



## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

**WEDNESDAY 25 JULY 2018 AT 10.00 AM  
MEZZANINE ROOM 2, COUNTY HALL, AYLESBURY**

### **AGENDA**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Page No</b>
<b>1 Apologies for Absence</b>	
<b>2 Declarations of Interest</b>	
<b>3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting/Matters Arising</b>	<b>3 - 8</b>
To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2018.	
<b>4 Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2008-2018 Review</b>	<b>9 - 10</b>
<b>5 Rights of Way Group Report</b>	<b>11 - 16</b>
Updates to be provided by:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Helen Francis – Definitive Map Team</li><li>• Jonathan Clark – Strategic Access Officer</li><li>• Joanne Taylor – Operations Team Leader</li></ul>	
<b>6 LAF Members' Report</b>	<b>17 - 18</b>
<b>7 Any Other Business</b>	
<b>8 Date of Next and Future Meetings</b>	

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 7 November 2018 at 10.00 a.m. in Mezz room 2, County Hall.

**There will be a 10 minute break at 11.00 a.m.**





# Buckinghamshire County Council

## Minutes

## *BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM*

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21 MARCH 2018, IN MEZZANINE ROOM 2, COUNTY HALL,  
AYLESBURY, COMMENCING AT 10.03 AM AND CONCLUDING AT 11.42 AM.**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr R Pushman, in the Chair

Mr W Chapple OBE, Mr D Briggs (Vice-Chairman), Mr J Elfes, Mr C Hurworth,  
Mr A T A Lambourne, Mr G Caspersz, Ms A Heath, Mr A Clark, Mr B Worrell and  
Mr C Harriss

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

Mr J Clark, Ms S Bradley, Ms J Taylor and Ms S Taylor

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from:

- Ms H Francis
- Mr N Harris
- Mr G Thomas

Ms J Taylor, Team Leader, Rights of Way (ROW), introduced Ms S Fradley, as the new Assistant Rights of Way Officer for the southern part of Buckinghamshire.

#### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **3. ACTION NOTES/MATTERS ARISING**

The Chairman asked the Forum to look through the previous minutes; the following point was raised:

- Page 4, item 7, second paragraph. The meeting papers had not been received; Mr J Clark, Strategic Access Officer, apologised for not posting out the agenda pack and said he would send them to the members for the next meeting.

There were no other matters arising.

**Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2017 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **4. REVIEW OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2008-18**

Mr J Clark highlighted that the Rights of Way Improvement Plan was a 10 year plan and Section 60 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 required the County Council to assess and review the plan by 1 January 2019. Mr Clark explained that a large proportion of the plan would remain the same; however, when it was written there was no austerity and it was important to scrutinise how well the County Council had done and what lessons could be learned. Mr Clark thought the Local Access Forum was the best committee to review the plan.

Mr A Lambourne, Parish Councils, said the existing plan had been ambitious and many objectives had not been met and suggested that the next plan not be made too ambitious. It was noted there was no capacity in the ROW team to write the plan; a person would be employed to work on the plan. Time needed to be factored in for the plan to be presented to the Rights of Way Committee and for Cabinet Member approval.

Mr B Chapple, BCC, updated the Forum on the announcement that Buckinghamshire could become a unitary authority and that the decision was open to comments by all until 25 May 2018. The Secretary of State would then make a final decision and, if Buckinghamshire became a unitary authority, it would come into effect on 1 April 2020. Mr Chapple made the following positive points:

- No capital money had been put into ROW for five years, but there was £900,000 for financial year 2018/19.
- Aylesbury Town had been made a Garden Town and the blue and green infrastructure would be protected.
- Simply Walks had been a major success and should be reflected in the new plan.
- Mr Chapple said he wanted the Forum to own the plan and add their comments.

Mr G Caspersz, mentioned that the Ramblers' Association had already discussed a proposal that farmers should be paid for making the countryside and farmland more accessible and that the money to be paid should be linked to the number of stiles, footpaths etc in the area. Mr Chapple added that the plan would cover a period of major development in Buckinghamshire and stressed the need for the plan to be strong enough to protect accessibility.

