

# Public Document Pack

## Notice of Meeting

### Rights of Way & Highway Licensing Panel

Councillors Mandy Brar (Chair), Clive Baskerville (Vice-Chair), Alison Carpenter, Richard Coe, Wisdom Da Costa, Geoff Hill, Maureen Hunt and Julian Tisi

Thursday 14 December 2023 6.30 pm

Council Chamber - Town Hall - Maidenhead & on [RBWM YouTube](#)

www.rbwm.gov.uk



### Agenda

Item	Description	Page
1	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> To receive any apologies for absence.	
2	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> To receive declarations of interests in respect of any item to be considered at this meeting.	3 - 4
3	<b>Minutes</b> To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 29 March.	5 - 6
4	<b>Footpath 19 Maidenhead: diversion application</b>	7 - 22

By attending this meeting, participants are consenting to the audio & visual recording being permitted and acknowledge that this shall remain accessible in the public domain permanently.

Please contact Will Ward, [Will.Ward@rbwm.gov.uk](mailto:Will.Ward@rbwm.gov.uk), with any special requests that you may have when attending this meeting.

Published: 6 December 2023



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## MEMBERS' GUIDE TO DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

### Disclosure at Meetings

If a Member has not disclosed an interest in their Register of Interests, they **must make** the declaration of interest at the beginning of the meeting, or as soon as they are aware that they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) or Other Registerable Interest. If a Member has already disclosed the interest in their Register of Interests they are still required to disclose this in the meeting if it relates to the matter being discussed.

Any Member with concerns about the nature of their interest should consult the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.

### Non-participation in case of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)

Where a matter arises at a meeting which directly relates to one of your DPIS (summary below, further details set out in Table 1 of the Members' Code of Conduct) you must disclose the interest, **not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room** unless you have been granted a dispensation. If it is a 'sensitive interest' (as agreed in advance by the Monitoring Officer), you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest, just that you have an interest. Dispensation may be granted by the Monitoring Officer in limited circumstances, to enable you to participate and vote on a matter in which you have a DPI.

Where you have a DPI on a matter to be considered or is being considered by you as a Cabinet Member in exercise of your executive function, you must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest and must not take any steps or further steps in the matter apart from arranging for someone else to deal with it.

*DPIS (relating to the Member or their partner) include:*

- *Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.*
- *Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the council) made to the councillor during the previous 12-month period for expenses incurred by him/her in carrying out his/her duties as a councillor, or towards his/her election expenses*
- *Any contract under which goods and services are to be provided/works to be executed which has not been fully discharged.*
- *Any beneficial interest in land within the area of the council.*
- *Any licence to occupy land in the area of the council for a month or longer.*
- *Any tenancy where the landlord is the council, and the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest in the securities of.*
- *Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where:*
  - a) *that body has a place of business or land in the area of the council, and*
  - b) *either (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or (ii) the total nominal value of the shares of any one class belonging to the relevant person exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.*

Any Member who is unsure if their interest falls within any of the above legal definitions should seek advice from the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting.

### Disclosure of Other Registerable Interests

Where a matter arises at a meeting which **directly relates** to one of your Other Registerable Interests (summary below and as set out in Table 2 of the Members Code of Conduct), you must disclose the interest. **You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting but otherwise must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation.** If it is a 'sensitive interest' (as agreed in advance by the Monitoring Officer), you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest.

### Other Registerable Interests:

- a) any unpaid directorships
  - b) any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority
  - c) any body
    - (i) exercising functions of a public nature
    - (ii) directed to charitable purposes or
    - (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union)
- of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management

### Disclosure of Non- Registerable Interests

Where a matter arises at a meeting which **directly relates** to your financial interest or well-being (and is not a DPI) or a financial interest or well-being of a relative or close associate, or a body included under Other Registerable Interests in Table 2 you must disclose the interest. **You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting** but otherwise **must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation**. If it is a 'sensitive interest' (agreed in advance by the Monitoring Officer) you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest.

Where a matter arises at a meeting which **affects** –

- a. your own financial interest or well-being;
- b. a financial interest or well-being of a friend, relative, close associate; or
- c. a financial interest or well-being of a body included under Other Registerable Interests as set out in Table 2 (as set out above and in the Members' code of Conduct)

you must disclose the interest. In order to determine whether you can remain in the meeting after disclosing your interest the following test should be applied.

