



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Report

Date: 11th June 2015
Title: LAF Members' Report
Author: Jonathan Clark, Strategic Access
Contact Officer: Sharon Griffin (01296 383691)

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- 1 The parcel of common land called Pinner Green (HP5 1UL), fenced off along the west side of Blackwell Hall Lane, Latimer, has been discussed at previous meetings. Following the LAF's letter to Chiltern district council on 17th December 2014, they agreed by letter on 11th February 2015, to pursue removal of the fence with the landowner. Since then the fence remains in situ, so the chairman wrote to the council for an update on 12th June 2015 ([Appendix 1](#)).

Joint LAF meeting

- 2 Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead council (RBWM) hosted another useful joint meeting between Buckinghamshire, Surrey, Mid & West Berks, Bracknell Forest and Slough LAF chairs/officers. The Buckinghamshire LAF have been invited to comment ([Appendix 2](#)) on a proposal to formally record the existing routes, which currently run along the Jubilee River between Maidenhead, Taplow, Dorney, Windsor and Eton, as bridleways. The county council hold a budget of £30,000, provided by the Environment Agency when the routes were created, which could be spent on upgrading and maintaining any of these routes. A further joint meeting was proposed, the date of which will be confirmed, but in the meantime, RBWM are seeking Buckinghamshire LAF comments.

National Trails

- 3 The Ridgeway Partnership was launched on 19th June 2015. This new group will include local authorities, the Chilterns Conservation Board, North Wessex Downs AONB, Natural England, the Chiltern Society and Friends of the Ridgeway. Partners will be dedicated to raising the profile of the trail, increasing the numbers using it and improving the benefits it brings to local economies. Sarah Wright, previously rights of way officer at Buckinghamshire county council, has been appointed the new Ridgeway Trail Officer.

Conferences

- 4 John Elfes attended the South East Local Access Forum Conference on Tuesday 19th May 2015 in London.

Local Highway Maintenance Challenge Fund Bid

- 5 The vice-chairman wrote to Ray Sainsbury, Highways Infrastructure, for Jacobs, London, to support the county's Local Highway Maintenance Challenge Fund Bid to the Department for Transport on 29th January 2015. At the 18th March 2015 LAF meeting members asked for an update. Unfortunately, the county bid for Local Road Renewals across Buckinghamshire was unsuccessful. The funding programme was heavily oversubscribed. Details of the successful bidders are provided at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/275-million-to-improve-local-roads>. Mr Sainbury writes: *'Despite this disappointing news, I am extremely grateful to the Buckinghamshire Local Access Forum for the support they gave at such short notice earlier this year'*.

LAF dates for 2015

- 6 The date of the next meeting is Wed 4th November 2015.