



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Report

AGENDA ITEM 5

Date: 6th November 2019

Title: Rights of Way group update

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DEFINITIVE MAP TEAM

The Purpose of the Report

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

A. MATTERS PREVIOUSLY DETERMINED BY 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 Order made and advertised, objections received but have now been withdrawn so the Order will be confirmed.**
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. Connected with No.2 above. Order made and advertised, objections received but have now been withdrawn so the Order will be confirmed.**
4. **Great and Little Kimble and Ellesborough** – Prohibition Order along BOAT Nos. 40, 40A and 62. **Draft Order advertised, objections received and under consideration. Amendments to the Order have been made and are awaiting comments before being made.**
5. **Hedgerley** – application to upgrade public footpath No. 14 to public bridleway status based on historical evidence. **Application dated 5 December 2013. Application accepted by Committee. An Order will be made and advertised.**

6. **Thornborough** – application to record a public footpath around the field off Back Street. **Application dated 6 January 2016. Application presented to Committee and rejected. CASE CLOSED.**
7. **Little Chalfont** - application to record a public footpath around Statters Field off Burton Lane. **Application dated 13 January 2016. Application presented to Committee and accepted. An Order will be made and advertised.**

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.**
 3. **Wooburn** – application to upgrade Public Footpath No. 3 between Princes Road Groves Close to byway open to all traffic. **Application dated 26 February 2016. Under investigation.**
 4. **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. Under investigation.**
 5. **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. Under investigation.**
 6. **Chesham** – Application to add a Public Footpath to the Definitive Map between Fair Leas and Asheridge Road. **Application received 20 December 2016.**
 7. **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.**
 8. **Stokenchurch** - Application to add routes to the Definitive Map at East Wood, Stokenchurch. **Application received 9 October 2017.**
 9. **Penn** – Application to add a route to the Definitive Map between Public Footpath No. 36 and No. 44. **Application received 19 December 2017.**

10. **Whitchurch** – 3 new applications received to add footpaths to the Definitive Map and Statement – Awaiting acknowledgement and addition to the register of applications. **Investigations not started.**
11. **Whaddon** – application to add a Public Footpath to the Definitive Map between Whaddon Hall and Public Footpath No.6. **Application received 21 December 2018.**
12. **Buckingham** – application to add a Public Bridleway to the Definitive Map following the dismantled railway walk from the A421 to Tingewick Road. **Application dated 14 May 2019.**
13. **Chalfont St Peter** – application to add a Public Footpath to the Definitive Map at Windmill Farm connecting Public Footpath No 19 with Footpath no 55. **Application dated 17 July 2019.**
14. **Chesham** – application to add various routes south of Nashleigh Hill to the Definitive Map connecting with Public Footpath nos. 117, 37 and 67. **Application dated 23 August 2019.**
15. **Chesham** – application to add two routes to the Definitive Map from Lye Green Road connecting with footpath 37. **Application dated 23 August 2019.**
16. **Quinton** – application to upgrade public footpath No. 4 to public bridleway status. **Application dated 21 October 2014. Investigation not started.**
17. **Bledlow** – application to investigate the alignment of public footpath No. 52. **Application dated 19 December 2013. Investigation not started.**
18. **Hedgerley** – application to upgrade public footpath No. 11 and No. 12 to public bridleway status. **Application dated 25 June 2015. Investigation not started.**
19. **Whaddon** – application to modify the alignment of Public Footpath No. 6. **Application dated 4 February 2016. Investigation not started.**
20. **Lillingstone Dayrell** – application to upgrade Public Footpath No.1 to restricted byway status. **Application dated 15 February 2016.**
21. **Lillingstone Dayrell** – application to upgrade Public Footpath No. 2 to public bridleway status. **Application dated 15 February 2016.**
22. **Chenies** application to add Hollaway Road to the Definitive Map and Statement as a byway open to all traffic. **Application dated 29 February 2016.**
23. **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.**
24. **Water Stratford** – application to add a claimed bridleway to the Definitive Map and Statement, Parish of Water Stratford.