Where a matter (referred to in the paragraph above) **affects** the financial interest or well-being:

- a. to a greater extent than it affects the financial interests of the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision and;
- b. a reasonable member of the public knowing all the facts would believe that it would affect your view of the wider public interest

**You may speak on the matter only if members of the public are also allowed to speak at the meeting** but otherwise **must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter and must not remain in the room unless you have been granted a dispensation**. If it is a 'sensitive interest' (agreed in advance by the Monitoring Officer), you do not have to disclose the nature of the interest.

### Other declarations

Members may wish to declare at the beginning of the meeting any other information they feel should be in the public domain in relation to an item on the agenda; such Member statements will be included in the minutes for transparency.

# Agenda Item 3

## RIGHTS OF WAY & HIGHWAY LICENSING PANEL

Wednesday 29 March 2023

Present virtually: Councillors Maureen Hunt (Chairman), Samantha Rayner, Phil Haseler, Mandy Brar, Clive Baskerville and Gerry Clark

Officers in attendance virtually: Jacqui Wheeler and Becky Oates

### Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Muir, with Councillor Clark substituting in his place.

### Declarations of Interest

Councillors Haseler and Hunt declared that they had both already seen the Milestones Statement 2023/24 as they were members of the Local Access Forum.

### Minutes

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY: That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2022 be a true and accurate record.**

### Public Rights of Way 'Milestones Statement 2023/24'

Jacqui Wheeler, Parks and Countryside Access Officer, introduced the report and stated that it was the annual Milestones Statement which was coming to the Panel for approval. There were over 310km of public rights of way in the borough which were very well used. Consultations had been carried out with the Local Access Forum (LAF), as well as Parish and Town Councils, the responses to which were set out in Appendix B.

During 2022/23, several volunteer groups worked on public rights of way, including The Conservation Volunteers, Ways into Work, Berkshire College of Agriculture and East Berks Ramblers. The value of these volunteers had been calculated at around £15,000 which was incredibly important to the team. A revenue budget of £60,000 had been allocated to the team for 2023/24, a large portion of which would be used for the vegetation clearance schedule. There had been no allocated capital budget for public rights of way work, but work was ongoing to build up the volunteers' network and sources of external funding to continue working on and making improvements to the network.

There had been a change in the wording to some of the objectives and milestones targets, detailed in the statement.

The Chair stated that she was very proud that her ward of Hurley and the Walthams had 29.9% of the public rights of way within the borough and asked how members could contact Ways into Work or whether it was for officers to contact this group.

Jacqui Wheeler confirmed that the Ways into Work team were a small, part-time team that fell under the management of Jason Mills, Natural Environment Officer, but members could reach out if they had any specific tasks that they felt the team could help with.

The Chair asked how reducing the capital budget from £40,000 to £0 would affect the work of the team.

Jacqui Wheeler stated that it would reduce the amount of work and improvement that could be carried out.

Councillor Rayner thanked Jacqui Wheeler for the report and stated that it was fantastic to offer so many miles and kilometres of public space and asked if advertisements were ever published for volunteers to help with rights of way.

Jacqui Wheeler thanked Councillor Rayner and stated that work was ongoing with Parishes through the Parish Paths Initiatives and the team would be looking at ways to work with other volunteer groups.

Councillor Baskerville asked if prisoners carried out any work as part of the reparation programme.

The Chair stated that she was aware that youth offenders helped with volunteering.

Jacqui Wheeler confirmed that work had been ongoing to build up a relationship with the youth offending team.

Councillor Haseler thanked Jacqui Wheeler and stated that the Cox Green were always willing to help in any way they could.

Jacqui Wheeler detailed the achievements of milestones targets in Appendix 6 to the statement. Appendix 7 contained a record of the ongoing site-specific projects and any updated this year.

Councillor Brar asked about the progress of footpaths 42 and 46.

Jacqui Wheeler stated that to the best of her knowledge, works had been completed.

The Chair asked if there were any projects that would need to go in a list of cold cases, in instances where nothing could really be done.

Jacqui Wheeler confirmed that if items were to be removed from the statement, they would still be part of the rights of way improvement plan.

**ACTION: Jacqui Wheeler and the Chair to assess items that could be placed in the cold case file.**

Jacqui Wheeler explained that the Planning Position Statements, as set out in Appendix 8, detailed the principles agreed to by the LAF, and had been forwarded to the planning department.

