



Buckinghamshire Local Access Forum agenda

Date: Wednesday 13th July 2022

Time: 10:00 am

Venue: The Paralympic Room, Buckinghamshire Council, Gatehouse Road, HP19 8FF

Membership:

Mr D Briggs (NFU, CLA, farming, Chairman of the Bucks CLA, Chairman of the Chilterns LEADER) (Vice-Chairman), Cllr S Broadbent, Mr G Casperz (Disabled Ramblers), Mr A Clark (Chiltern Society), Mr N Harris (National Trust), Ms A Heath (British Horse Society), Mr C Hurworth (Trail Riders' Fellowship and MPV users), Mr R Jennings (Cycling UK), R Johnson (Ramblers Association), Mr A Lambourne (Parish Councils), R Pushman (Bucks Conservation Trust & Bucks Heritage Champion) (Chairman), Mr G Thomas (Independent), Cllr A Turner and Mr B Worrell (British Driving Society Beds, Bucks and Herts)

There will be a 10-minute break at 11am

| Agenda Item | Page No |
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| 1 Apologies for Absence | |
| 2 Declarations of Interest | |
| 3 Matters Arising | 3 - 8 |
| 4 Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation Jonathan Clark, Snr Strategic Access Officer. | 9 - 12 |
| 5 Flexi-Pave Peter Beavon, KBI UK. | 13 - 16 |
| 6 Staff Update Joanne Taylor, Rights of Way Operations Team Leader & Claire Hudson, Definitive Map and Highways Searches Team Leader. | 17 - 18 |

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| 7 | East West Rail Update | 19 - 22 |
| | Claire Hudson, Definitive Map and Highways Searches Team Leader; Jonathan Clark, Snr Strategic Access Officer. | |
| 8 | Rights of Way Group Update | 23 - 36 |
| | Claire Hudson, Definitive Map and Highways Searches Team Leader; Jonathan Clark, Strategic Access Officer; and Joanne Taylor, Rights of Way Operations Team Leader. | |
| 9 | LAF Members' Report | 37 - 44 |
| 10 | Any Other Business | |
| 11 | Date of the Next Meeting | |
| | 2nd November 2022. | |

If you would like to attend a meeting, but need extra help to do so, for example because of a disability, please contact us as early as possible, so that we can try to put the right support in place.

For further information please contact Harry Thomas by email at:
democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.



Buckinghamshire Local Access Forum minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Buckinghamshire Local Access Forum held on Wednesday 2 March 2022 in The Paralympic Room, Buckinghamshire Council, Gatehouse Road, HP19 8FF, commencing at 10.02 am and concluding at 11.53 am.

Members present

Mr D Briggs, Cllr S Broadbent, Mr G Casperz, Mr A Clark, Mr N Harris, Ms A Heath, Mr C Hurworth, Mr R Jennings, Mr R Johnson, Mr R Pushman (Chairman), Mr G Thomas, Cllr A Turner and Mr B Worrell

Others in attendance

Ms R Binstead, Mr J Clark, Ms J Taylor and Ms N Thomas

Apologies

Mr A Lambourne

Agenda Item

2 Declarations of interest

Councillor S Broadbent declared a personal interest in agenda item 5 as Chair of the East West Rail Main Line Partnership.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting / matters arising

Jonathan Clark, Strategic Access Officer, raised the following point on behalf of Richard Jennings, Cycle UK. It was reported that during the Buckinghamshire Cycleway item, Mr R Jennings asked how cycling users of the cycleway would be consulted. Benjamin Feeney-North, Transport Strategy Officer for Planning Growth and Sustainability, replied that this would be done through the Local Access Forum (LAF).

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 March 2022, be approved as a correct record subject to the above amendments.

In reference to the Buckinghamshire Cycleway item in the previous meeting, it was suggested that the cycleway from Winslow to Buckingham be incorporated into the strategic spine and extend to Aylesbury. Mr J Clark agreed to feed this back in advance of the consultation of the Buckinghamshire Local Cycling and Walking

Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP).

Councillor Steve Broadbent, Cabinet Member for Transport, addressed concerns on the Rights of Way (ROW) team being under resourced. It was explained that the Council budget had been passed with the provision of an increase of up to 7 full time equivalent posts. The Forum were assured that this would improve the capacity of the team to help work through the backlog.

4 Natural Environment Partnership

Nicola Thomas, Natural Environment Partnership (NEP) Manager, was in attendance to introduce the NEP and to explore how the partnership could work closer with the Local Access Forum. It was explained that there were 47 Local Nature Partnerships across England, with the purpose of setting a strategic vision for the local environment, work with partners of different types, and champion the interests of the environment in local decision-making.

The Forum noted the NEP's recent projects including:

- Designing a biodiversity net gain scheme by working with local planning authorities to formalise a commitment in local plans. As such, new developments would need to review their biodiversity baseline prior to development and achieve at least a 10% net gain after. It was explained that biodiversity net gain would become mandatory by November 2023. Ms N Thomas identified Buckinghamshire Council's proactiveness by working with the NEP on biodiversity and employing a biodiversity net gain Officer.
- The Local Nature Recovery Strategy. The NEP were involved in a pilot scheme to test a Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) process for setting out the priorities for nature and nature recovery in Buckinghamshire. Feedback would then influence guidance for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.
- The Biodiversity Action Plan which was launched in the interim until the Local Nature Recovery Strategy would be enacted.
- Opportunity map to set out a vision for green infrastructure, by detailing the area's natural assets and the benefits from these.
- Work with other Local Nature Partnerships to develop growth arcs.
- Work with individual partner organisations to deliver ground projects such as Bucks Buzzing and the Buckinghamshire Council Wilder Road Verges Initiative. The NEP have also produced a toolkit to encourage local action.
- Future work with the health sector and involvement with social prescribing to help signpost GP surgeries to walks and conservation volunteering opportunities.

More information on the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes NEP can be found on their website and Twitter @BucksBuzzing.

The following points were raised during discussion:

- When asked how the Local Access Forum (LAF) could contribute and collaborate with the NEP, Ms N Thomas suggested that the LAF get involved

in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy as a stakeholder. This would ensure that the issues surrounding Rights of Way and access be brought to the fore.

- The value of working with partnership organisations. For specialist topics, the NEP would work with a consultancy firm. For projects such as the Biodiversity Action Plan, partners input their ideas into the working group to influence the final report. It was noted that the NEP often coordinated with partners to respond to consultations, both locally and nationally.
- The budget for the NEP funded mainly by Buckinghamshire Council and Milton Keynes Council. Ms N Thomas informed the Forum that they had instigated a strategic review to ensure the partnership remains relevant and to review the NEP's capacity to undertake projects. It was emphasised that the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes NEP had been recognised nationally for their work, as having funded roles of Partnership Manager and Project Officer had enabled the partnership to propel projects forward.
- Concern was raised over funding. Ms N Thomas explained that whilst Local Nature Partnerships (LNP) were set up alongside Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP), the LEPs received funding from government. The way LNP source their funding varied throughout the county.

5 Local Transport Plan 5

Mr J Clark presented this item on behalf of Hannah Joyce, Transport Strategy Lead Officer. Buckinghamshire Council were producing a new Local Transport Plan (LTP), to replace and update the LTP4. LTP4 outlines the Council's approach to transport provision in Buckinghamshire and was adopted in 2016, prior to Buckinghamshire Council's unification. LTP5 will include a public consultation, to which the Local Access Forum were encouraged to take part. The Forum noted that new guidance would be provided by government to advise on how local Council plans should be framed, with the possibility of local councils bidding for funding from Central Government.

Richard Pushman, Chairman of the Buckinghamshire Local Access Forum, detailed the impact COVID-19 had on travel patterns and the big push towards sustainable travel. The Forum noted the need to refresh LTP4 to make it more relevant for the delivery of future schemes and to review how communities are connected. During discussion, it was explained that LTP5 would review all aspects of travel including cycling and walking through consultation with the High Wycombe LCWHIP. Andrew Clark, Chiltern Society, emphasised the importance of transport through the LTP5 and planning through the Local Plan being connected to ensure that Rights of Way and cycleways are considered in new developments.

