councils, Bowmoor Sailing Club and local ramblers' groups.

"As a result we are to shortly hold a public meeting to address the matters of concern that have been highlighted through our discussions with the community."

The meeting is planned for later this October in Lechlade to try and reassure the public.

It will be chaired by deputy leader of GCC and Fairford and Lechlade councillor Ray Theodoulou.

"I have a great deal of sympathy for those who have lost the path," said Cllr Theodoulou. "The development is a slow one and the locals don't feel anyone is helping. The meeting will hopefully provide some assurance that there is a plan which will stick."

The meeting will be held at Lechlade Memorial Hall on Tuesday, October 15 at 7pm. All members of the public are welcome.

Like 0

Email Print this page Comment(1)

Showbiz news

Three showbiz news thumbnails: Nigel Harman defends Downton plot, Sharon offered help from rivals, Sharon: Rename the Overs the Divas plot.

Comments (1)

Please log in to enable comment sorting

Crispin Mount says... 7:41pm Mon 7 Oct 13

Dejá vu ? Score: 0 Quote » Report this post »

Email me when a new comment is added

Furniture. Lowest Prices at Dunelm! dunelm-mill.com/Bedroom_Furniture Accommodation -78% trivago™ save up to 78% on Hotels. Compare & Book now www.trivago.co.uk/Hotel-Comparison

Search form with fields for 'Looking for (e.g. plumber)', 'Company name', 'Located in (e.g. Cheltenham)', and a 'Search »' button.



MOST SHARED

- 1. Dog left to die at Cotswold Water Park
2. FOOTBALL: Keith following Cirencester Town in aid of good cause
3. Tetbury named one of the South West's best places to live
4. New town crier for Tetbury
5. New study could help prove existence of big cats

Two images with captions: '6 Unbelievable Personal Injury Claims Nationwide' and 'The New Secret To Hiding Grey Hair Hair Color For Women' by Taboola.

WHAT'S ON LIVE TRAVEL

- 08:00 Antique & Collectables Fair »
08:00 Antique & Collectables Fair »
19:30 Transition Cam & Dursley Meeting »
19:30 Transition Cam & Dursley Meeting »
Add your event »
See all events »
Cinema Listings »

Calendar for October 2013 with days of the week (S M T W T F S) and dates.

ADS BY GOOGLE

- Steam Room Generator Kits
cirencester airport taxis
Holiday Park in Cornwall
Coasteering North Devon

NATIONAL NEWS

Post a comment

Comment

Remember you are personally responsible for what you post on this site and must abide by our [site terms](#). Do not post anything that is false, abusive or malicious. If you wish to complain, please use the 'report this post' link.

[Post comment »](#)

PM defends 'snooping' safeguards

Updated 11:02pm Monday 7th October 2013

David Cameron has insisted that proper safeguards exist to protect the public from unwarranted "snooping" by the intelligence agencies.



NEWS »

- [Harry tests out linguistic skills](#)
- ['Shocking' rape storyline defended](#)
- [Film villain Lee gets movie honour](#)
- [More News »](#)

ENTERTAINMENT »

- [Nigel Harman defends Downton plot](#)
- [Sharon offered help from rivals](#)
- [Sharon: Rename the Overs the Divas](#)
- [More Showbiz »](#)

SPORT »

- [Franchitti grateful for support](#)
- [Bale wins Welsh player award](#)
- [Cole misses Montenegro match](#)
- [More Sport »](#)

[Jobs](#)

Find a job in Cirencester and the Cotswolds

[Search Now »](#)

[Dating](#)

Find a date in Cirencester and the Cotswolds

[Search Now »](#)

[Homes](#)

Find a home in Cirencester and the Cotswolds

[Search Now »](#)

[Cars](#)

Find a car in Cirencester and the Cotswolds

[Search Now »](#)

This site is part of Newsquest's audited local newspaper network | [AGannett Company](#)

Newsquest Media (Southern) Ltd, 58 Church Street, Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 8DP |1350| Registered in England & Wales

[Newsquest printing](#)