



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Report

AGENDA ITEM 4

Date: 5th July 2017

Title: Consultation: Wycombe District Council proposed closure of Footpath HWU/80 in High Wycombe

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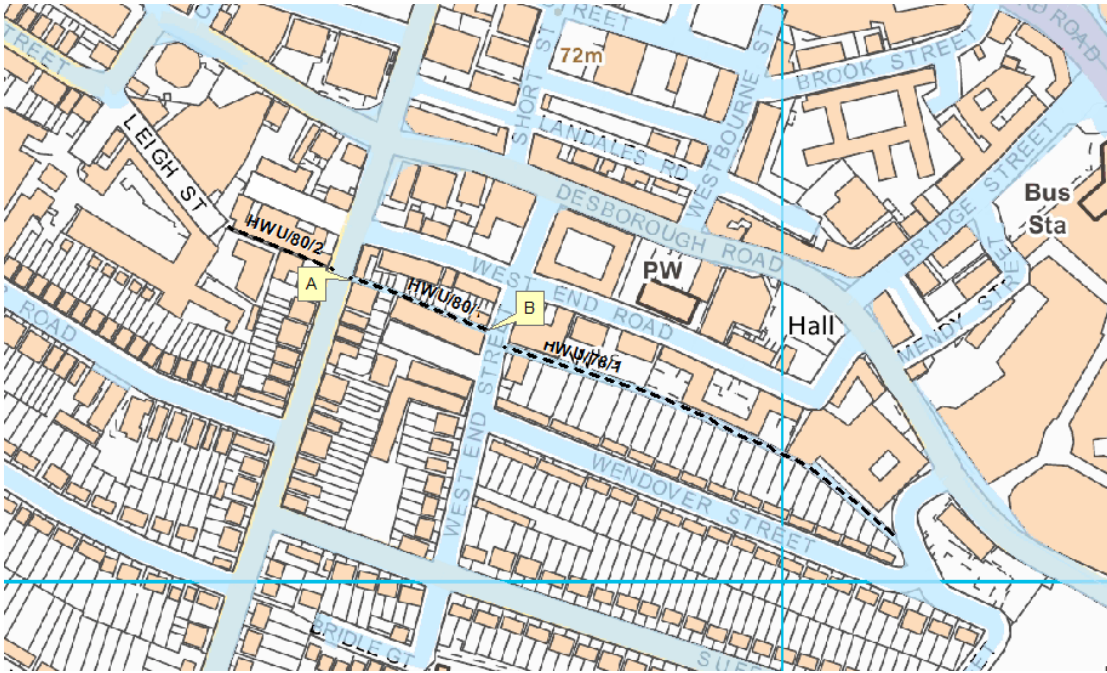
Please refer to Wycombe District Council's letter to residents in Appendix 2, the accompanying photos in Appendix 2A, and Wycombe Committee Report in Appendix 2B.

Wycombe District Council Members have suggested closing the footpath permanently from Point A to Point B. Cllr Lesley Clarke has suggested the closure having been in touch with the residents. They have been sending in reports of Anti-social behaviour and crime to her. The main issue affecting the residents is people hanging around drinking alcohol and shouting/swearing at all times of the day and night.

One consideration is that residents need to be given access to the footpath as it leads into their back gardens. A lockable gate would therefore be necessary leading to concerns that someone will leave the gate open, and other problems may ensue. The other concern is this will set a precedent for other residents whose homes back onto a footpath requesting their footpath is closed. Cllr Clarke has already been in touch about another footpath in this area. Policing is limited and CCTV is very costly.

A consultation will run from Friday 16th June 2017 to Friday 14th July 2017, the results of which will be taken to the High Wycombe Town Committee in September 2017 to get agreement to go ahead or not.

The Forums advice is sought on the necessity of the closure, if alternatives can be explored that avoid official closure or whether the Forum would like to formally object.



For further information please contact: Joanne Taylor 01296 387123