



**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
LOCAL ACCESS FORUM**

Report

AGENDA ITEM 7

Date: 3rd November 2021

Title: Rights of Way Group update

A. MATTERS PREVIOUSLY DETERMINED

1. **Hedgerley** – application to upgrade public footpath No. 14 to public bridleway status based on historical evidence. **Order made. Objection received, referred to the Secretary of State for determination.**

2. **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. Order made and advertised. Referred to Secretary of state for determination.**

B. DEFINITIVE MAP APPLICATIONS TO BE INVESTIGATED (DMMO)

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

Summary:

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Applications received for Definitive Map Modification Orders	2	14	4	4	5	12	7	
Application determined (accepted or rejected)					1		4 (being prepared for determination)	
Applications completed (order confirmed or not confirmed)					1	1		

No data collected

Applications for Definitive Map Modification Orders	
Apps. waiting to be investigated	38
Apps. under investigation	8
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. **Chesham** – Application to add a Public Footpath to the Definitive Map between Fair Leas and Asheridge Road. **Application received 20 December 2016. Report completed, sent to legal for sign off.**
 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. Under investigation.**
 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.
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 27 August 2019.**
15. **Chesham** – application to add two routes to the Definitive Map from Lye Green Road connecting with footpath 37. **Application dated 27 August 2019.**
16. **Quainton** – 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 **Application received 27/03/2017.**
25. **Little Missenden** - application to upgrade bridleway No. 42 and bridleway No. 29 to restricted byway. **Application received 17/01/2020.**
26. **Little Missenden** - application to upgrade bridleway No. 26 to restricted byway. **Application received 19/02/2020.**
27. **Little Missenden** - application to upgrade bridleway No. 24 to restricted byway. **Application received 07/03/2020.**
28. **Little Missenden** – application to upgrade bridleway No. 25 to restricted byway. **Application received 15/03/2020.**
29. **Water Stratford** – application to add a claimed bridleway to the Definitive Map and Statement. **Application received 1/05/2020.**
30. **Chesham** – application to add a footpath between Hill Farm Road and Pump Lane to the Definitive Map and Statement. **Application received 27/01/2020.**
31. **Denham** – application to add public footpath from Priory Close to Alderbourne Field. **Application received 23/10/2019.**
32. **Waddesdon** – application to upgrade a footpath and claim public bridleway through Eythrope Park. **Application received 7/12/2020.**
33. **Dinton with Ford and Upton** – application to add public footpath between Burgess Lane and footpath No. 53. **Application received 21/12/2020.**
34. **Dinton with Ford and Upton** – application to add footpath between Watery Lane and Moreton. **Application received 21/12/2020.**
35. **Great Marlow** – application to add public footpath around perimeter of Wycombe Air Park – **Application received 21/12/2020.**
36. **Marlow** – application to add public footpath off Liston Road. **Application received 20/12/2020.**
37. **Little Missenden** – application to add public footpath from Parish Piece to Watchet Lane. **Application received 03/03/2021.**
38. **Radnage** – Application to add Public Bridleway from Bottle Square Lane to Bowers Lane. **Application Received 17/05/2021**
39. **Chesham** – Claimed Footpath off Pednor Road. **Application received 21/06/2021**

40. **Dinton with Ford and Upton.** Upgrading to a restricted Byway, Water Lane to Marsh Hill Lane. **Application received 9/08/2021**
41. **Dinton with Ford and Upton.** Claimed Restricted Byway and Upgrading to a Restricted Byway, Moreton Road to Moreton Lane. **Application received 9/08/2021**
42. **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.**
43. **Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell** – application to upgrade part of footpath no. 28 to public bridleway – **Application received 14/09/2021.**

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

Summary:

Applications for Public Path Orders	
Apps. waiting to be investigated	3
Apps. under investigation/Orders made	33
Orders waiting to be determined by PINS	5
Awaiting works by applicant	19

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 – **Order confirmed. Creation order to be made.**
4. **Weston Turville** – Application to divert Footpath No. 33 – **Order confirmed. Cycle Track Order Made. Objections Received, to be sent to PINS 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 – **Confirmed Order. Awaiting works.**