The Forum received an update on the delivery of the rail link from Cambridge to Oxford with a spur through to Aylesbury. Councillor S Broadbent explained that Buckinghamshire Council continued to lobby for an Aylesbury link on the Cambridge to Oxford line. Members of the Forum were directed to a previous Transport, Environment and Climate Change Select Committee where East West Rail representatives were present to answer questions. Councillor S Broadbent

confirmed that he had written to East West Rail and responded to their consultation to assert the need for the Aylesbury link.

Mr R Jennings suggested developing an online service, similar to 'one.network', to display strategic cycling and walking infrastructure across county boundaries. It was suggested that this be raised with Central Government, to map out the national network of what had been delivered, what was in progress, and what had just been funded. On a regional level, it was suggested that possibly the LEPs could help develop this.

6 Rights of way group report

Mr J Clark gave an update on the Aylesbury Gardenway, a proposed orbital park and cycleway around Aylesbury. A report and design brief of the 9 delivery parcels was due to be completed and they were due to start engagement with developers and landowners. The design brief would be shared with members once it was published. Concern was raised over the exclusion of horse-riders from the Gardenway. Mr J Clark explained that they were aware of this issue and the ambition for the Gardenway was to have an open route for horse riders, however it is unlikely that the designation of a bridleway would be achievable on the whole route. Brian Worrell, British Driving Society Beds, Bucks, and Herts, raised the concern that signage would not include horse riders.

Safety concerns were raised over the Cryers Hill Route with no public footpath, causing pedestrians to walk in the road. It was explained that significant investment had been put into developing a footway along the A4010, however the funding was not available for footpaths along every A road and work was being prioritised. The budget for road safety had increased, however priority was being identified using Police data. It was noted that Members had identified the Cryers Hill route as top priority, due to the deterioration of the existing footway.

Joanne Taylor, Rights of Way Operations Team Leader, gave an update on the Rights of Way (ROW) Operations Team. The BVPI Rights of Way Condition Survey was being undertaken to test 5% of the network. A majority of the survey was completed by volunteers, with the Ramblers Association and the Chiltern Society being heavily involved. Officers complete roughly 40% of the survey. A clearer overview of the results would be presented at the next meeting.

Regarding capital projects, all objective projects for 2022 had been sent out to contractors with the expectation that most would be delivered within the year. Surfacing works had slowed down due to storms and wet conditions. Winter clearance had been undertaken, ending due to bird nesting season. Regarding the Fawley Bridge replacement, a temporary bridge had been installed and the ROW Team were working with the landowner to replace it. Ms J Taylor explained that the team was collating a list of projects for the 2022/23 financial year. The ROW Team had been allocated £200,000 per year for the next 5 years to fund future projects.

In relation to appendix 1, Ms J Taylor noted the impact from lockdowns on volunteer

work. Despite the number of jobs carried out by volunteers being similar to the 2019/20 figures, the type of work volunteers were able complete was more restrictive. For example, less gate structures had been erected by volunteers comparable to previous years. There had also been a slight increase of outstanding issues on the system, indicating that the increase had been slowing down. An increase in reports of fallen trees were expected in the spring and summer.

In the discussion that followed, it was explained that anyone who reports an issue online through the Rights of Way reporting system and had asked for an update would receive it through the online system and via email. Once the issue had been resolved, the recipient would receive more substantial feedback of what had been done. Issues were prioritised by severity and the frequency of use. If there was an urgent case, the team would try to resolve the issue within 10 days. Most issues concerned maintenance and enforcement which they aim to resolve within 5-6 months. Due to the backlog in cases, it was not always possible to maintain these timescales. Regarding the online reporting system, Ms Taylor informed the Forum that they are investigating upgrading the system through their current provider.

In response to an enquiry about resurfacing materials, Ms J Taylor explained that they type of material depends on where it is being laid, as road planings couldn't be used around conservation sites. A lot of the ongoing projects were focused around the Chilterns, where the footpaths faced issues with washout. Therefore, the team were looking to import large angular stones to fill any voids, overlaying that with crushed stone, and then utilising recycled roach planings for the surface material. It was hoped that they could have used excess material from the HS2 excavation, however this was no longer available.

7 LAF members' report

Mr J Clark reminded the Forum of the letter to Natural England regarding a pro-access consultation at Wayside Manor and Chorley Manor Farm. Natural England reconulted in January 2022, resulting to an extension. It was decided to narrow the restrictions down to one direction. Mr J Clark informed the Forum that he had contacted Natural England asking that their marked route be further South-West by about 5m. Mr J Clark requested that members please let him know if they have any further comments to add regarding the consultation.

The Forum were given an update on their letter to the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. Regarding the reaction times of the Planning Inspectorate to our Definitive Map modification orders, the department had replied that COVID-19 had been a restricting factor and that they were recruiting. In response to abandoning or extending the 2026 cut-off date, DEFRA decided to repeal the deadline.

It was noted that there would be a change in public path orders that landowners would have the right to reply for a diversion, however the Council would have a right to costs.

RESOLVED –

That the Local Access Forum Annual review be noted.

8 Any other business

None.

9 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 13 July 2022; and Wednesday 2 November 2022.



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Report

AGENDA ITEM 4

Date: 13th July 2022

Title: Public Spaces Protection Order [PSPO] Footpath HWU/80/1; Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

Authors: Jonathan Clark, Snr Strategic Access Officer.

Contact Officer: Rebecca Binstead (01296 585244)

LAF comments are sought by Buckinghamshire Council on the proposed renewal of a PSPO to temporarily close Footpath HWU/80/1 for an additional 3 years to combat anti-social behaviour. This is situated between West End Street and Desborough Avenue, High Wycombe HP11 2QF [see plans below].

The LAF were first consulted on 17th July 2017 where members voted in favour of establishing a 3-year closure commencing in October 2017. LAF members again voted in favour [by a majority of seven to one, with some abstentions] to renew the order on 23rd September 2020. The existing order runs for 2 years from 16th October 2020 and expires on 15th October 2022.

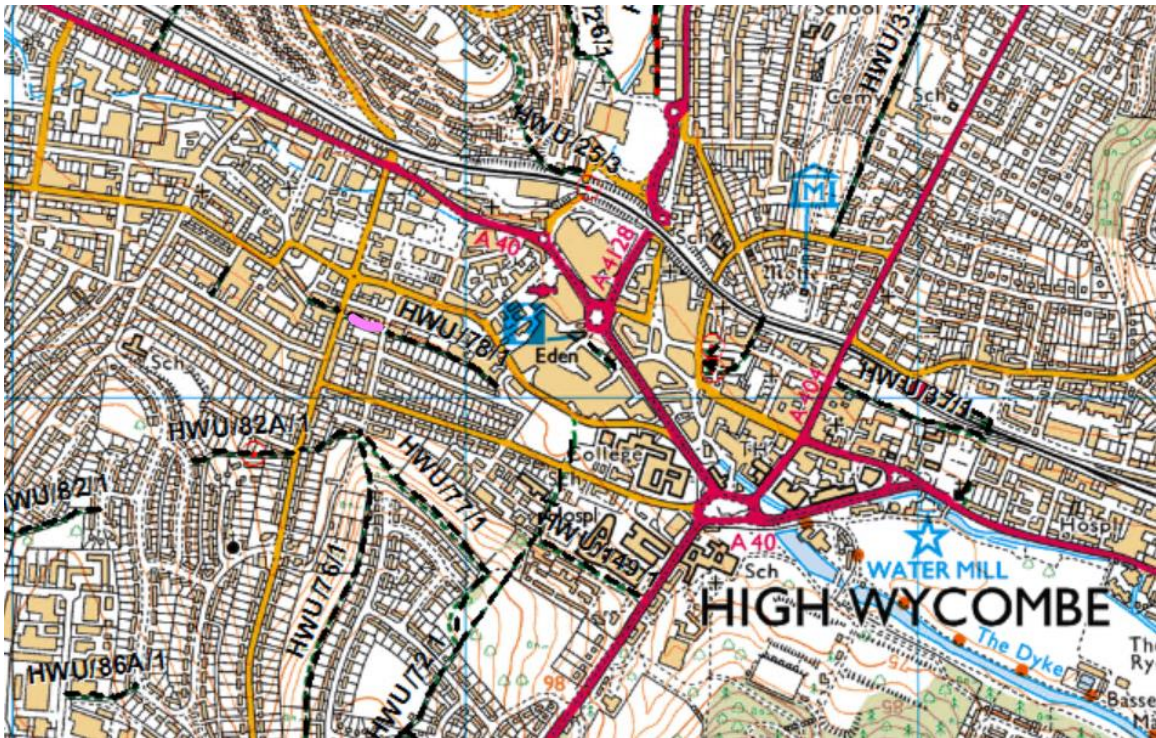
The 'restricted area' is shown pink on Plan 1 and the alternative route for pedestrians is shown green on Plan 2 passing along existing roadside footways.

