

65 Long Road  
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Cambridge  
CB23 7DG  
Tel 01223 264678

1<sup>st</sup> July, 2020

Mr. P. Hardy  
15 Kentings  
Comberton  
Cambridge  
CB23 7DT

Dear Paul

**Your report on the status of footpath from the drift to St.Mary's Church**

John has lived in Long Road since 1935 and is now 90 years old. When he left school at 17 in 1947 (having spent an extra year to get his certificate) he was asked by Mr Chapman of Highfield Farm if he would help him with the harvest and as he was expecting to be called up for National Service he agreed. He always loved the outdoors and when Mr. Chapman asked him to help Mr. Baker at Church Farm he went to plant potatoes in the field which had the track going across it. While working here he saw many people using the track walking their dogs etc. Mr Baker had left the track in the field for this purpose. John always assumed it was a right of way and it stayed that way for many years. We had two sons and in the 1970's and we would often do this circular walk. It was also a good walk to take visitors to show them the village.

We were keen walkers and became members of the Comberton Ramblers, helping to find local circular walks and many others. We do remember a permissive path being opened further down the drift but it was never quite the same, the views and the history were missing and being permissive it could be closed at any time. It is now more important than ever as has been proven by the virus outbreak and trying to get more people to walk for their health and wellbeing that these tracks are kept open and available to all. We really applaud you Paul for taking this up it should have been tackled long ago.

Please feel able to use this letter if it is any help.

Yours sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The top signature is 'J Poole' and the bottom signature is 'MA Poole'. Both are written in a cursive, flowing style.

John and Maureen Poole