



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Report

AGENDA ITEM 5

Date: 25th 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. **Quainton** – 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 3rd 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 1st April 2016 to 31st 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