The consultation period runs from 13th June to 13th July 2022.

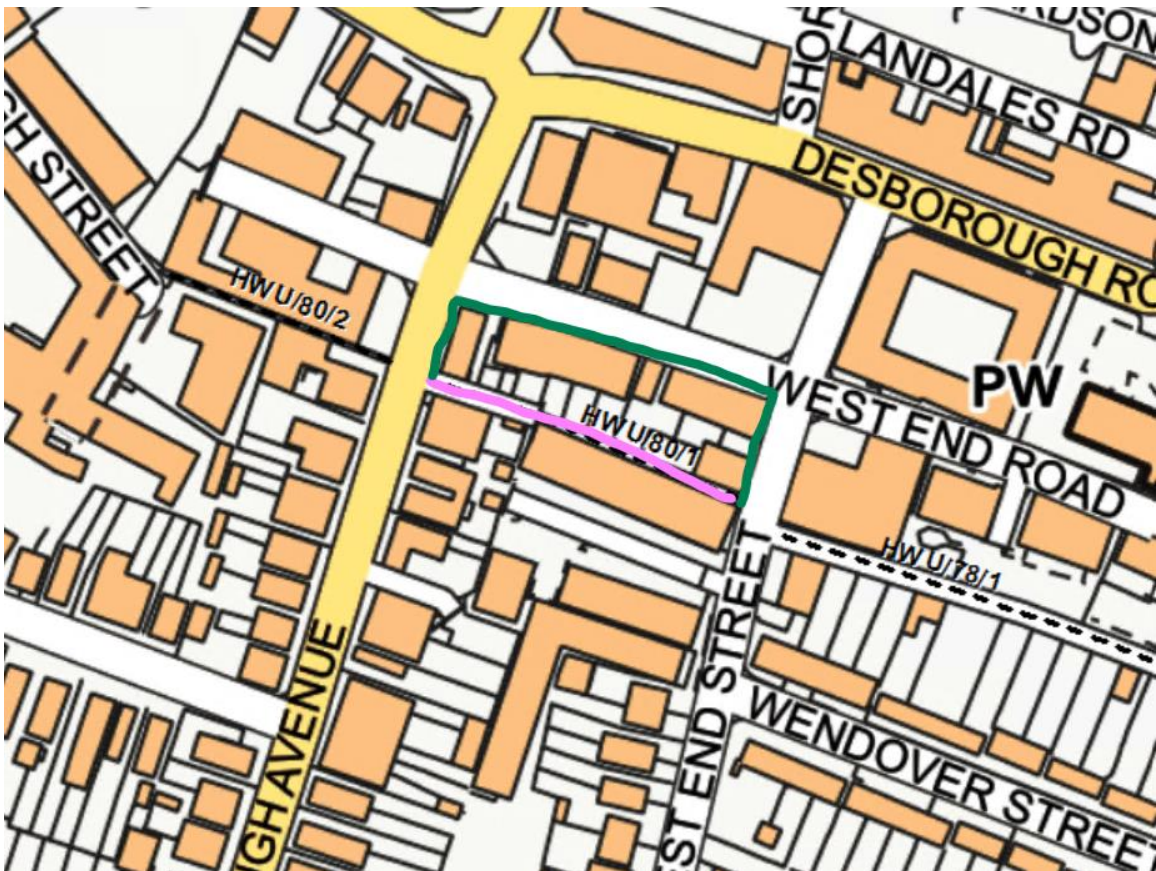
Ward Councillor Lesley Clarke OBE has stated:

I totally support the continuation of this PSPO. The gates have greatly reduced anti-social behaviour and the residents on West End Road, whose gardens face this footpath, are now able to enjoy their gardens and not be inconvenienced with noise that the street drinkers caused during the early hours of the morning and the litter and other detritus they left for others to clear. Notwithstanding, bottles being thrown into their gardens too. I do request that the PSPO remains in force here, so that the residents continue to enjoy the peace and quiet that they now have.

Ward Councillor Mahboob Hussain stated:
I also fully support the PSPO



Plan 1



Plan 2



Photo 1 – West End Street



Photo 2 – Desborough Avenue

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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Report

AGENDA ITEM 5

Date: 13th July 2022

Title: Flexi-pave

Speaker: Peter Beavon, KBI

Contact Officer: Rebecca Binstead (01296 585244)

The LAF's advice is sought by the council on the use of Flexi-pave for surfacing rights of way in Buckinghamshire, expanding its use for pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians. To assist members, Peter Beavon has been invited to speak, from KBI, a company that has nationwide experience in the material.

Flexi-pave is a rubber bound, porous material made from 50-50 recycled vehicles tyres and stone aggregate. It has been used for a number of years for rights of way and other uses as an environmental alternative to standard bitumen products. It's increasingly used along bridleways and restricted byways, which suit equestrians as the more forgiving surface reduces horse leg injuries.

Matters to which the authority seeks advice:

1. what are the outlay and maintenance costs compared to bitumen;
2. is Flexi-pave preferable to bitumen in all situations, e.g. new housing areas;
3. does Flexi-pave have a predicted life span;
4. can Flexi-pave be renewed or does it require completely relaying;
5. to what extent do equestrians benefit compared to aggregate, such as granite;
6. is weed killer needed for the surface or can this be 'sided-out' with a spade;
7. to what extent does Flexi-pave stand up to vehicular or farm traffic shared with rights of way?

EXAMPLE 1

Bridleway BUC/3/4 is a new Flexi-pave surface along a diverted urban route in Buckingham [MK18 7RH], funded by developer money in 2019. This has stood-up well to high pedestrian and cycling traffic [Photo 1], but more recently experienced grass creep from the verge edges [Photos 2 and 3].



PHOTO 2 BUC/3/4 in Buckingham



PHOTO 2 BUC/3/4 in Buckingham



PHOTO 3 BUC/3/4 in Buckingham

EXAMPLE 2

The photos were taken around 2 years' ago along a little-used bridleway bridge over the M3 near Jct 5 (Hook BW 64b) in Hampshire, which connects to footpaths and so is mainly used by pedestrians and possibly the odd cyclist. Some vegetation is growing up, but not as much as might have been expected given the age, around 15+ years.