Mr C Harriss, BCC, said that the way paths were used now was very different due to the use by mountain bikers. Ms A Heath, British Horse Society (BHS), thought the plan should include how bridleways link up.

It was agreed that there should be a short Local Access Forum meeting on 25 July 2018 followed by a brainstorming session to review the existing Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

Mr J Clark was asked to email the link to the current plan to the forum, but pointed out the link was already on the agenda item briefing.

Mr B Worrell said he had been involved in the Hertfordshire ROW plan and offered to have a meeting with Mr J Clark to discuss points he felt were of value.

**Action: Mr J Clark/Mr Worrell**

## **5. RIGHTS OF WAY GROUP REPORT**

Mr A Clark, Chilterns Society, asked for clarification on the headings in the Definitive Map update and when the orders went out for public consultation. Ms Taylor said it would depend on the stage of the investigation as there would be an initial gathering of evidence/assessment, followed by any necessary consultation before publication of an order. He also asked whether he could discuss the ROW report with the Chilterns Society. It was confirmed that the ROW group report was a public document as it was published in the agenda pack and the Chairman agreed the parishes should be made aware. Mr J Clark said he would ask Ms Francis to provide a definitive answer.

**Action: Mr J Clark**

### **Section A - Matters Previously Determined by the Committee**

Mr A Lambourne asked about Item 1 – Edgcott. Ms Taylor said that the application to record Lawn House Lane as a public footpath was not confirmed due to lack of evidence. Mr J Clark said he would send a copy of the determination to Mr Lambourne.

**Action: Mr J Clark**

### **Section E - Strategic Access Update**

Mr J Clark highlighted the following points:

- HS2 – the ROW closures were being kept to a minimum and to date there had only been one closure of a bridleway next to the M25; other routes had been slightly diverted.
- Mr J Clark had resolved the issue of using metal protective matting on bridleways due to the danger to riders.
- Heathrow third runway – some of the access around Heathrow would be displaced out to other areas, particularly around Iver. Heathrow Airport Limited was looking to improve the existing routes and have short diversions where possible.
- Oxford to Cambridge Expressway – a linear project and concerns had already been raised around the ROW crossings, bridges and diversions. A decision on the route would be made in the summer 2018.
- Mr J Clark advised that “higher rights” mentioned at the end of item 4 meant the change from a footpath to a bridleway.
- Mr J Clark highlighted the great work the RIPPLE group continued to do.
- East/West Rail – there was no further update but it would be included in the report for the next meeting.

### **Section F – Rights of Way Operations Update**

Ms Taylor highlighted the following points:

- The team was now at full strength.
- Appendix 1 – The interim survey results showed 76% of paths were rated as easy to use; 91%, structures were rated as easy to use; and 92% routes with roadside signs.
- The matrix target times had shown a slight dip due to staff numbers.
- The number of volunteer jobs completed was slightly lower than last year but was still good. This was mainly due to the Chiltern Society being involved in helping with the devolved services and therefore losing some hours from the

volunteers.

- Currently, there were approximately four bridge closures but they should be open in the near future.
- The list of paths the Capital work money would be spent on.
- Over 300 bridge inspections would be undertaken in financial year 2018/19 which was slightly less than anticipated due to staff restrictions.
- Reed's Bridge in Iver, which had been closed for three years, would be replaced by the Canal and River Trust in the summer of 2018.
- Camsweb - There had been a slight delay but the order should be placed imminently and be in place by May/June 2018.

In response to a comment by Mr Hurworth who said that Hampshire County Council had two staff dedicated to liaising with volunteers and asked whether this could happen at BCC; Mr Chapple said that BCC worked well with their volunteers and Ms Taylor added that working with the volunteers was a priority for everyone in the ROW team.