Appendix B detailed the consultation responses and any further discussions that had occurred with Parishes.

Jacqui Wheeler gave a presentation to the Panel of the work that had been carried out by both volunteers and contractors.

The Chair thanked Jacqui for the pictures and stated that it was really important to see before and after photos as they made a big difference.

**AGREED UNANIMOUSLY: That the Rights of Way and Highways Licensing Panel approves the ‘Milestones Statement and Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan Annual Review 2023/24’.**

The meeting, which began at 6.30 pm, finished at 7.30 pm

Chair.....

Date.....

Report Title:	Footpath 19 Maidenhead: diversion application
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	No - Part I
Officer reporting:	Sharon Wootten, Public Rights of Way Officer
Meeting and Date:	Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
Responsible Officer(s):	Andrew Durrant, Director of Place Alysse Strachan, Assistant Director of Neighbourhood Services
Wards affected:	Riverside



## REPORT SUMMARY

*The report considers an application received from the landowner for the diversion of part of Footpath 19 Maidenhead near North Town Moor in Maidenhead. The report sets out the detail of the proposed diversions, assesses the proposal against the relevant legislation (section 119 of the Highways Act 1980), and gives details of responses received to informal consultations on the proposal. The report concludes that the proposed diversions meet the criteria set out in the Highways Act 1980, and therefore recommends that the diversion Order is made.*

## 1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATION

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Panel notes the report and:

- i) **The footpath diversion application for part of Footpath 19 Maidenhead near North Town Moor in Maidenhead, as shown in Appendix 1, is accepted and an Order made.**

## 2. REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

### Options

**Table 1: Options arising from this report**

Option	Comments
Accept the footpath diversion application and publish a Diversion Order under the Highway Act 1980  <b>This is the recommended option.</b>	It is considered that the application does meet the criteria for public footpath diversions set out in the Highways Act 1980, as detailed below.  If the Panel chooses to proceed with publication of a Diversion Order and objections are received and not subsequently withdrawn, the Council cannot itself confirm

Option	Comments
	the Order, but may refer the Order and objections to the Secretary of State and a decision on whether the Order is confirmed would then rest with the Secretary of State or an Inspector acting on their behalf.
Reject the diversion application  This option is not recommended.	The Panel should consider the responses received to the consultation on the application, as set out in Appendix 2 to this report.

2.1 **The application:** the diversion application submitted by the landowner is shown on the application map attached at Appendix 1. The proposal is to divert the part of Footpath 19 Maidenhead which is currently a ‘cross-field’ footpath to follow a field-edge path. The proposal also includes short extensions to Footpaths 12 and 17 Maidenhead in order to provide improved linkages to the diverted path.

2.2 The reasons for the diversion proposal, and details of the proposed new routes, as stated by the applicant, are as follows:

*“To facilitate provision of additional football facilities”*

*“FP19 to be diverted to run parallel to FP17 to FP20, then west to rejoin route” (NB this proposed route was superseded by an updated diversion route which sees Footpath 19 run along the eastern boundary of the existing football pitches to rejoin in the east to Footpath Maidenhead 16 and in the west to existing Footpath Maidenhead 19).*

*“3m width to accommodate rerouted permissive cycle path along same route.*

*Surface improvements to permeable hard surface suitable for walking and cycling route”*

2.3 **Assessment:** the proposed diversion must be considered under the criteria set out in Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980. This requires that before making a Diversion Order the Council must be satisfied that the proposal would be in the interests of the owner of the land and/or in the interests of the public. Before confirming an Order, the Council must also be satisfied that the proposed new route will not be substantially less convenient to the public than the existing route, and must have regard to the effect that the diversion would have on public enjoyment of the path as a whole, and the effect that the coming into operation of the diversion would have on land served by the existing right of way. The Council must also have regard to the needs of agriculture and forestry, flora and fauna, and any relevant provisions within the current *“Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Public Rights of Way improvement Plan 2016-2026”*.

2.4 The officer’s view is that the diversion as proposed does meet the criteria set out above. In particular it is considered that the diversion of the cross-field



section of Footpath 19 and the provision of a 3m wide hard surface for the whole length of the diversion will result in an easier and equally convenient walking experience for the user compared to the existing partly unsurfaced path with no significant loss of amenity or enjoyment. The route also represents improved provision for cyclists (on a permitted basis).