8. **Quarrendon** – Application to divert Footpath No. 3 & 4 – **Order to be made.**
9. **Chesham** – Application to extinguish part of the width of Footpath No. 114 – **Order made and objection received and being considered. CASE ON HOLD.**
10. **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.**
11. **Stoke Mandeville** – Application to divert Footpaths Nos. 3 and 14 – **Order confirmed. Awaiting works.**
12. **Stewkley** – Application to divert Footpath No. 19. **Order confirmed. Awaiting works to be completed.**
13. **Beachampton** – Application to divert Footpath No. 12. **Order made. Awaiting works.**
14. **Tingewick** – Application to divert Footpath No. 25. **Order Made. Objections received. Submitted to the Secretary of State for determination.**
15. **Hambleden** – Application to divert Footpath No. 44. **Under investigation.**
16. **Waddesdon** – Application to divert Footpath No. 7A. **Order Made. No Objection. Awaiting Works.**
17. **Buckingham** – Application to divert Footpath No. 36. **Order to be confirmed. Awaiting works**
18. **Waddesdon** - Application to divert Footpath No. 18. **Order confirmed, awaiting works.**
19. **Wexham** - Application to divert Footpath No. 2. **Under investigation.**
20. **Westcott** - Application to divert Footpath No. 30. **Order made and objections received. Submitted to Secretary of State.**
21. **Bierton** - Application to divert Footpath No. 3. **Order confirmed. Awaiting works.**
22. **Fulmer** - Application to divert Footpath No. 2. **Under investigation.**
23. **Stoke Mandeville** – Application to divert Footpath No.3. **Order made. Awaiting works.**
24. **Buckland** – Application to divert footpath No. 7 – **Order made. No Objections. Awaiting Works**
25. **Cuddington** – Application to divert footpath no 13 – **Order made. Objection received. To be referred to Secretary of State.**

26. **Wingrave** – Application to divert footpath No. 11 – **Order Confirmed. Awaiting works to be brought into effect.**
27. **Great Missenden** – Application to divert footpath No. 70 – **Order to be made. Objections received. To be referred to Secretary of State.**
28. **Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell** – Application to divert footpath No. 23-2 – **Order made. Awaiting works.**
29. **Little Horwood** – application to divert footpath No.4 – **Order Made. No Objections. Awaiting Works**
30. **Chalfont St Giles/Chenies** – application to divert bridleway No.43 and 5 – **Order to be made.**
31. **High Wycombe** – application to divert footpath No. 59 – **Order confirmed. Awaiting works to be brought into effect. Additional footpath creation agreed.**
32. **Oakley** – application to divert footpath No. 29 – **Order Made.**
33. **Winslow** – cycle track order to be made – **Order to be made.**
34. **Chalfont St Peter** – diversion of footpath No. 14 – **Rejected.**
35. **Kingsey** – diversion of footpath No. 1 – **Order Made.**
36. **Steeple Claydon** – creation agreement connecting existing footpath with Queen Catherine Road – **Creation Agreement completed. Awaiting works.**
37. **Steeple Claydon** – diversion of footpath No. 6 – **Order to be Made**
38. **Stoke Mandeville** – Extinguishment of Footpath No.8 & 10 – **Order to be Made**
39. **Cholesbury-cum- St Leonard** – creation and extinguishment of footpath no. 48A – **Order to be made.**
40. **High Wycombe/Hughenden** – creation agreement off Brands Hill Avenue – **Under investigation.**
41. **Radnage** – Diversion of Footpath No.5 – **In Consultation**
42. **Kingsbrook** – Diversion of Footpath No.1 – **Investigation not started**
43. **Wing** – Diversion of footpath No. 29C – **Order to be made.**
44. **Oakley** – Diversion of footpath No. 7 – **Order to be made.**
45. **Worminghall** – Diversion of Footpath No.2 – **Investigation not started**

46. **Maids Moreton** – Diversion of Footpath No.3 – **Investigation not started.**

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. **To be advertised.**
3. **Princes Risborough** – land at corner of Shootacre Lane and Picts Lane. **Application advertised.**
4. **Chesham** – land in Lye Green. **To be advertised.**
5. **Stoke Hammond** – land at Layton Road. **Application advertised.**

To note

As part of the transition to the new Buckinghamshire Council, the Rights of Way Committee has been removed. Officers now have delegated powers to determine applications which would have previously been determined by the Rights of Way Committee i.e. Definitive Map Modification Order Applications and Village Green Applications.

E. Strategic Access Update

1. The Aylesbury Gardenway is a proposed circular route proposed around Aylesbury, to include landscape enhancements, surfacing, greater public access, community benefits and environmental improvements. Progress on the scheme was presented to the Garden Town delivery Board in October 2021. The 16-week community engagement has been completed and Garden Town team have started meeting landowners and developers seeking commitments around delivering the 20km route, based on the proposed outline design (APPENDIX 4). Further 'outer loops' have been proposed which may come forward in future phases. A final report and design brief are due to complete by mid-December 2021. The route will be parcelled-up to aid funding bids, but the first phase may come via a government 'levelling up' funding which would showcase the route for later applications. It is also hoped to embed the Gardenway into strategic planning via a Supplementary Planning Document. The LAF will continue to be consulted and update on this route. www.aylesburygardenway.com

2. The Buckinghamshire Council Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) is a county-wide cycling strategy. This will be separate to the Aylesbury Gaden Town and High Wycombe LCWIP's. The countywide LCWIP will identify and assess priority strategic and aspirational walking and cycling routes across the county. This plan will help to guide future investment decisions and ensure that a co-ordinated approach is taken to the promotion of active travel across the county. It will help to focus priorities for funding while ensuring that it contributes to wider objectives of increasing accessibility, reducing carbon, improving health, and supporting town centre regeneration. The project is at early stages. It's not anticipated to be at the consultation stage by the November 2021 LAF meeting, but perhaps more of an introduction to the LCWIP.