## 6. LAF MEMBERS' REPORT

Mr J Clark highlighted the following:

- Item 1 - If anyone had any follow up comments to the paper entitled "How can public access be improved post Brexit"; these would be passed to the Defra Minister via Mr J Clark and the Bucks Local Access Forum.
- Item 2 - Mr J Clark apologised for not consulting with the BHS regarding the surfacing along a bridleway in Haddenham called Green Lane. Mr Clark explained that there would be a grass area set aside for horses on the route. Flexi-pave surfacing was being treated as an experimental surface at the moment. Ms Heath said the Haddenham bridleway came to a dead end and she understood it was part of a planned cycle track from Thame to Aylesbury and that it would be beneficial if the route could be accessible to riders as well. Mr Clark said that unfortunately there was no funding available to extend the route at the moment.
- Item 4 – Proposed Public Space Protection Order in Chiltern District owned car parks. Mr Clark advised he had commented that the use of cycling in their car parks should be removed or reworded to prevent inappropriate cycling. The Forum had nothing further to add and agreed to Mr Clark's proposal.
- Item 5 - Pulpit Wood byway closure – 4x4 owners could still access their field but bollards had been installed to prevent other 4x4 users. Ms Taylor confirmed there was a Kent gap between the bollards so carriage drivers could use the paths. Any issues to be reported to Ms Taylor.
- Item 6 - Annual report – any comments to be passed to Mr Clark.
- Item 7 - Mr G Thomas had asked Mr Clark to find out how funding could be obtained for the renewal of the surface of the section along New Road to provide a seamless connection for walkers and cyclists between Weedon and Aylesbury. The Chairman recommended a bid be made to the Greater Aylesbury Local Area Forum; Mr J Clark agreed to inform Mr Thomas.

**Action: Mr J Clark**

## 7. DATE OF NEXT AND FUTURE MEETINGS

Mezzanine Room 2, County Hall, Aylesbury

- 25 July 2018 at 10.00 am
- 7 November 2018 at 10.00 am
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## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Mr Briggs, Vice Chairman, said he had received complaints from Country Land and Business Association (CLA) members in Buckinghamshire about the new walking and jogging mobile phone apps which provided a route from one point to another; without using rights of way and created problems from the farmers point of view due to the legalities being unclear. Mr Briggs felt the apps should be looked into. Mr Chapple agreed it was worrying as it encouraged trespassing and advised Mr Briggs write a letter which he would pass to the relevant minister. Mr A Clark said the Chiltern Society had also had similar experiences with an app called "Strada".
- Mr B Worrell asked the Chairman if there had been any response to his letter to the Chalk, Cherries and Chairs Development team regarding the encouragement of volunteers from the Buckinghamshire Restoring the Record project engaging with their project. The Chairman said representations had been made to the parishes to act as a register point and emphasised the need for paths which were not registered to be registered and that this should be picked up.

**Chairman**







**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE  
LOCAL ACCESS FORUM**

# Report

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## AGENDA ITEM 4

**Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018  
**Title:** LAF ROWIP Review (90 mins)  
**Author:** Jonathan Clark  
**Contact Officer:** Sally Taylor (01296 531024)

The existing plan (Buckinghamshire ROWIP 2008-2018) expires this year and the Local Access Forum will today review its success in the form of a workshop. The existing document can be found here: <https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/environment/public-rights-of-way/future-of-rights-of-way/rights-of-way-improvement-plan/>

The aim is to highlight successes and short-comings of the council's performance over the plan period 2008 -2018 and address the extent to which the rights of way network has been improved for walkers, cyclists, equestrians, the partially sighted or those with reduced mobility in the last 10 years; and will mark progress to inform the development of ROWIP 2.

TABLE 1 Phil Turner (30mins)  
 THEME 1 MAPPING THE NETWORK; and  
 THEME 4 KNOWING WHERE TO GO

TABLE 2 Joanne Taylor (30 mins)  
 THEME 2 LOOKING AFTER THE NETWORK; and  
 THEME 5 LOOKING AFTER YOU AND THE ENVIRONMENT

TABLE 3 Jonathan Clark (30 mins)  
 THEME 3 CREATING NEW LINKS;  
 THEME 6 RIGHTS OF WAY FOR EVERYONE; and  
 THEME 8 WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Theme 1: Mapping the Network.....	25
Theme 2: Looking after the Network.....	32
Theme 3: Creating new links.....	42
Theme 4: Knowing Where to go.....	48
Theme 5: Looking after you and the Environment .....	53
Theme 6: Rights of Way for Everyone .....	59
Theme 7: Delivering the Corporate Agenda.....	64
Theme 8: Working in Partnership.....	70