- 2.5 The objective of the diversion is to facilitate the installation of additional football pitches; there is a wider social benefit to this provision.
- 2.6 The design of the diverted section is a 3m wide limestone dust surface 15mm deep on a 200mm type 2 sub base laid on a geotextile membrane, all with a 3% drop to facilitate drainage.
- 2.7 It is noted from the informal consultation responses that most respondents have expressed support for the diversion proposal, and these comments should be recognised. One respondent objected to the proposal.

### 3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

**Table 2: Key Implications**

Outcome	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date of delivery
Diversion application determined	Application not determined	Application determined	n/a	n/a	tbc

### 4. FINANCIAL DETAILS / VALUE FOR MONEY

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. The administrative costs of processing the diversion application are being met by the applicant, and if the footpath diversions were to proceed all associated financial costs would also be met by the applicant.

### 5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The legal tests to be applied in assessing the footpath diversion application are set out in paragraph 2.3 above. Section 119(6) of the Highways Act 1980 provides that before a diversion order is confirmed as an unopposed order the Council or the Secretary of State must be satisfied that new paths will not be substantially less convenient to the public as a result of the diversion and that confirmation is expedient having regard to the effect of the diversion on public enjoyment of the path as a whole and on land crossed by the existing path or to be crossed by the new one. It is submitted that the tests for confirmation of an order are met.
- 5.2 Under Section B8 of Part 6 of the Council's Constitution ('Terms of Reference of all other Committees, Panels and other bodies of the Council'), this Panel is empowered to exercise the Council's functions to determine public rights of way diversion applications.

## 6. RISK MANAGEMENT

**Table 3: Impact of risk and mitigation**

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Level of uncontrolled risk</b>	<b>Controls</b>	<b>Level of controlled risk</b>
<b>None</b>			

## 7. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

- 7.1 Equalities. An Equalities Impact Assessment Screening Form has been completed (Appendix C). If the diversion application is refused, there will be no negative impacts as the footpath routes will remain unchanged. If the application is accepted and the diversions were to be implemented (subject to confirmation of the Order), there may be low level impacts (both positive and negative) on some users as set out in the EQIA screening form.
- 7.2 Climate change/sustainability. If the diversion application is refused there will be no impact on climate change/sustainability, as the footpath routes would remain unchanged. If the diversions were to proceed, there would be no material impact on climate change/sustainability.
- 7.3 Data Protection/GDPR. All personal data has been removed from consultation respondents' comments set out in Appendix 2.

## 8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The applicant for the diversion order approached some interested parties regarding the application, and all resulting comments received are set out in Appendix 2. Additionally, the Council has undertaken pre-order consultations with interested parties, and again all comments received are set out in Appendix 2.

## 9. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

**Table 4: Implementation timetable**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>
14 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Application to be determined by the Panel

## 10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 This report is supported by 3 appendices:

Appendix 1: Footpath 19 Maidenhead diversion application map  
Appendix 2: Consultation responses  
Appendix 3: Equality Impact Assessment form

## 11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None

## 12. CONSULTATION

Name of consultee	Post held	Date sent	Date returned
<i>Mandatory:</i>		<i>Statutory Officers (or deputy)</i>	
Elizabeth Griffiths	Executive Director of Resources	28/11/23	tbc
Rebecca Hatch	Assistant Director of Strategy	28/11/23	tbc
<i>Deputies:</i>			
Andrew Vallance	Deputy Director of Finance and (Deputy S151 Officer)	28/11/23	tbc
Elaine Browne	Deputy Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer	28/11/23	tbc
<i>Other consultees:</i>			
<i>Directors (where relevant)</i>			
Stephen Evans	Chief Executive		
Andrew Durrant	Executive Director of Place	28/11/23	tbc
<i>Heads of Service (where relevant)</i>			
Chris Joyce	Assistant Director of Infrastructure, Sustainability and Economic Growth		
Alysse Strachan	Assistant Director of Neighbourhood Services	28/11/23	tbc
<i>External (where relevant)</i>			
N/A			