Photo 4 – approach ramp

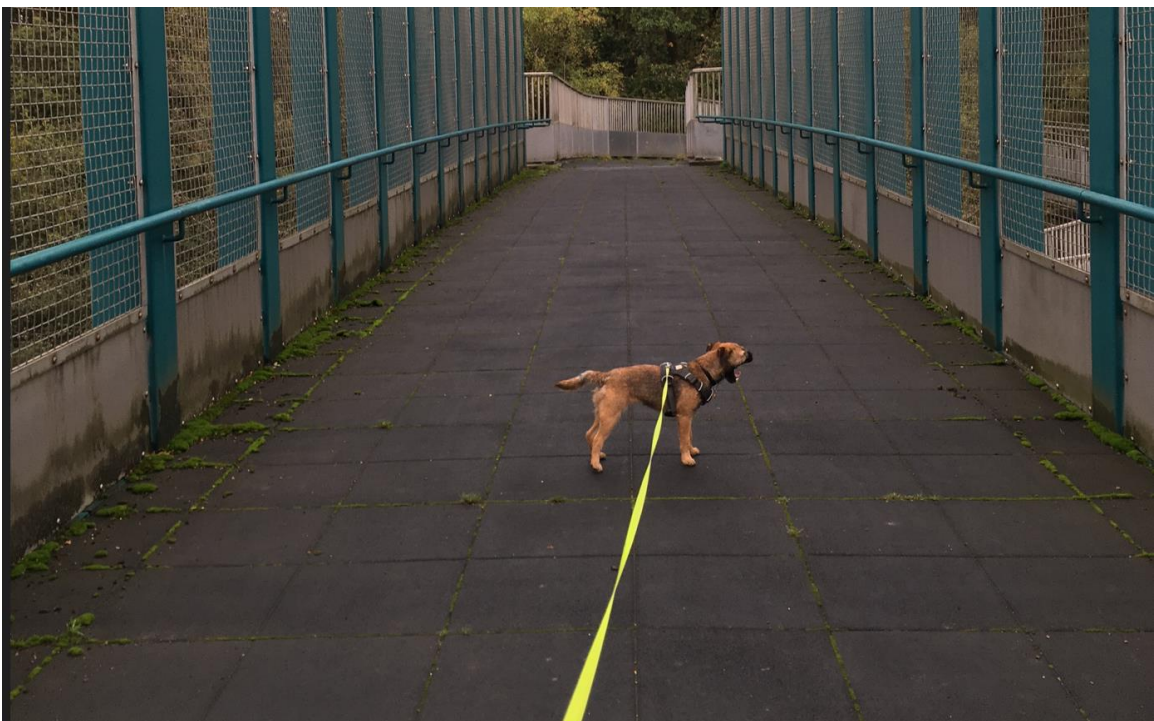


Photo 4 - Bridge deck with rubber tiles



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Report

AGENDA ITEM 6

Date: 13th July 2022

Title: Staff Update

Authors: Joanne Taylor, Rights of Way Operations Team Leader; & Claire Hudson, Definitive Map & Highway Searches Team Leader

Contact Officer: Rebecca Binstead (01296 585244)

Following some recent vacancies within the team, we have taken the opportunity to make some changes to the structure to allow for better management of high-pressure work areas. Two new roles have been created by changing existing roles – a Team Technical Assistant, whose work straddles the Definitive Map/ROW function of the team with that of the Highway Searches function, and a Strategic Access Officer [SAO] role, who will assist Jon on some major planning work, but also take the lead on the major infrastructure schemes including EWR and HS2. We are currently recruiting for the new SAO role, and also have a vacant Highway Searches Assistant role, with recruitment commencing in the coming weeks.

Rights of Way Operations

| | |
|---|-----|
| Team Leader [Joanne Taylor] | 1.0 |
| Bridge Structure Inspector [Corinne Waldron] | 1.0 |
| Rights of Way Officer North [Alistair McVail] | 1.0 |
| Rights of Way Officer South [Sophie David] | 1.0 |
| Rights of Way Officer (Central) Vacant | 1.0 |
| Asst ROW Officer North [Rose Gibbard] | 0.6 |
| Asst ROW Officer North [James Dixon] | 0.4 |
| Asst ROW Officer South [Savannah Fradley] | 1.0 |
| Bridge Structure Insp Capital Projects [Phil Fox] | 0.5 |

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>7.5</u> |
|--------------|------------|

Definitive Map and Highway Searches Team

| | |
|--|-----|
| Team Leader [Claire Hudson] | 1.0 |
| Snr Definitive Map Officer [Helen Francis] | 0.8 |

| | |
|---|------------|
| Snr Strategic Access Officer [Jonathan Clark] | 1.0 |
| Strategic Access Officer [vacant] | 1.0 |
| Definitive Map Officer [Ela Hackling] | 1.0 |
| Definitive Map Officer [Alex Lempowski] | 1.0 |
| Team Technical Assistant [Lisa Greenland] | 1.0 |
| Highway Searches Officer [Angela Bradbury] | 1.0 |
| Highway Searches Assistant [vacant] | 0.6 |
| <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>8.4</u> |



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Report

AGENDA ITEM 7

Date: 13th July 2022

Title: East West Rail [EWR]

Authors: Jonathan Clark, Snr Strategic Access Officer; & Claire Hudson
Definitive Map & Highways Search Team Leader

Contact Officer: Rebecca Binstead (01296 585244)

Members will be aware the EWR project is under construction and the team are working with Network Rail for them to 'hand back' PROW which have either been temporarily closed or permanently diverted under the Transport and Works Act Order powers. We are also working through any snagging issues before signing-off and taking back responsibility for the routes.

In total, there are 16 PROWs to be diverted and 1 dead-end PROW to be permanently stopped-up [Footpath No.3 Middle Claydon]. Out of the 16, we have started to discuss 'hand backs' with EWR on 11 of the crossings. All of these are at various stages of discussion, with the majority seem to be as initially agreed with EWR and as per the TWAO.

One route [Footpath No.2 Twyford] has now been handed back and formally signed-off, but there is some ongoing discussions with EWR with regard to the creation of the footpath leading up to the bridge and away from it. There will be 8 new PROW footbridges [2 are currently built: at Twyford (PICTURE 1) and WINSLOW (PICTURES 2 & 3)], 1 new accommodation bridge [farm access with shared PROW] and 2 routes being diverted to existing bridges.

- New bridges = 8;
- New road bridges carrying pedestrians = 1;
- Diversions in the current programme = 16 with 1 stopping-up;
- Bridges constructed = 1;
- Temporary closures in place = 36; &
- Routes to be 'handed back' to the council over the next 2-3 months = 8 - 10.



PICTURE 1 – *new footbridge on Footpath No.2 Twyford [TWY/2/2]*



PICTURE 2 - *New bridge at Winslow [WIS/6/1]*



PICTURE 3 - New bridge at Winslow [WIS/6/1]

In addition to the permanent PROW changes, there are a number of temporary closures for routes which have been acquired for EWR haulage and materials storage. These routes need to be returned to the authority and closely monitored to make sure they are reinstated appropriately and are safe to reopen to the public.

There are currently 36 temporary closures. These closures are set to be in effect until summer 2023, but there is a commitment from EWR that if the route can be reopened before the formal end date, they will do so.

As it stands, there are no major issues, only a snagging list. It is anticipated this can be overcome by further discussions with EWR. There are no formal complaints from the public or local communities regarding the project, or at least none sitting with the council's rights of way team. A busy summer is envisaged with possibly 8-10 routes being handed back.

Phil Turner has been heading-up the EWR project from a PROW perspective but retired on 14th June 2022. Phil will have undoubtedly left a huge void in the world of EWR, however, after some reprioritisation of workload within the Definitive Map team and the ROW Operations team, we are confident we can continue with the good work that Phil has started. We are also hopeful to recruit a new Officer to the Definitive Map team, whose main responsibility will be the major infrastructure schemes and development.