NAME	10-15am – 10-45am	10-45am – 11.15am	11.15am – 11-45am
Cllr Mr Bill Chapple	TABLE 1	TABLE 2	TABLE 3
David Briggs	TABLE 1	TABLE 2	TABLE 3
John Elfes	TABLE 1	TABLE 2	TABLE 3
Neil Harris	TABLE 1	TABLE 2	TABLE 3
Chris Hurworth	TABLE 2	TABLE 3	TABLE 1
Alison Heath	TABLE 2	TABLE 3	TABLE 1
Cllr Mr Clive Harriss	TABLE 2	TABLE 3	TABLE 1
Andrew Clark	TABLE 2	TABLE 3	TABLE 1
Gavin Caspersz	TABLE 3	TABLE 1	TABLE 2
Glyn Thomas	TABLE 3	TABLE 1	TABLE 2
Richard Pushman	TABLE 3	TABLE 1	TABLE 2
Brian Worrell	TABLE 3	TABLE 1	TABLE 2

**For further information please contact: Jonathan Clark 01296 387695**



## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

# Report

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## AGENDA ITEM 5

**Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**Title:** Rights of Way group update

**Authors:** Helen Francis, Interim Definitive Map and Local Land Charges Team Leader; Jonathan Clark, Strategic Access Officer; and Joanne Taylor, Team Leader – Rights of Way Operations

**Contact Officer:** Sally Taylor (01296 531024)

### Definitive Map Team – Outstanding Caseload

#### The Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to appraise Members of the Forum of the outstanding Definitive Map caseload undertaken by the Definitive Map Team.

#### A. MATTERS PREVIOUSLY DETERMINED BY RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

1. **Great Missenden** – application to record route across Widmer Field. **Application dated 10 October 2014. The Order was advertised and objections received; the Order and objections have been referred to the Secretary of State for determination.**
2. **Denham** – application to upgrade Shire Lane from bridleway to restricted byway. **Application dated 23 January 2016. Order to be made shortly.**
3. **Chenies, Chalfont St Peter, Denham** – application to record Shire Lane as part restricted byway and part byway open to all traffic. **Application dated 14 March 2016. Order to be made shortly.**
4. **Great and Little Kimble and Ellesborough** – Prohibition Order along BOAT Nos. 40, 40A and 62 – **Instructions sent to Legal to draft Order.**

#### B. DEFINITIVE MAP APPLICATIONS TO BE INVESTIGATED AND REPORTED TO COMMITTEE.

All Definitive Map Modification applications are dealt with in chronological order of receipt. However, we will prioritise certain applications under the following circumstances:

- I. The evidence in support (either fully or in part) of the application is that of User Evidence

- II. There is a threat of development affecting the claimed route
- III. If the evidence in support of the application is shared with another application within the chronological list and it would be efficient to investigate the applications concurrently

1. **Chepping Wycombe** – application to record route between public footpath No. 14 and No. 15 Parish of Chepping Wycombe. **Application dated 14 September 2015. Investigation not started, discussions with developer regarding a Creation Agreement.**
2. **Marlow** – application to record a public footpath from Cromwell Gardens to New Court. **Application dated 15 January 2016. Under investigation – scheduled for late-2018 Committee.**
3. **Thornborough** – application to record a public footpath around the field off Back Street. **Application dated 6 January 2016. Investigation not started – scheduled for late-2018 Committee.**
4. **Little Chalfont** - application to record a public footpath around Statters Field off Burton Lane. **Application dated 13 January 2016. Investigation not started – scheduled for early-2019 Committee.**
5. **Wooburn** – application to upgrade Public Footpath No. 3 between Princes Road Groves Close to byway open to all traffic. **Application dated 26 February 2016 – scheduled for early-2019 Committee meeting.**
6. **Longwick-cum-Ilmer** – application to record the route through Wellington House passageway as a Public Footpath. **Application dated 23 May 2016. Application re-prioritised as affected by development – creation agreement for claimed route completed; application rejected at Rights of Way Committee meeting on the grounds that the route now exists. CASE CLOSED.**
7. **Hazlemere** - application to record various routes in the field adjacent to Public Footpath No. 8 and Public Bridleway No. 6, Parish of Hazlemere as Public Footpaths. **Application dated 23 April 2016 – scheduled for early-2019 Committee meeting.**
8. **Chesham** – Application to add a Public Footpath to the Definitive Map between Fair Leas and Asheridge Road. **Application received 20 December 2016 – scheduled for mid-2019 Committee meeting.**
9. **High Wycombe** – Application to add a Public Footpath to the Definitive Map between Pinewood Road and Public Footpath No. 93. **Application received 3 October 2017 – scheduled for mid-2019 Committee meeting.**
10. **Stokenchurch** - Application to add routes to the Definitive Map at East Wood, Stokenchurch. **Application received 9 October 2017 – scheduled for mid-2019 Committee meeting.**
11. **Penn** – Application to add a route to the Definitive Map between Public Footpath No. 36 and No. 44. **Application received 19 December 2017 – scheduled for late-2019 Committee meeting.**
12. **Hedgerley** – application to upgrade public footpath No. 14 to public bridleway status based on historical evidence. **Application dated 5 December 2013. Under Investigation – scheduled for late-2018 Committee.**

