Bath and North East Somerset Council have received an application to record a public footpath on the Definitive Map and Statement, which is the legal record of public rights of way.

The application relates to an unrecorded route commencing from a kissing gate (Point C on the below Consultation Plan) and proceeds in a generally northeasterly direction over the bridge which crosses the River Avon and continues to a junction with Bradford Road (A363) (Point F). However, while investigating the application the Council discovered that the Definitive Statement for BA1/32 (which is already recorded as a public footpath) may contain errors and omissions which would require rectifying; BA1/32 commences from a junction with Tyning Road (Point A) and proceeds over a level-crossing and fields to a kissing gate (Point C) and onwards to Point D. The Council is therefore consulting on whether the Definitive Map and Statement requires modification in respect of the route shown with a broken, red line between points A, B, C, D, E and F on the below Consultation Plan.

The application does not seek to create a new public right of way, but rather, it seeks to record a public right of way which the applicant believes already exists. This can be proven by using evidence from historical documents and/or by demonstrating that members of the public have used the route for more than 20 years ‘as of right’ (i.e. without force, without secrecy and without permission) and without the landowner demonstrating a lack of intention to dedicate during that time.

If you have any evidence relating to the Consultation Route, or you have previously used the Consultation Route and would like to complete a User Evidence Form, please contact the Council’s Public Rights of Way Team at prow@bathnes.gov.uk or on 01225 477650 no later than 5 January 2018.