The East West Rail Company are resuming face-to-face engagement with communities across the East West Rail route and will be hosting eight further events between June and July 2022. The events are designed to give the public an opportunity to better

understand the project and anticipated timescales. The nearest event to Buckinghamshire is as follows and the council would be grateful if someone could attend to represent the Local Access Forum:

2pm - 8pm Monday 4 July 2022

John Paul II Centre

The Causeway

BICESTER

OX26 6AW

contact@eastwestrail.co.uk;

Report

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| | |
|---|----|
| Applications for Definitive Map Modification Orders | |
| | |
| Apps. waiting to be investigated | 43 |
| Apps. under investigation | 7 |
| Orders waiting to be determined by PINS | 2 |

- 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 are ongoing with developer regarding a potential 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. Decision report being prepared.**
 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. Decision report being prepared.**
 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. Decision report being prepared.**
 6. **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. Decision report being prepared.**
 7. **Stokenchurch** - Application to add routes to the Definitive Map at East Wood, Stokenchurch. **Under investigation.**
 8. **Penn** – Application to add a route to the Definitive Map between Public Footpath No. 36 and No. 44. **Application received 19 December 2017.**

9. **Whitchurch** – 3 new applications received to add footpaths to the Definitive Map and Statement – Awaiting acknowledgement and addition to the register of applications.
10. **Whaddon** – application to add a Public Footpath to the Definitive Map between Whaddon Hall and Public Footpath No.6. **Application received 21 December 2018.**
11. **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.**
12. **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.**
13. **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 27 August 2019.**
14. **Chesham** – application to add two routes to the Definitive Map from Lye Green Road connecting with footpath 37. **Application dated 27 August 2019.**
15. **Quainton** – application to upgrade public footpath No. 4 to public bridleway status. **Application dated 21 October 2014. Investigation not started.**
16. **Bledlow** – application to investigate the alignment of public footpath No. 52. **Application dated 19 December 2013. Investigation not started.**
17. **Hedgerley** – application to upgrade public footpath No. 11 and No. 12 to public bridleway status. **Application dated 25 June 2015. Investigation not started.**
18. **Whaddon** – application to modify the alignment of Public Footpath No. 6. **Application dated 4 February 2016. Investigation not started.**
19. **Lillingstone Dayrell** – application to upgrade Public Footpath No.1 to restricted byway status. **Application dated 15 February 2016.**
20. **Lillingstone Dayrell** – application to upgrade Public Footpath No. 2 to public bridleway status. **Application dated 15 February 2016.**
21. **Chenies** application to add Hollaway Road to the Definitive Map and Statement as a byway open to all traffic. **Application dated 29 February 2016.**
22. **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.**
23. **Water Stratford** – application to add a claimed bridleway to the Definitive Map and Statement, Parish of Water Stratford **Application received 27/03/2017.**

24. **Little Missenden** - application to upgrade bridleway No. 42 and bridleway No. 29 to restricted byway. **Application received 17/01/2020.**
25. **Little Missenden** - application to upgrade bridleway No. 26 to restricted byway. **Application received 19/02/2020.**
26. **Little Missenden** - application to upgrade bridleway No. 24 to restricted byway. **Application received 07/03/2020.**
27. **Little Missenden** – application to upgrade bridleway No. 25 to restricted byway. **Application received 15/03/2020.**
28. **Water Stratford** – application to add a claimed bridleway to the Definitive Map and Statement. **Application received 1/05/2020.**
29. **Chesham** – application to add a footpath between Hill Farm Road and Pump Lane to the Definitive Map and Statement. **Application received 27/01/2020.**
30. **Denham** – application to add public footpath from Priory Close to Alderbourne Field. **Application received 23/10/2019.**
31. **Waddesdon** – application to upgrade a footpath and claim public bridleway through Eythrope Park. **Application received 7/12/2020.**
32. **Dinton with Ford and Upton** – application to add public footpath between Burgess Lane and footpath No. 53. **Application received 21/12/2020.**
33. **Dinton with Ford and Upton** – application to add footpath between Watery Lane and Moreton. **Application received 21/12/2020.**
34. **Great Marlow** – application to add public footpath around perimeter of Wycombe Air Park – **Application received 21/12/2020.**
35. **Marlow** – application to add public footpath off Liston Road. **Application received 20/12/2020.**
36. **Little Missenden** – application to add public footpath from Parish Piece to Watchet Lane. **Application received 03/03/2021.**
37. **Radnage** – Application to add Public Bridleway from Bottle Square Lane to Bowers Lane. **Application Received 17/05/2021**
38. **Chesham** – Claimed Footpath off Pednor Road. **Application received 21/06/2021**
39. **Dinton with Ford and Upton.** Upgrading to a restricted Byway, Water Lane to Marsh Hill Lane. **Application received 9/08/2021**
40. **Dinton with Ford and Upton.** Claimed Restricted Byway and Upgrading to a Restricted Byway, Moreton Road to Moreton Lane. **Application received 9/08/2021**

41. **Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell and Great and Little Kimble** – application to add public bridleway from Moreton Lane, Bishopstone to Marsh Hill Lane, Great Kimble. **Application received 14/09/2021.**
42. **Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell** – application to upgrade part of footpath no. 28 to public bridleway – **Application received 14/09/2021.**
43. **Little Marlow** – application to add public footpath around Roach Lane. **Application received on 02/12/2021.**
44. **Little Marlow and Marlow** – application to add public footpath along A404. **Application received on 02/12/2021.**
45. **Little Marlow/Marlow** – application to add public footpath along Crowne Plaza. **Application received on 02/12/2021.**
46. **Little Marlow/Marlow** – application to add public footpaths, west of Westhope. **Application received on 02/12/2021.**
47. **Little Marlow** – application to upgrade footpath no. 20 to public bridleway. **Application received on 02/12/2021.**
48. **Weedon** – application to add public footpath along Northcroft. **Application received on 09/03/2022.**
49. **Latimer** – application to add Restricted Byway from Kiln Lane to Tylers Hill Road. **Application received 22/03/2022.**
50. **Little Missenden** – application to register circular footpath off Stoney Lane. **Application received 25/03/2022.**

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

Summary:

| | |
|---|----|
| Applications for Public Path Orders | 49 |
| Apps. waiting to be investigated | 1 |
| Apps. under investigation/Orders made | 19 |
| Orders waiting to be determined by PINS | 4 |
| Cases closed | 12 |
| Awaiting works by applicant | 13 |

1. **Quarrendon** – Application to divert Footpath No. 2. **Order made, awaiting completion of works.**
2. **Dorney** – Creation of footpath. **Awaiting signed creation agreement.**

3. **Tingewick** – Application to divert Footpaths Nos. 29(part) and 31 and Stop-Up Footpath No. 30(part) and create new Footpath and Bridleway – **CASE CLOSED.**
4. **Weston Turville** – Application to divert Footpath No. 33 – **Order confirmed. Cycle Track Order Made. Objections Received, to be sent to DFT for determination.**
5. **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.**
6. **Mursley, Swanbourne and Little Horwood** – Application to divert Public Footpaths No. 19, 20 and 27. **Awaiting completion of works on site.**
7. **Shabbington** – Application to divert Footpath No. 5 –**Due to developer error, order to be revoked and new order to be made.**
8. **Quarrendon** – Application to divert Footpath No. 3, 4 & 5 – **Order to be made. Footpath 5 added to proposal.**
9. **Aston Clinton** – Application to divert Footpaths Nos. 3, 4 and 6 under the Town and Country Planning Act – **CASE CLOSED.**
10. **Stoke Mandeville** – Application to divert Footpaths Nos. 3 and 14 – **Order confirmed. Awaiting works.**
11. **Stewkley** – Application to divert Footpath No. 19. **Order confirmed. Awaiting works to be completed.**
12. **Beachampton** – Application to divert Footpath No. 12. **CASE CLOSED.**
13. **Tingewick** – Application to divert Footpath No. 25. **Confirmed by PINS. Awaiting works to bring it into effect.**
14. **Hambleden** – Application to divert Footpath No. 44. **Order made.**
15. **Buckingham** – Application to divert Footpath No. 36. **Order to be confirmed. Awaiting works.**
16. **Waddesdon** - Application to divert Footpath No. 18. **Order confirmed, awaiting works.**
17. **Wexham** - Application to divert Footpath No. 2. **Under investigation.**
18. **Westcott** - Application to divert Footpath No. 30. **Order made and objections received. Submitted to Secretary of State.**
19. **Bierton** - Application to divert Footpath No. 3. **Order confirmed. Awaiting works.**
20. **Buckland** – Application to divert footpath No. 7 – **Order confirmed. CASE CLOSED.**

