

East Crosside Farm  
Knowstone  
South Molton  
Devon  
EX36 4RT

07802 423844  
26<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of 6<sup>th</sup> June. I am replying to you both as one of the organisers of the walk and also as the footpaths officer of the Parish Council.

Firstly, can I say as the creator of the flyer advertising the walk, I am very sorry for incorrectly marking the route. I was trying to draw a line indicating the footpath on a small picture on the computer screen by using a mouse – a somewhat challenging task. I also thought that I had described it as the “approximate route” but clearly that wasn’t on the final product. We always intended to go along the designated footpath.

As regards the incident behind the farmhouse, while waiting for some of the party to catch up, one of the walkers was intrigued by the item attached to the front of the tractor and was curious to know whether it was simply a counterweight or a specialised piece of equipment. My recollection is that he separated from me and another walker for less than a minute to view the tractor more closely before returning to us. I apologise for any offence or distress this caused you. I appreciate that I should have been more aware of this at the time.

As footpaths officer, I wondered if it might be a good idea to add some signs reminding people that they are walking through a working farm where there is heavy machinery and animals, and asking that they ensure that they stick to the correct route? In that case I am happy to supply additional waymarkers to ensure that at each point along the footpath it is completely clear where the path goes. Currently there are certain parts where this is not the case. Please let me know if you wish to discuss this with me.

Once again, please accept the apologies of the Hall Committee for any distress caused by the incident.

Yours sincerely,

John Pomfret