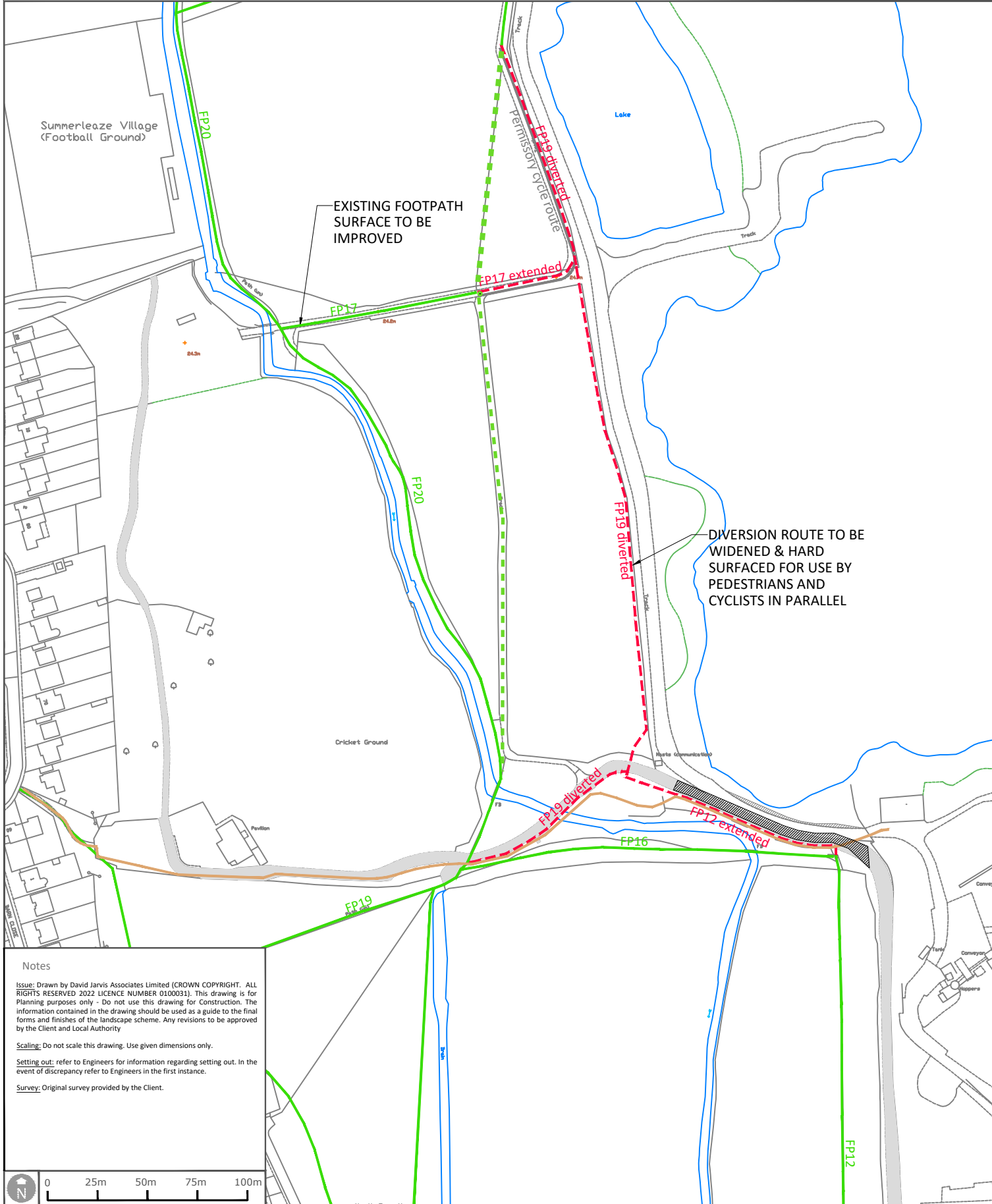
Confirmation relevant Cabinet Member(s) consulted	Cllr Joshua Reynolds, Cabinet Member for Communities and Leisure	Yes
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## REPORT HISTORY

Decision type:	Urgency item?	To follow item?
Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel decision	No	No

Report Author: Sharon Wootten, Public Right of Way Officer, 07762 258010





**Notes**

Issue: Drawn by David Jarvis Associates Limited (CROWN COPYRIGHT. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED 2022 LICENCE NUMBER 0100031). This drawing is for Planning purposes only - Do not use this drawing for Construction. The information contained in the drawing should be used as a guide to the final forms and finishes of the landscape scheme. Any revisions to be approved by the Client and Local Authority

**Scaling:** Do not scale this drawing. Use given dimensions only.

**Setting out:** refer to Engineers for information regarding setting out. In the event of discrepancy refer to Engineers in the first instance.