C. PUBLIC PATH ORDERS – decisions made by officers through their delegated powers.

1. **Quarrendon** – Application to divert Footpath No. 2. **Order Made, awaiting for completion of works.**

2. **Buckingham** – Application to divert Bridleway No. 13 (part). **Order made and advertised, no objections received, Order confirmed and brought into effect. CASE CLOSED.**
3. **Dorney** – Creation of footpath. **Awaiting signed creation agreement.**
4. **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.**
5. **Weston Turville** – Application to divert Footpath No. 33 – **Order made and advertised, no objections received, awaiting notice for confirmation and bringing into effect. Cycle Track Order to be made following diversion.**
6. **The Lee** – Application to divert Footpath No. 6 – **Order advertised, objection received. Ownership has now changed, awaiting clarification of proposed works from new landowner before proceeding.**
7. **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.**
8. **Wing** – Application to stop up Footpath No. 14 – **works completed, awaiting adoption of alternative route.**
9. **Mursley, Swanbourne and Little Horwood** – Application to divert Public Footpaths No. 19, 20 and 27. **Awaiting completion of works on site.**
10. **Lane End** – Application to divert Footpath No. 9 – **Order made, no objections received, Confirmed and brought into effect**
11. **Shabbington** – Application to divert Footpath No. 6 – **Works completed. Awaiting notice to bring it into effect.**
12. **Shabbington** – Application to divert Footpath No. 5 – **Confirmed Order advertised. Awaiting works.**
13. **Coleshill** – Application to divert Footpath No. 1 – **Made Order advertised and confirmed. CASE CLOSED.**
14. **Calvert Green and Steeple Claydon** – Application to temporary divert Footpaths No. 5 and 17 for quarry works – **Temporary Traffic Regulation Order to be made until works finished. CASE CLOSED.**
15. **Quarrendon** – Application to divert Footpath No. 3 – **Investigation not started.**
16. **Chesham** – Application to extinguish part of the width of Footpath No. 114 – **Order made and objection received and being considered.**
17. **Aston Clinton** – Application to divert Footpaths Nos. 3, 4 and 6 under the Town and Country Planning Act – **Order made, confirmed awaiting works to bring into effect**
18. **Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell** – Application to divert Footpath No. 6 – **Order made and advertised, awaiting notice for confirmation and bringing into effect.**

19. **Stoke Mandeville** – Application to divert Footpaths Nos. 3 and 14 – **Request sent to make an order.**
20. **Weston Turville** – Application to divert Footpath No. 21. **Order confirmed. Awaiting works to be completed.**
21. **Stewkley** – Application to divert Footpath No. 19. **Order confirmed. Awaiting works to be completed.**
22. **Aylesbury** – Application to extinguish Footpath No. 7. **Order made. Request sent to confirm Order**
23. **Little Missenden** – Application to divert Footpath No. 8. **Application declined. CASE CLOSED.**
24. **Slapton** – Application to divert Footpath No. 14. **Order made, awaiting works.**
25. **Thornborough** – Application to divert Footpath No. 6. **Under investigation.**
26. **Slapton** – Application to divert Footpath No. 6. **Order made, awaiting works.**
27. **Lane End** – Application to divert Bridleway No. 14. **Under investigation.**
28. **Beachampton** – Application to divert Footpath No. 12. **Under investigation.**
29. **Stowe** – Application to divert Footpath No. 13. **Under investigation.**
30. **Tingewick** – Application to divert Footpath No. 25. **Under investigation.**
31. **Hambleden** – Application to divert Footpath No. 44. **Under investigation.**
32. **Stowe** – Application to divert Bridleway No. 2. **Under investigation.**
33. **Chepping Wycombe** – Application to divert Footpath No 45. **Under investigation.**
34. **Waddesdon** – Application to divert Footpath No. 7A. **Under Investigation.**
35. **Buckingham** – Application to divert Footpath No. 36. **Investigation not started.**
36. **Aston Abbot** – Application to divert Footpath No. 1. **Investigation not started.**

D. VILLAGE GREEN APPLICATIONS

1. **Wooburn** – land off Cherwell Road, Bourne End. **Investigation not started.**
2. **High Wycombe** – land off Warren Wood Drive. **Investigation not started.**

Background Papers

None

For further information please contact: Phil Fox 01296 383342

E. STRATEGIC ACCESS UPDATE (JONATHAN CLARK)

1. The Government announced an independent review into the HS2 programme on 21st August 2019, looking at: benefits, impacts, affordability, efficiency, deliverability,

scope and phasing. The main HS2 works contractors continue with archaeology, ecology and fencing works to cordon-off areas of land needed for construction. In the main, rights of way remain open, but closures are detailed on the council's website at the following location, named 'HS2 Construction Closures and Diversions' with maps enclosed.