3. The High Wycombe LCWIP has been developed by the Transport Strategy Team and will be consulted upon before being adopted as policy. It is envisaged the consultation will commence on 5th November 2021, subject to local member agreement and a key decision. Having engaged with the British Horse Society when developing the LCWIP and there is a specific note included regarding the need for any PROW improvements to consider the needs of equestrians. The LCWIP is town-wide so doesn't go into the detail of suggesting surfacing materials at this stage.

4. The Chiltern Society's Donate-a-Gate partnership scheme with the council has seen 3 new donors since the 14th July 2021 LAF meeting, bringing the total to 464 donors and 612 gates. There remains around £5,000 Gift Aid income which can fund additional gate installations in 2022 within the Chilterns.

5. The Ramblers Donate-a-Gate project (North Bucks RIPPLE) is back to full strength and installing around 1 new gate per week to replace stiles.

F. ROW OPERATIONS UPDATE (Joanne Taylor)

- 1 **The current staff structure** allows for 6.5 FTE staff: Currently in post we have, 1 Rights of Way Team Leader, 2 Area RoW Officers, 1.6 Assistant RoW Officers and 1.5 Bridge Structure Inspectors (=6.1 posts filled). At this current time Sophie David is on maternity leave, and Savannah Fradley will be acting-up in the post of Rights of Way Officer (South).

- 2 **BVPI Rights of Way Condition Survey** – results for the 5% network survey, carried out between November 2020 and February 2021 are as follows:

Paths rated easy to use	75%
Structures rated easy to use	94%
Routes with roadside signs	94%

- 3 **Autumn Survey** – Due to the current work load we are looking to carry out the 5% survey of the condition of the network later in the year. Putting together the

survey, distributing the survey, and then inputting the results is very time consuming and is heavily reliant on volunteer effort.

4 Capital projects update: List of 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- remove broken bridge winter – full replacement spring/summer 2022
Fawley Footpath No 12 Bridge Replacement	Accessible bridge to replace landowner's structure	Ongoing
Waddesdon Footpath 10	Sluice bridge renovation	Completed
Marlow - Thames Path	Surface works and bridge renovation	Bridge works complete. Awaiting contractor programme on two sections of repair
Wendover Ridgeway	Clearance and resurface works	Bacombe completed
Chesham FP114	Resurface 60 M	Project scoped – contractor engaged
Chartridge BOAT 38A	Resurface 100 M	Site to be assessed
Chartridge BW 20A	Level and resurface 150 M	Site to be assessed
Cholesbury-cum-St Leonards BW51	Insert Channel Drains	Site to be assessed
Gt Marlow BW23	Level and resurface 150M	Site to be assessed
Pitstone FP2	Adjust surface levels 60M	Completed
Westcott BW26	Level and resurface 90M	Completed
Halton FP8A	Adjust surface levels install handrail 150M	Site scoped - Contractor engaged
Taplow BW2	200-400M of clearance and surface works	Site to be assessed
Hambleden FP28	Approx. 200M missing handrail	Site scoped Contractor to be engaged
Wing FP19	9.5 M footbridge replacement	Completed
Vale Bridges	3 x larger footbridges to replace in AV area	Completed (additional bridges maybe found)
Chalfont St Giles BW60	Resurface works	Project scoped – contractor engaged

Denham BW46	Resurface works	Held
Marsworth FP8	Resurface works	Held
Stokenchurch BW7A	Resurface works	Held
Little Missenden - Featherbed Lane BW24	Resurface works	Held

- 5 **Fawley Bridge** - in December 2019 the landowner installed a temporary replacement structure. Discussions are still ongoing regarding replacement of this bridge with a wider structure.
- 6 **Annual Clearance** - the Council commissioned two extra clearance crews for 12 weeks during summer 2021 to work on the rights of way annual clearance schedule. All scheduled clearance jobs have now been completed. Additional clearance works reported by the public including winter clearance works will continue over the autumn and winter.
- 7 **Summary of Maintenance** – see APPENDIX 5.