**Survey:** Original survey provided by the Client.



KEY		EXISTING INTERNAL ACCESS ROAD		EXISTING INTERNAL SITE TRACK RE-ALIGNED / WIDENED		PROPOSED PUBLIC FOOTPATH	
	EXISTING PUBLIC FOOTPATH		EXISTING INTERNAL ACCESS ROAD		EXISTING INTERNAL SITE TRACK RE-ALIGNED / WIDENED		PROPOSED PUBLIC FOOTPATH
	EXISTING PUBLIC FOOTPATH TO BE DIVERTED		EXISTING INTERNAL ACCESS ROAD RE-ALIGNED / WIDENED TO ACCOMMODATE CYCLEWAY AND FOOTPATH		INDICATIVE ALIGNMENT OF A PROPOSED BOARDWALK		

Drawing Revision			
Rev	Date	Description	Drawn / Checked
P10	08/07/2022	Minor alignment adjustment to suit client comment.	AC AC
P9	08/07/2022	Minor alignment adjustment to suit client comment.	AC AC
P8	01/07/2022	Updated in accordance with site meeting held 22/06/2022.	AB AC
P7	07/06/2022	Minor revs as requested by Molyneux Planning Wed 01/06/2022 11:52	AC AC
P6	06/05/2022	Minor revs as requested by Molyneux Planning Thu 04/05/2022 16:08	AC AC
P5	05/05/2022	Minor revs to omit annotations.	AC AC

Client  
**SUMMERLEAZE LTD.**

Project  
**SHEEPHOUSE FARM**

Drawing Title			
<b>FOOTPATH DIVERSIONS TO FP19 - RIVERSIDE WARD</b>			
Scale <b>1:2500</b>	Sheet Size <b>A4</b>	Date <b>11/07/2022</b>	
Client Ref. <b>2887-4-1-5</b>	Drawing No. <b>DR-0002</b>	Version <b>S4-P10</b>	

**PLANNING**

**DAVID JARVIS ASSOCIATES**

DAVID JARVIS ASSOCIATES LIMITED  
 5 Fenbyon Street Swindon Wiltshire SN1 5DT  
 t: 01793 612173  
 e: mail@djavidjars.com  
 w: www.davidjars.biz

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Consultee comments	
Maidenhead Civic Society	The Civic Society has no objection to the current diversion proposal. We note that the access road is to be widened to accommodate the extended FP12. There was a rumour that Summerleaze wanted to remove footpaths from this road. If true evidently this is no longer the case.
Sustrans	I would like to confirm Sustrans' support for the diversion of National Cycle Network (NCN) Route 50 in the north of Maidenhead. The measures outlined in this application will allow the NCN to remain a benefit to the local area, including residents, businesses, schools and visitors. Maintaining access to this section of NCN Route 50 also aligns with the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead's aspirations to improve active travel across the county, which Sustrans greatly supports. An active travel route in Maidenhead fits with Sustrans' mission to make it easier for people to walk and cycle, along with our Paths For Everyone report to improve and extend the NCN, making it accessible to all user groups, including those with disabilities. Moreover, the diversion would maintain a section of NCN Route 50 which Sustrans envisages to extend, with many sections of this route previously being removed from our network because it did not fulfil our 'for everyone' criteria, due to the high vehicle speeds and flows on rural roads. The diversion is more direct than the existing route, which is a great benefit to increasing sustainable travel. We would also strongly encourage that an impermeable surfacing is considered over a limestone dust surface course because, as described in Local Transport Note 1/20, a sealed surfacing is more accessible for adaptive cycles, prams and wheelchairs. A tarmacked surfacing also has a far longer life span than a dust surfacing, ensuring that maintenance responsibilities are less on behalf of the landowner. I would also like to invite the relevant person to contact me if there if there is any further information needed for the support of the diversion, and I would also like to revisit the conversation around barriers on other sections of the NCN owned by the landowner. I hope this letter of support opens up a positive dialogue for may years to come, which will in term bring positive benefits to the local community and economy
EBR	I can confirm that we have no objection to this diversion.
Cookham Parish Council	By a majority vote, the Council wish to <b>object</b> to the plan to move Maidenhead footpath 19 with the comment that 'this will give a less satisfactory walking experience'.
Local Access Forum	AGREED: The LAF supported the recommendations of the changes. In response to an enquiry from a LAF member, it was confirmed that there was a written correspondence confirming that the proposed

	diverted path would be 3m wide rather than 2.5m as in the application.
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# Equality Impact Assessment

For support in completing this EQIA, please consult the EQIA Guidance Document or contact [equality@rbwm.gov.uk](mailto:equality@rbwm.gov.uk)

www.rbwm.gov.uk



## 1. Background Information

Title of policy/strategy/plan:	<b>Public Path Diversion Order application Maidenhead Footpath 19</b>
Service area:	Neighbourhood Services
Directorate:	Place

**Provide a brief explanation of the proposal:**

- What are its intended outcomes?
- Who will deliver it?
- Is it a new proposal or a change to an existing one?