21. **Cuddington** – Application to divert footpath no 13 – **Order made. Objection received. Referred to Secretary of State.**
22. **Wingrave** – Application to divert footpath No. 11 – **Order Confirmed. CASE CLOSED.**
23. **Great Missenden** – Application to divert footpath No. 70 – **Order to be made. Objections received. Submitted to Secretary of State.**
24. **Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell** – Application to divert footpath No. 23-2 – **Order confirmed. CASE CLOSED.**
25. **Little Horwood** – application to divert footpath No.4 – **Order Confirmed. CASE CLOSED.**
26. **Chalfont St Giles/Chenies** – application to divert bridleway No.43 and 5 – **Order made. Awaiting works.**
27. **High Wycombe** – application to divert footpath No. 59 – **Order confirmed. CASE CLOSED.**
28. **Oakley** – application to divert footpath No. 29 – **Order Made. Awaiting works.**
29. **Chalfont St Peter** – diversion of footpath No. 14 – **Order to be made.**
30. **Kingsey** – diversion of footpath No. 1 – **Order to be made.**
31. **Steeple Claydon** – creation agreement connecting existing footpath with Queen Catherine Road – **Creation Agreement completed. CASE CLOSED.**
32. **Steeple Claydon** – diversion of footpath No. 6 – **Order to be made.**
33. **Stoke Mandeville** – Extinguishment of Footpath No.8 & 10 – **Order confirmed. Awaiting works.**
34. **Cholesbury-cum- St Leonard** – creation and extinguishment of footpath no. 48A – **Order confirmed. CASE CLOSED.**
35. **High Wycombe/Hughenden** – creation agreement off Brands Hill Avenue – **Order to be made.**
36. **Radnage** – Diversion of Footpath No.5 – **Application rejected. CASE CLOSED.**
37. **Kingsbrook** – Diversion of Footpath No.1 – **Under investigation**
38. **Oakley** – Diversion of footpath No. 7 – **Order confirmed. CASE CLOSED**
39. **Worminghall** – Diversion of Footpath No.2 – **Order to be made.**

40. **Maids Moreton** – Diversion of Footpath No.3 – **Under investigation.**
41. **High Wycombe** – footpath creation off Abbey Barn Lane with Berkeley homes – **Agreement created, to be signed.**
42. **Great Horwood** – bridleway to be created off A421 – **Order made. To be advertised**
43. **Brill** – Diversion of Public Bridleway No. 2 – **Order made. Awaiting works.**
44. **Lacey Green** – Diversion of Public Footpath No. 48 – **Under investigation.**
45. **High Wycombe** – Diversion of Public Bridleway No. 156 – **Under investigation.**
46. **Biddlesden** – Diversion of Public Bridleway no. 5 – **Under investigation.**
47. **Chalfont St Peter** – Diversion of Public Footpath no. 35 – **Under investigation.**
48. **Great Missenden** – Diversion of Public Footpath no. FP1(F) –.
49. **North Marston** – Diversion of Public Footpath no. 18 – **Under investigation.**

D. VILLAGE GREEN APPLICATIONS

Summary:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Applications for Village Greens | |
| | |
| Investigation on hold | 1 |
| Under investigation | 4 |

1. **Wooburn** – land off Cherwell Road, Bourne End. **Investigation not started. On Hold.**
2. **High Wycombe** – land off Warren Wood Drive. **Advertised – objections received.**
3. **Princes Risborough** – land at corner of Shootacre Lane and Picts Lane. **Advertised – objections received.**
4. **Chesham** – land in Lye Green. **Public inquiry to be arranged.**
5. **Stoke Hammond** – land at Layton Road. **Public inquiry to be arranged.**

E. Strategic Access Update

4. The Chiltern Society's **Donate-a-Gate** volunteer resigned on 27th April 2022. The scheme has been running under Stuart Gulliman's stewardship since 2007 and has seen well over 600 privately funded gates installed from 473 donors. Gift Aid has been used to fund over 100 additional gates along the Chiltern Way and elsewhere. While the council considers the shape of the new scheme and possible increased

donation prices to reflect the rising cost of steel gates, the Chiltern Society are seeking a replacement volunteer.

5. The **Ramblers Donate-a-Gate** project The North Bucks RIPPLE team have recently been in a position to contribute £5,000 to the council from their Donate-a-Gate funds in order to buy new gates. This will help fund further stile replacements in the coming months.

F. ROW OPERATIONS UPDATE (Joanne Taylor)

- 1 **The current staff structure** allows for 7 FTE staff this is 1 Rights of Way Team Leader, 3 Area RoW Officers (one vacant post), 2 Assistant RoW Officers and 1 Bridge Structure Inspector; the recruitment process to fill a vacant post for another Rights of Way Officer has commenced. Additionally, we have a part time temporary post covering the capital work programme.
- 2 **BVPI Rights of Way Condition Survey** –the 5% network survey was carried out over the winter and the results are:-

| | |
|--|---------|
| Percentage of paths rated 'Easy to Use' | - 73.5% |
| Percentage of structures rated 'Easy to Use' | - 92.7% |
| Percentage of paths signed from road | - 92.6% |
- 3 **Capital projects update: List of recently completed and current Rights of Way capital projects**

| Route No. & Parish | Works | Stage |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Claydon Bridleways | 6 plastic Bridges | Completed |
| Denham Bridleway number 52 | Large equestrian bridge replacement | Design Engineer engaged- broken bridge now removed - replacement expected summer/autumn 2022 subject to budget |
| Waddesdon Footpath 10 | Sluice bridge renovation | Completed |
| Marlow - Thames Path | Surface works and bridge renovation | 2021 work complete. Assessment of 2022 works underway |
| Wendover Ridgeway | Clearance and resurface works | BW47 underway – with contractor |
| Chesham FP114 | Resurface 60 M | Completed |
| Chartridge BOAT 38A | Resurface 100 M | Completed |
| Chartridge BW 20A | Level and resurface 150 M | Completed |
| Cholesbury-cum-St Leonards BW51 | Insert Channel Drains | Completed |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Gt Marlow BW23 | Level and resurface 150M | Completed |
| Pitstone FP2 | Adjust surface levels 60M | Completed |
| Westcott BW26 | Level and resurface 90M | Completed |
| Halton FP8A | Adjust surface levels install handrail 150M | Completed |
| Taplow BW2 | 200-400M of clearance and surface works | Completed |
| Hambleden FP28 | Approx. 200M missing handrail | Completed |
| Wing FP19 | 9.5 M footbridge replacement | Completed |
| Vale Bridges | 5 x larger footbridges to replace in AV area | Completed (additional bridges found for 2022) |
| Chalfont St Giles BW60 | Resurface works | Awaiting badger licence |
| Buckland FP7 | Drainage issue/surface | Completed |
| Gawcott FP16A – Oxlane Padbury | 8 metre bridge replacement | Completed |

- 4 **Berry Hill Footbridge, Taplow Public Footpath TAP/12/1 – Capital Programme**
The 37 metre mid-section of Berry Hill footbridge across the Jubilee River in Taplow was removed in December 2021. The structure has been closed to the public since May 2021 after suffering unforeseen structural deterioration. Work has been ongoing to finalise the design and start the prefabrication of the replacement section using the capital money allocated. The Council's contractor is currently seeking design/programme approvals from the Environment Agency (EA). Early indications from the EA are that it is undertaking its own major works on the Jubilee River this year, which may impact the timetable for replacing and reopening.
- 5 **Rights of Way Capital Programme 2022/23**
The priority works on rights of way for this financial year is currently under review and will be finalised shortly; projects identified, apart from ongoing projects - as outlined above - include bridge replacements in Stoke Poges, Wexham, Gerrards Cross and Ashendon and surface repair works in Stewkely and Penn.
- 6 **Summer Clearance** – work on the summer clearance schedule commenced mid-May 2022 and we currently have 4 work teams undertaking this clearance. NB a large percentage of summer clearance on RoW is undertaken by parish councils as part of Parish Devolvment Agreements.
- 7 **Rejuvenating the route of the Bernwood Jubilee Way [BJW] 61-mile Historic Trail**
In this year of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Ramblers' volunteers are undertaking a condition survey and renewing signage along the route of the BJW. Additionally, work has been undertaken to produce new social media pages and to reformat the

BJW maps and these are now available online at
<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-transport/cycling-and-walking/walking-and-cycling-routes/walking-and-cycling-route-map/bernwood-jubilee-way-walking-routes/>.