13. **Quanton** – application to upgrade public footpath No. 4 to public bridleway status. **Application dated 21 October 2014. Investigation not started – scheduled for late-2019 Committee.**
14. **Bledlow** – application to investigate the alignment of public footpath No. 52. **Application dated 19 December 2013. Investigation not started – scheduled for late-2019 Committee.**
15. **Hedgerley** – application to upgrade public footpath No. 11 and No. 12 to public bridleway status. **Application dated 25 June 2015. Investigation not started – scheduled for early-2020 Committee.**
16. **Whaddon** – application to modify the alignment of Public Footpath No. 6. **Application dated 4 February 2016. Investigation not started – scheduled for early-2020 Committee meeting.**
17. **Lillingstone Dayrell** – application to upgrade Public Footpath No.1 to restricted byway status. **Application dated 15 February 2016 - scheduled for early-2020 Committee meeting.**
18. **Lillingstone Dayrell** – application to upgrade Public Footpath No. 2 to public bridleway status. **Application dated 15 February 2016 – scheduled for mid-2020 Committee meeting.**
19. **Chenies** application to add Hollaway Road to the Definitive Map and Statement as a byway open to all traffic. **Application dated 29 February 2016 – scheduled for mid-2020 Committee meeting.**
20. **Leckhampstead** – application to upgrade Public Footpath No. 13 and 18 to Public Bridleway and add a route as Public Bridleway. **Application dated 26 May 2016 – scheduled for mid-2020 Committee meeting.**
21. **Leckhampstead** - Application to upgrade Public Footpath No. 5 (part) to Public Bridleway and add a route which connects with No.5 as Public Bridleway. **Application dated 21 June 2016 – scheduled for late-2020 Committee meeting.**
22. **Water Stratford** – application to add a claimed bridleway to the Definitive Map and Statement, Parish of Water Stratford – **scheduled for late-2020 Committee meeting.**

### **C. PUBLIC PATH ORDERS**

23. **Quarrendon** – Application to divert Footpath No. 2. **Order Made, waiting for completion of works.**
24. **Biddlesden and Turweston** – Application to divert Public Footpaths No. 6 and 8. **Order made and advertised, no objections received, works completed, awaiting confirmation of the Order.**
25. **Buckingham** – Application to divert Bridleway No. 13 (part). **Order made and advertised, no objections received, awaiting completion of works.**
26. **Tingewick** – Application to divert Footpaths Nos. 29(part) and 31 and Stop Up Footpath No. 30(part) and create new Footpath and Bridleway – **Order made, awaiting completion of works.**

