

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

The Buckinghamshire Local Access Forum is an independent, statutory advisory body on all matters relating to countryside access, with members representing a wide range of interests including farmers, landowners, walkers, cyclists, equestrians, parish councils, National Trust and those with disabilities.

22nd March 2017

CAMS Web

Dear Mr. Sutherland,

At the meeting of the Local Access Forum on 8th March 2017 members discussed the possible purchase by the council of CAMS Web. The discussion led us to conclude this software would be significantly advantageous to the Definitive Map Team, Rights of Way Operations Team, volunteers that support council staff and the public in general. We were informed a budgetary decision was being made at senior level.

We had a presentation at our November 2016 meeting from Jack Douglass outlining the proposed new TfB-led reporting system called Maintain My Street. However, this was for potholes and street lighting, and rights of way were not included. This leaves volunteers with the somewhat inferior 'Report It' system which has not properly kept the public informed of the progress and resolution of problems. At the time we asked for rights of way to be included in any Maintain My Street upgrade, but there was no timetable. During the meeting an officer from Oxfordshire outlined the CAMS Web system to us, describing its advantages in providing greater information about structures, releasing problems for volunteers to address, and providing information on the spatial distribution of stiles and gates across the network. This would be particularly beneficial to less able walkers who can plan trips to avoid stiles. Our member for the Disabled Ramblers has, for a number of years, been asking for such information to be provided on the website.

Clearly there are more advantages to the system that we didn't have time to discuss, but we feel that an early decision on purchasing the software would enable the user groups that many of our members represent to provide a better service and improved support both for your council staff and the wider public using the network.

Yours faithfully,



Richard Pushman (Chairman)