8 Summary of Maintenance – see APPENDIX 1.

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**Buckinghamshire Council - Rights of Way
Summary of Maintenance Carried Out
Between 1/04/20 and 30/6/22**

| TYPE | DESCRIPTION | Aprl 20- Mar21 | 1 Aprl21-Mar22 | 1 Aprl22-Jun22 |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Alignment | Path Off Line - resolved issue | 19 | 33 | 2 |
| Clearance | Clearance - carried out-jobs/km | 120km/345 | 120km/450 | 5km/59 |
| Bridge | Installed or repaired | 81 | 65 | 27 |
| Finger/post | Installed or repaired | 119 | 187 | 56 |
| Fly Tipping | Fly Tipping - removed | 38 | 47 | 5 |
| Gate | Gate repaired or installed | 79 | 163 | 27 |
| Intimidation+animal/per | Intimidation - resolved | 35 | 25 | 5 |
| Intimidating sign | Misleading Sign - removed | 28 | 26 | 2 |
| Obstruction - resolved | Barbed wire | 22 | 36 | 4 |
| Obstruction - resolved | Barrier - Fencing, wall or other | 143 | 154 | 30 |
| Obstruction - resolved | Electric fence | 44 | 26 | 2 |
| Obstruction - removed | Fallen Tree | 269 | 316 | 110 |
| Obstruction - resolved | Locked Gate | 6 | 4 | |
| Obstruction - resolved | Ploughing and Cropping | 113 | 77 | 22 |
| Other | Delivery of materials | 20 | 29 | 18 |
| Other | Miscellaneous issues resolved | 163 | 155 | 28 |
| Stile | Installed or repaired | 177 | 216 | 37 |
| Stile | Stile To Gap | 22 | 13 | 8 |
| Stile | Stile To KG | 39 | 48 | 8 |
| Stile | Stile To PG | 62 | 55 | 2 |
| Terrain | Bank Steps | 12 | 6 | 2 |
| Terrain | Path Surface problem resolved | 55 | 88 | 18 |
| Waymark Post | Installed/Repaired | 167 | 230 | 48 |
| Issues Signed off | | 2071 | 2451 | 522 |
| Volunteer Hours | The Chiltern Society | | | |
| Volunteer Hours | Iver Volunteers | | | |
| Volunteer Hours | RA Only | | | |
| Improvements | To aid mobility access | 202 | 279 | 45 |
| 5% Survey Results | Paths Rated easy to use | 75% | 74% | 74% |
| 5% Survey Results | Structures rated easy to use | 94% | 93% | 93% |
| 5% Survey Results | Routes with Roadside Signs | 94% | 93% | 93% |
| Number on Database | No. of issues os 31/03/12 | 799 | | |
| Number on Database | No. of Issues os 31/03/16 | 1531 | | |
| Number on Database | No. of Issues os 31/03/17 | 1114 | | |
| Number on Database | No. of Issues os 31/03/18 | 1498 | | |
| Number on Database | No. of Issues os 31/03/19 | 1740 | | |
| Number on Database | No. of Issues os 31/03/2020 | 2450 | | |
| Number on Database | No. of Issues os 31/03/2021 | 3100 | | |
| Number on Database | No. of Issues os 31/03/2022 | | 3199 | |
| Number on Database | No. of Issues os 30/06/2022 | | | 3202 |
| Priority A issues | No of Issues recd/dealt with | 212/182 | 187/184 | 56/62 |
| Priority B/C issues | No of Issues recd/dealt with | 2337/1709 | 2104/2076 | 485/406 |
| Priority D (low) | No of Issues recd/dealt with | 142/107 | 168/110 | 41/24 |

Above includes**Volunteer Jobs Completed**

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------|------------|---------|
| Clearance direct from BCC | 61/20km | 137/10.3km | 7/1.2km |
| Miscellaneous Jobs | 9 | 16 | 4 |
| Waymarking and signs | 59 | 222 | 44 |
| Gates Repaired and installed | 4 | 77 | 12 |
| Bank Steps | | | |
| Stiles replaced and repaired | 18 | 21 | |
| Trees removed | 17 | 13 | 7 |
| Total Jobs | 168 | 486 | 74 |

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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Report

AGENDA ITEM 9

Date: 13th July 2022

Title: LAF members' report

Author: Jonathan Clark, Strategic Access Officer

Contact Officer: Rebecca Binstead (01296 585244)

1. **CROW Act Open Access consultation: 5-year review proposing to maintain restrictions for shooting (Wayside Farm, Bledlow Ridge) and restricting walkers to a fenced, permissive path when grazing with cattle & calves (Chawley Manor Farm, West Wycombe).**

In January 2022 Natural England sought additional Local Access Forum comments regarding the necessity of existing land management restrictions on a parcel of land at Chawley Manor Farm, Bledlow HP14 4BS. In reply the chairman wrote to Natural England on 4th March 2022 [APPENDIX 2].

The LAF reply sought to relocate pedestrians off the 'marked route' which ran through an overgrown, scrubby corridor, south-west of Chinnor Road. An additional suggestion sought a new pedestrian access gate onto the Open Access land off Lower Road.

The revised restriction has now been published, and Natural England agreed with the Local Access Forum: that the public be allowed unrestricted access to the whole open access parcel without needing to use the scrubby, fenced-off corridor when cows were present. Nevertheless, walkers with dogs should, all times, keep dogs on a lead and stick to the 'marked route', which is now along open land to the west of the fenced corridor. This simplifies the restriction and resolves trying to keep on top of the scrub growth with limited resources.

2. **Great Missenden Train Station: Disabled Access**

The LAF were consulted by Network Rail on the desirability of installing a lift to link north and south-bound platforms at Great Missenden station. The existing link for disabled and push chair users is outside the station along a steep and longer alternative

path. Written representations were made by members, included in the Chairman's reply [APPENDIX 3].

3. Woodland Management - West Wycombe HP14 3AH

The Local Access Forum are being invited by the National Trust to comment on proposed felling operations [a general thinning of ash dieback] taking place on land subject to CROW 2000 Open Access designation at Windy Haugh, West Wycombe HP14 3AH [APPENDIX 5]. Works require a temporary road closure and pedestrian access restrictions on areas being felled in autumn 2022 [not including the public footpath]. Neil Harris to outline.

4. Venue and dates of next meetings

Paralympic Room, The Gateway, Gatehouse Rd, AYLESBURY HP19 8FF - 10am
Wednesday 2nd November 2022.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Rob Morris
Natural England
County Hall
Spetchley Road
Worcester
WR5 2NP

4th March 2022

The Buckinghamshire Local Access Forum is an independent, statutory advisory body on all matters relating to countryside access, with 13 members representing a wide range of interests including farmers, landowners, walkers, cyclists, equestrians, parish councils, National Trust and those with disabilities.