27. **Weston Turville** – Application to divert Footpath No. 33 – **in discussion with applicant and neighbouring landowner.**
28. **The Lee** – Application to divert Footpath No. 6 – **Awaiting a draft Order.**
29. **High Wycombe** – Application to extinguish Footpath No. 27. Wycombe District Council planning matter. Order made and confirmed by WDC. **Awaiting developer works before bringing Order into effect.**
30. **Wing** – Application to stop up Footpath No. 14 – **works completed, awaiting adoption of alternative route.**
31. **Mursley, Swanbourne and Little Horwood** – Application to divert Public Footpaths No. 19, 20 and 27. **Awaiting completion of works on site.**
32. **Lane End** – Application to divert Footpath No. 9 – **Order made, no objections received, awaiting for completion of works on site.**
33. **Shabbington** – Application to divert Footpath No. 6 – **Awaiting confirmed Order.**
34. **Shabbington** – Application to divert Footpath No. 5 – **Awaiting draft Order.**
35. **Chepping Wycombe** – Application to divert Footpath No. 47 – **Made Order to be advertised.**
36. **Coleshill** – Application to divert Footpath No. 1 – **Legal to be instructed to make an Order.**
37. **Calvert Green and Steeple Claydon** – Application to temporary divert Footpaths No. 5 and 17 for quarry works – **Made Order to be advertised.**
38. **Quarrendon** – Application to divert Footpath No. 3 – **Investigation not started.**
39. **Iver** – Application to temporary divert Footpath No. 15 for quarry works – **Confirmed. CASE CLOSED.**
40. **Tingewick** – Application to divert Footpath No. 2 – **Made Order to be advertised.**
41. **Chesham** – Application to extinguish part of the width of Footpath No. 114 – **Under investigation.**
42. **Aston Clinton** – Application to divert Footpaths Nos. 3, 4 and 6 under the Town and Country Planning Act – **Instructions to be sent to Legal to make Order.**
43. **Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell** – Application to divert Footpath No. 6 – **Investigation not started.**
44. **Great Missenden** – Application to divert Footpath No. 35 - **Investigation not started.**
45. **Weston Turville** – Application to divert Footpath No. 11 – **Investigation not started.**
46. **Denham** – Application to divert Footpath No. 47 – **Investigation not started.**
47. **Fulmer** – Application to divert Footpath No. 2 – **Investigation not started.**

48. **Stoke Mandeville** – Application to divert Footpaths Nos. 3 and 14 – **Investigation not started.**

#### **D. VILLAGE GREEN APPLICATIONS**

49. **High Wycombe** – land at Meadow Close, Wycombe Marsh. **Public Inquiry held 15-17 March 2017, report will be presented to Rights of Way meeting in March 2018. Application refused. CASE CLOSED.**

50. **Wooburn** – land off Cherwell Road, Bourne End. **Investigation not started.**

51. **High Wycombe** – land off Warren Wood Drive. **Investigation not started.**

#### **Background Papers**

None

**For further information please contact: Helen Francis 01296 387123**

#### **E. STRATEGIC ACCESS UPDATE (JONATHAN CLARK)**

52. We are beginning to develop better relations and attend pre-application meetings with HS2's contractors to ensure minimal disruption to the network during construction. We continue to process applications under Schedule 4, Part 2 of the HS2 Act 2017 to grant permission for HS2 related works. At present these include environmental mitigation (habitat creation and species surveys), archaeology (trial trenching) and utility works (moving electricity cables, gas and water pipes, etc.). Rights of Way also attend bi-monthly meetings with HS2 and their contractors as part of the Traffic Liaison Group. Denham Bridleway 3 alongside the M25 near Maple Cross (Chalfont Lane) will now be closed for over 7 years, but this gives us the opportunity to ask Highways England to repair the long-broken lights through the M25 underpass as it forms the alternative route. This year will likely see the number of closures increasing, such the Great Missenden Haul Road, located above the A418 Missenden bypass roundabout, which commences construction this year. We are also liaising closely with Groundwork (for the Colne Valley) and Chilterns Conservation Board (for the Missenden Valley) to steer additional mitigation spending towards access improvements.
53. A bilateral meeting has taken place with Heathrow Airport Ltd regarding the 3<sup>rd</sup> Runway and associated development. We are looking at possible displacement into Buckinghamshire of recreational space and access routes following severance during construction and operation. They have consulted the council on a proposed Land Use plan and we hope to draw-up some strategic connections from Heathrow to Iver, Black Park and Pinewood Studios, with possible cycling commuter routes from local towns and villages. The rights of way team are paid hourly to undertake work requested in this area.
54. This year we hope to improve the surface along two footpaths in Bierton parish (BWB/9/1 and BWB/15/1) between the new Kingsbrook development (land east of Aylesbury) and the local Church of England Combined School on Parson's Lane (HP22 5DF). Works are due to take place over the 2018 school summer holidays.
55. This year we are working with the Ridgeway Officer to install 7 new gates along this National Trail which comply with BS 5709: 2018 to allow better access for mobility vehicles.
56. District Council planning consultations come in apace, with the number affecting rights of way remaining high. We're also working to ensure good outcomes for

