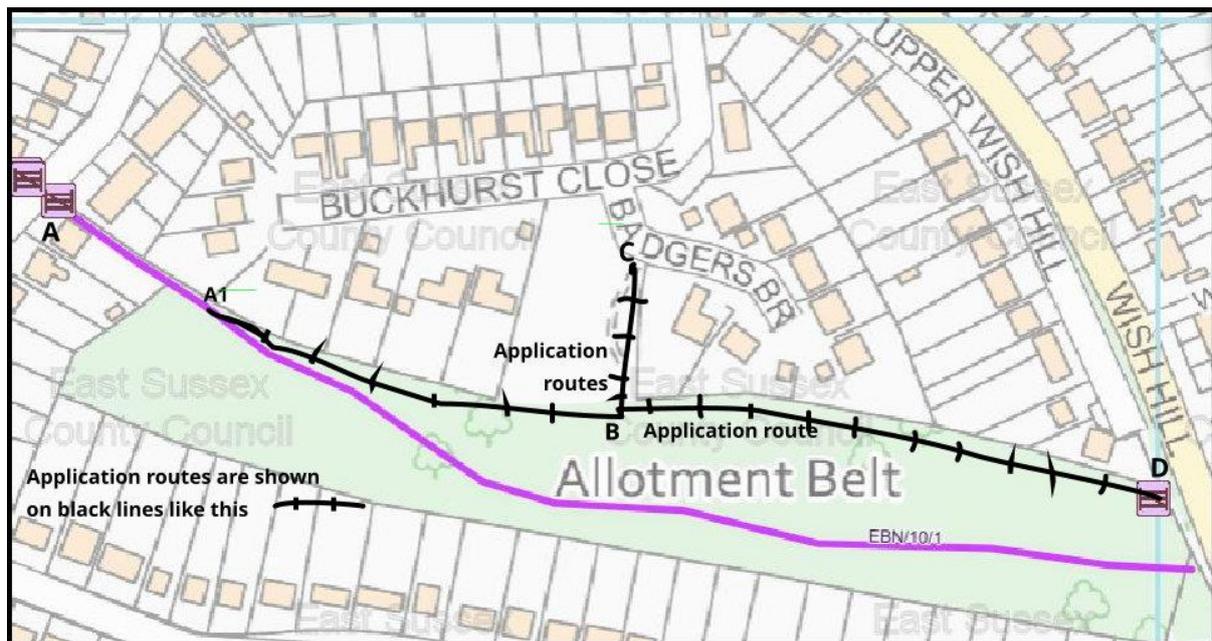


APPLICANT'S STATEMENT SUS-0855

This application is based on user evidence. It is about a path through a wood called Allotment Belt in Willingdon and a link path to the route from Badgers Brow (mistyped as Badgers Brook on the evidence forms)

The application routes are set out in the map below which is taken from ESCC online rights of way map which I have blown up. I do not know the scale but it is above 1-25000



The application routes are from a Junction with footpath Eastbourne10/1 at grid reference TQ58673 01898 (point A1) to point D, a junction with Wish Hill at grid reference TQ59002 01836. (point D) and from point B at grid reference TQ58816 01867 to point C at a junction with Badgers Brow at grid reference TQ58819 01867. Grid reference are taken from the online rights of way map.

A1-D is a route running a short distance from the backs of the properties shown on the map. The actual distance varies. On the map B-C appears to run along the right edge of an open area, but in practice the path is boundaried on both sides.

Allotment Belt Is owned by Eastbourne Council was once an open area, but trees have been allowed to grow so now it is very difficult to walk around except on walked out paths. These trees appear to have been in existence for well over 20 years.

There is already a recorded right of way through Allotment Belt. It is Eastbourne 10/1. However the path on the ground does not follow its recorded route. At the west end , from point A it goes down an alley between properties as shown but on reaching Allotment Belt it then turns quickly south and then east, running more southerly than its recorded route. This means that point A1 is only, in practice, accessible if you are walking the application route.

On the evidence forms people were asked if they went to point A rather than point A1. This is because I thought they would not understand where point A1 was, because on the ground it is just an arbitrary point on the course of the path.

At the east end of end of Eastbourne 10/1 it is not possible to join Wish Hill at the point indicated on the map because of fencing. Instead the path turns north and joins Wish Hill at point D where there is a cycle barrier.

I have been told that this barrier was installed by Eastbourne Council to prevent motor cyclists or cyclists accessing Allotment Belt

At point D the application route joins Wish Hill. The roadway is a little to the east, as the map shows, but the ESCC Highway Land team have sent me a map showing that the junction is part of the highway.