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/environment/public-rights-of-way/changes-to-public-rights-of-way/>

2. The council has proposed a vision for a 'Buckinghamshire Greenway' (APPENDIX 1): a walking and cycling route stretching from Milton Keynes and Brackley to Uxbridge and Heathrow Airport. The route would support economic growth, sustainable tourism, healthy lifestyles and help reduce road congestion. It aims to provide a long distance route through the county and local links with villages and Aylesbury Garden Town. Equestrian use of these routes will be pursued wherever possible. The Waddesdon Greenway forms part of the route, which has recorded over 70,000 trips in the first year since opening. In addition, Sustrans has recently been allocated £2m for construction of two sections of the route: 1) a river crossing at Haydon Hill connecting Aylesbury town with Aylesbury Vale Parkway Station; and 2) a route between Wendover and Uxbridge (the 'Misbourne Greenway'). The council has further written to the Department of Transport to try and ensure HS2 does not obstruct plans for the route. Further discussion on this topic will be on the LAF agenda for March 2019 when more information will be available.
3. Officers are looking at a possible new walking and cycling route between new developments at Buckingham Park, Aylesbury and Berryfields. It is likely to run north of the Thames River and south of the Quarrendon Scheduled monument, partly along rights of way, but mainly on land owned by AVDC.
4. The Wycombe Local Plan has now been adopted, while the Princes Risborough Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is proposed to be adopted in March 2020. AVDC were hoping to consult on their Local Plan modifications week commencing 14th October 2019, but hope to fully publish by the end of 2019. The South Bucks and Chiltern Local Plan was been submitted to the Inspector at the end of August 2019 and they are now waiting for an 'examination in public' hearing date.
5. Expressway: there will be a 10-week consultation 'this autumn' on multiple routes, but it will be within the original, broad route corridor or study area previously highlighted. The consultation will be accompanied by a Technical Assessment report. At the September 2019 the council's growth board the council said it would 'object to the whole concept of the Expressway' and AVDC cabinet will also oppose. At the consultation stage it is proposed to discuss a suggestion to develop a parallel cycleway between Oxford and Cambridge. Highways England will probably not be consulting on the proposed 1 million houses that would accompany Expressway.
6. East West Rail impacts on around 25 rights of way on the currently disused Varsity Line between Oxford, Bletchely and Cambridge. The Transport and Works Act is likely to come into force in December 2019. A construction start date is uncertain at present, but it is assumed during 2020. Alternative routes will be either along the existing network or along field edges to roadside on private land wherever possible and within the Act limits.
7. The Chiltern's Donate-a-Gate has seen 7 new donors since 24th July 2019 totalling 8 gates. The Ramblers Donate-a-Gate project through RIPPLE's (North Bucks) continues apace installing at least 1 gate per week. The team of volunteers are keen to start repairing sleeper bridges, which has support from Joanne Taylor, once they have undertaken training.

For further information please contact: Jonathan Clark 01296 387695

F. ROW OPERATIONS UPDATE (Joanne Taylor)

37. The current staff structure is 6 FTE staff: 1 Rights of Way Team Leader, 2 Area RoW Officers, 2 Assistant RoW Officers and 1 Bridge Inspector. The bridge inspection officer has returned from maternity leave. Phillip Fox started with the team on a part-time contract up to the financial year end. Phillip will be helping to deliver the bridge and surface capital works.
38. APPENDIX 2 shows the Rights of Way Operations output from 1st April 2017 to the 30st September 2019, including a break-down of works undertaken by volunteers. A third column has been added including work completed up to the end of September 2019. Significantly, we have seen a 40% increase in the number of issues and reports coming in via the new online reporting system. This has resulted in a percentage decrease in the number of issues being resolved in target time and an increase in the number of outstanding issues to 2,323.
39. Capital projects update:
- Chesham FP107 bridge renovation - completed;
 - 2nd Thames Path Marlow 1 surface/bank stabilisation – completed;
 - Fawley FP12 – bridge replacement – August/September - start delayed;
 - Longwick Cum Ilmer Byway 1- work ongoing; and
 - Bridleway bridges on Three Points Lane, Middle Claydon – contract awarded.
40. Fawley Footpath Number 12 was set for a programme date in May/June 2019, which was then set back to August 2019 following Henley Regatta. Due to issues with access to the site and ongoing negotiations regarding the design of the structure with one of the adjoining landowners, a further programme date for September 2019 was also missed. Discussions with the landowners are ongoing, but no further programme dates have been set at the time of writing.

For further information please contact: Joanne Taylor 01296 383410