walkers, cyclists and horse riders on a number of new road projects, including the Stoke Mandeville Bypass, the South East Aylesbury Link Road and Beaconsfield (A355) link road. Detailed applications for Major Development Areas have been consulted upon by AVDC with rights of way implications in Haddenham, Aylesbury and Buckingham. Some WDC allocated sites have seen outline applications on major sites, such as Slate Meadow (Bourne End), Abbey Barn South (High Wycombe) and Ashwells (Chepping Wycombe).

57. The Chilterns Donate-a-Gate has seen a surge of 13 new donors in the first 6 months of 2018, including one £5,000 donation worth 20 gates. We have also had a generous donation of £5,000 from the Ramblers via RIPPLE's (North Bucks) Donate-a-Gate Scheme, used to purchase of new gates.

#### **F. ROW OPERATIONS UPDATE (Joanne Taylor)**

58. The current staff structure is 6 FTE staff: 1 RoW Team Leader, 2 Area RoW Officers, 2 Assistant RoW Officers and 1 Bridge Structure Inspector. All posts are currently filled.

59. Appendix 1 shows the Rights of Way Operations output from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018, and it includes a break-down of works undertaken by volunteers. A third column has been added including work completed so far this year.

60. Recent projects update:

- replacement of the deck on an equestrian bridge on Denham BW52 – work completed March 2018;
- replacement of a footbridge in Wendover - work completion March 2018;
- replacement of a footbridge Preston Bissett FP18 - work completed March 2018.

61. Capital money has been acquired for works to be carried out on the following paths this financial year:

- Iver bridleway number 30 bridge replacement;
- Chesham FP107 bridge renovation;
- Great Missenden FP33 A413 bank steps;
- Bledlow BW59 surface works;
- Thames Path Marlow 1 Surface/Bank stabilisation–joint project National Trails;
- Stewkley FP2/2 surface and drainage works
- Great Marlow BW52 Gullied surface repairs
- Ivinghoe FP37 - Bridge replacement and
- Ellesborough BW51 surface works.

62. Wexham BW21 improvements have been put on hold due to a possible county council planning application to carry out major groundworks on the site. Other works could be undertaken instead.

63. Rights of way bridge structure routine inspections: over 500 - 600 bridge structures will be inspected this financial year. There are currently 78 bridge repairs or replacements outstanding across the county.

64. It is anticipated that extra crews will be deployed for a few weeks this year to try and 'get on top of' the summer surface clearance schedule.

**For further information please contact: Joanne Taylor 01296 383410**





## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

# Report

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## AGENDA ITEM 6

**Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**Title:** LAF members' report

**Author:** Jonathan Clark, Strategic Access Officer

**Contact Officer:** Sally Taylor (01296 531024)

### Correspondence

1. Brian Worrell submitted a written response on behalf of the British Driving Society Beds, Bucks and Herts in preparation for today's ROWIP review, which is enclosed in Appendix 2.
2. Glyn Thomas wrote to TfB requesting more regular verge-side grass cutting of the walking and cycling route along the A413 to Weedon from Aylesbury. TfB's response is as follows:

*The length of road in question is subject to a single rural grass cut a year. Last year we utilised the road planings generated from the resurfacing works at Watermead cross roads junction to overlay the diminishing rural footway up to Weedon.*

*Unfortunately, due to the constant reductions in grass cutting budgets every year, we can only cut the grass once. The rest of the budget is focused on clearing the grass at junction vision splays.*

*The A413 is due to have its cut starting next week. I have already arranged for the contractor to prioritise the A413 from Aylesbury to Whitchurch due to receiving quite a number of complaints.*

### LAF dates for 2018

3. Next LAF meeting date: 7<sup>th</sup> November 2018

