



Parish Clerk – Paul Richards (Temp)

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Tom Rankin
Project Manager – A27 Lewes to Polegate Project
National Highways
National Traffic Operations Centre
3 Ridgeway
Quinton Business Park
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B32 1AF

9 November 2021

Dear Mr Rankin,

Property owners in our parish have received letters from you dated 26 October 2021 requesting approval for your employees to enter private land in order to undertake survey work relating to the “National Highways A27 Lewes to Polegate Improvement Scheme”.

The letters, received by people who are still affected by long-running works on the current A27 improvement scheme and who, in many cases, have lived with the threat of various “improvements” over many years, have caused alarm and concern. Not least, this is because of some of the wording of the letters, on which I would be grateful for clarification.

The paragraph highlighted in bold on Page 2 of your letter states, inter alia, that “the request to access land...does not mean that your land/property will be directly affected by the construction or operation of the project” and later states that “there is no commitment to build the A27 Lewes Improvement Scheme”.

What is the project that you call the “A27 Lewes Improvement Scheme” and how far has it been developed? I believe that our MP, Maria Caulfield, who has shown great interest in the A27 question, would be as interested as we are in your response and I have therefore copied this letter to her.

We have a Parish Council meeting scheduled for 6 December 2021 at which we would like to discuss your letter and its implications. It would be helpful for that meeting if you could answer my query. In the meantime, our residents will not be able to meet your “deadline” of 15th November for the return of access permission forms.

From now onwards we respectfully request that all correspondence with residents is copied into the Parish Council so that we can support residents through this worrying procedure.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Susan Conway

Cllr Susan Conway
Chair, Chalvington with Ripe Parish Council