



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Report

AGENDA ITEM 7

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Title: LAF members' report

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1. The British Horse Society (BHS), Byways & Bridleways Trust, Ramblers and Open Spaces Society have written a paper entitled 'How can public access be improved post Brexit' [Appendix 2](#). This was present to the Defra Minister, Michael Gove, and copies sent to all Local Access Forums from Rachel Fraser of the BHS Access and Rights of Way Department - rachel.fraser@bhs.org.uk;
2. Alison Heath, LAF member representing the BHS, has written to the council regarding the surfacing along a bridleway in Haddenham called Green Lane ([Appendix 3](#)). The parish council have proposed to surface with bitumen as part of a plan to link the town to Aylesbury with a cycle route. The BHS advocate a new surface called Flexi-pave, composed of 'rubber crumb' which is less stressful on horses' joints than bitumen, but provides a relatively hard surface for walkers and cyclists. Further views and discussion on this subject is sought from the Forum.
3. Jacky Akam, Landscape Partnership Development Manager at the Chilterns Conservation Board, wrote to the Chairman following his attendance at a public event to promote the Chalk, Cherries and Chairs Landscape Partnership Project. Jacky requested a letter of support from the LAF that could accompany future funding bids, including to the Heritage Lottery and HS2 Community and Environment Fund (CEF). A background paper on the project is enclosed in [Appendix 4](#), with relevance to access outlined in 'Project B4 – Routes to the Past', and Richard's response is enclosed in [Appendix 5](#).

Public Spaces Protection Order

4. Chiltern District Council are consulting the Local Access Forum on a Public Spaces Protection Order. Members may recall the proposed Order in High Wycombe in 2017. This application is for restrictions in Chiltern District owned car parks, mainly relating to anti-social behaviour around misuse of vehicles, but there is mention of restrictions on cycling – see [Appendix 6](#). Member's views are sought.

Traffic Regulation Orders

5. Since the bridleway through Pulpit Wood (SP 835, 047) was upgraded to 'byway open to all traffic' in 2012 there has been an increase in 4 x 4 vehicles resulting in severe rutting and excessive mud, rendering the route through Pulpit Wood inconvenient for walkers, cyclists and horse riders. The Local Access Forum resolved on 8th March 2017 to recommend a Traffic Regulation Order for Byway 40 & 40A Great & Little Kimble Parish to ban 4x4 vehicles all year round, but allow motorbikes between June and October. This decision was taken to the Rights of Way Committee on 8th February 2018 where members agreed with the Local Access Forum's assessment. A legal Order will be made in due course and bollards installed to prevent future 4x4s. Andrew Clark requested the matter be raised today.

Annual Report

6. The Buckinghamshire LAF Annual Report for April 2016 – March 2017 has been drafted and members are asked to review and agree the content. Natural England have not requested a report for this period, but one has been produced for continuity, to record progress, and publicise the Forum's achievements on the website ([Appendix 7](#)).

Highways Improvement

7. A new surfaced track along the verge of the A413 was installed by the council between Aylesbury (the Buckingham Park roundabout SP 816, 160) and the junction with New Road, Weedon (SP 808, 176) – green line on [Appendix 8](#). This compliments an existing surfaced route (blue line) along New Road to connect Weedon residents with Aylesbury and the A413 bus stop. LAF member Glyn Thomas has suggested the section along New Road needs renewing / maintaining as it has become grassed-over and hopes the existing surface along the A413 can be maintained in future. Members' views are sought on the best way to secure a renewed surface along New Road to provide a seamless connection for walkers and cyclists between Weedon and Aylesbury. See also photos in [Appendix 9](#).

LAF dates for 2018

8. Future LAF meeting dates are: 25th July and 7th November 2018