Chawley Manor Farm, Bledlow HP14 4BS

Case Reference: 2012026254 (2nd)

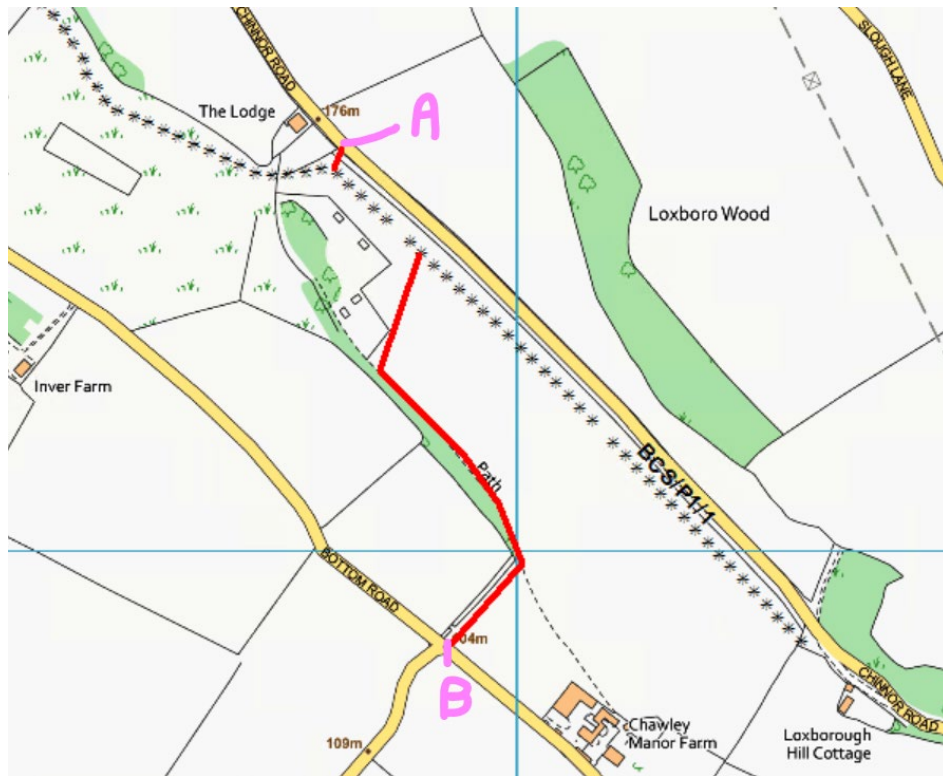
Dear Rob,

Thank you for inviting the Local Access Forum to comment on the proposed restriction at the above location.

The matter was discussed at our meeting on 2nd March 2022 and members welcomed the proposal which simplifies the existing restrictions and requires dogs to be kept on a lead along the marked route. However, members also agreed the 'marked route' needs to follow the path being used currently, to the south-west of the fenced corridor running parallel with Chinnor Road.

One area of concern was highlighted that walkers should release their dog if cows perceive a threat from dogs when protecting their young, which may be useful to mention on any notice.

Further, the member for the Chiltern Society suggested two locations [A and B] where additional gates could be considered to facilitate improved pedestrian access through the site [annotated red] with wider strategic connections to the surrounding network.



Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Richard Pushman'.

Richard Pushman (Chairman)

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

William Knighton
Stakeholder & Integrated Transport Manager
Chiltern Railways
Great Central House
Marylebone Station
Melcombe Place
LONDON
NW1 6JJ

7th March 2022

The Buckinghamshire Local Access Forum is an independent, statutory advisory body on all matters relating to countryside access, with 13 members representing a wide range of interests including farmers, landowners, walkers, cyclists, equestrians, parish councils, National Trust and those with disabilities.

Great Missenden Train Station: Disabled Access

Dear William,

Thank you for inviting the Local Access Forum to comment on the proposed funding bid to improve disabled access at Great Missenden train station.

The Local Access Forum's next scheduled meeting is not until 13th July 2020, but I have communicated by email and I'm pleased to be able to provide a summary of member's comments, including our member representing the disabled ramblers, who has visited the station. We have also heard from Cllr Peter Martin, Deputy Cabinet Member for Transport at Buckinghamshire Council and elected member for the Great Missenden Ward.

In short, both the Local Access Forum and Cllr Martin support your proposed bid as disabled access is very important. The existing stairs at Great Missenden station are steep and parents with push chairs and the elderly have difficulty using them, not least those arriving in wheelchairs or mobility scooters would be prohibited.

Great Missenden in general offers a number of village and countryside walks that are disabled friendly. In addition, planning permission has been granted for a new walking and cycling route linking Wendover and Great Missenden, forming part of the council and Sustrans' 'Misbourne Greenway' ambition, that would offer opportunities for mobility scooters and users with prams to access between train stations.

Members are also conscious that additional access benefits would increase visitor footfall to support local shops, cafes and pubs.

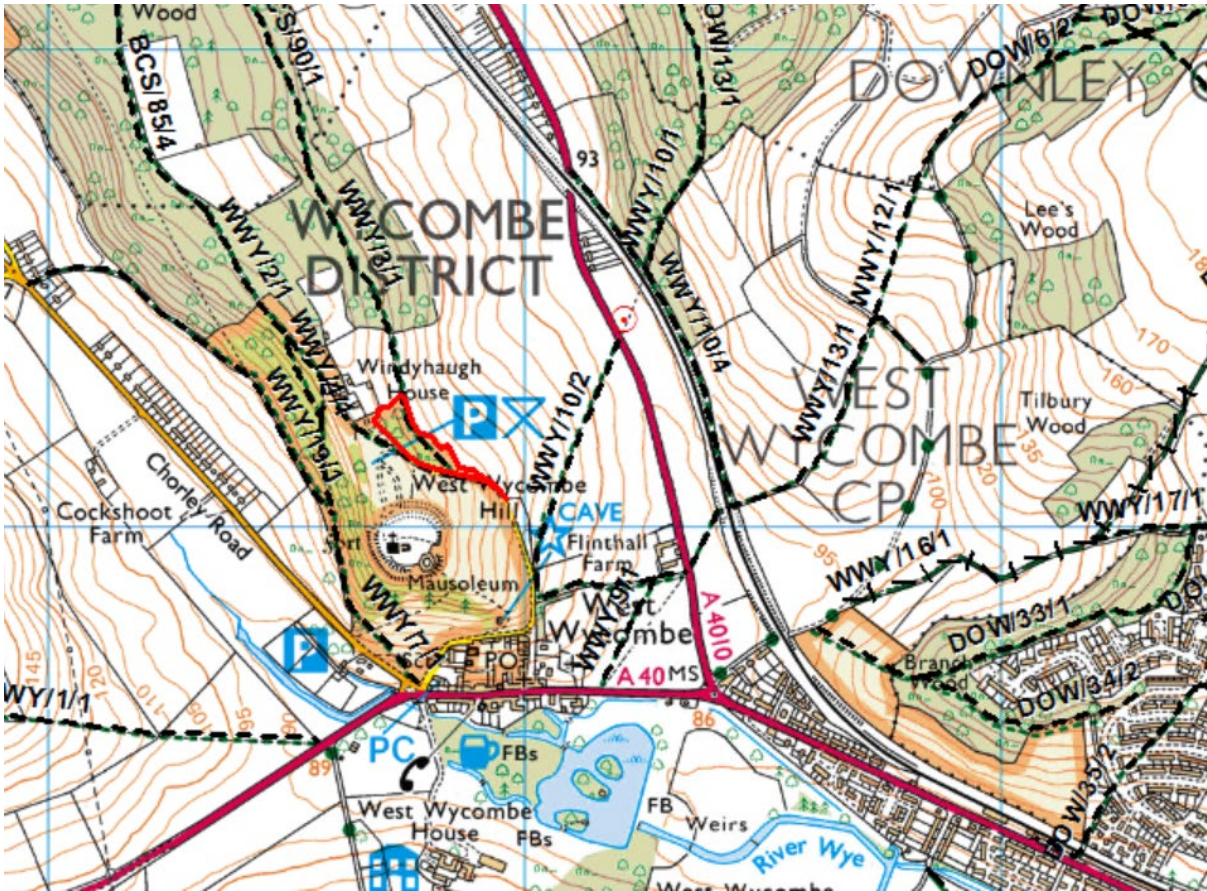
Forum members and councilors would welcome further opportunities to comment if the scheme progresses.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Pushman', with a stylized, flowing script.

Richard Pushman (Chairman)

APPENDIX 4



LAND EDGED RED



LAND SHADED DARK GREEN

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