The Public Path Diversion Order application for Maidenhead Footpath 19 seeks to divert the existing route of part of the path from a cross field path to a field edge path in order to accommodate the provision of additional football pitches. The applicant will deliver the changes on the ground if an Order is confirmed.

## 2. Relevance Check

**Is this proposal likely to directly impact people, communities or RBWM employees?**

- If Yes, state 'Yes' and proceed to Section 3.
- If No, please explain why not, including how you've considered equality issues.
- Will this proposal need a EQIA at a later stage? (for example, for a forthcoming action plan)

Yes.

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If 'No', proceed to 'Sign off'. If unsure, please contact [equality@rbwm.gov.uk](mailto:equality@rbwm.gov.uk)

### 3. Evidence Gathering and Stakeholder Engagement

<b>Who will be affected by this proposal?</b> For example, users of a particular service, residents of a geographical area, staff
Path users which could be local residents or visitors to the Borough. The majority are likely to be local residents.
<b>Among those affected by the proposal, are protected characteristics (age, sex, disability, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, marriage/civil partnership) disproportionately represented?</b> For example, compared to the general population do a higher proportion have disabilities?
Amongst path users protected characteristics are not expected to be disproportionately represented.
<b>What engagement/consultation has been undertaken or planned?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How has/will equality considerations be taken into account?</li><li>• Where known, what were the outcomes of this engagement?</li></ul>
Local user groups and the local parish council have been consulted. If an Order is made there will be a wider public consultation before the Order can be confirmed.
<b>What sources of data and evidence have been used in this assessment?</b> Please consult the <a href="#">EQIA Evidence Matrix</a> for relevant data. Examples of other possible sources of information are in the Guidance document (Section 2.3).
Informal consultation responses to date. Formal consultation responses will be taken into consideration if an Order is made.

#### 4. Equality Analysis

Please detail, **using supporting evidence**:

- How the protected characteristics below might influence the needs and experiences of individuals, in relation to this proposal.
- How these characteristics might affect the impact of this proposal.

Tick positive/negative impact as appropriate. If there is no impact, or a neutral impact, state 'Not Applicable'.

More information on each protected characteristic is provided in the EQIA Guidance document (available on the intranet).

	Details and supporting evidence	Potential positive impact	Potential negative impact
Age	The Public Path Diversion Order application will improve the surface conditions of part of the path improving access for people of all ages	Yes	
Disability	The Public Path Diversion Order application will improve the surface conditions of part of the path improving access for people with disabilities.	Yes	
Sex	N/A		
Race, ethnicity and religion	N/A		
Sexual orientation and gender reassignment	N/A		
Pregnancy and maternity		Yes	
Marriage and civil partnership	N/A		
Armed forces community	N/A		

Socio-economic considerations e.g. low income, poverty	N/A		
Children in care/Care leavers	N/A		

## 5. Impact Assessment and Monitoring

*If you have not identified any disproportionate impacts and the questions below are not applicable, leave them blank and proceed to Sign Off.*

<p><b>What measures have been taken to ensure that groups with protected characteristics are able to benefit from this change, or are not disadvantaged by it?</b> For example, adjustments needed to accommodate the needs of a particular group</p>
<p><b>Where a potential negative impact cannot be avoided, what measures have been put in place to mitigate or minimise this?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For planned future actions, provide the name of the responsible individual and the target date for implementation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>How will the equality impacts identified here be monitored and reviewed in the future?</b></p>

## 6. Sign Off

<b>Completed by:</b> Sharon Wootten	<b>Date:</b> 09/11/23
<b>Approved by:</b> Alysse Strachan	<b>Date:</b> 24/11/2023

If this version of the EQIA has been reviewed and/or updated:

<b>Reviewed by:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
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