

LOCAL ACCESS FORUM REPORT - 1st NOVEMBER 2017
AGENDA ITEM 1(c)

LOCAL ACCESS FORUM: 1 NOV 2017

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Local Access Forum about the progress made on actions and issues arising from the Forum meeting held on 14th June 2017

Key:

Completed items

In progress

Incomplete

Action owners:

AF	Andrew Fletcher (Public Rights of Way Officer)	AH	Anthony Hurst (Parks and Countryside Team Leader)
SW	Sharon Wootten (Public Rights of Way Officer)	PT	Peter Thorn
LH	Lisa Hughes	VG	Victoria Gibson
AK	Alan Keene	SG	Steve Gillions

Agenda Item 3: Volunteering in RBWM

Item	Action / Issue	Action Owner	Outcome
3.1	Send letter to all Parish Councils including TCV BAT Team leaflets, encouraging volunteers to get involved with works by the group	AF / PT	This letter has been sent to all parish clerks, along with a supply of Biodiversity Act Team leaflets.
3.2	Send contact details of Parish Clerks to Buffy Harris-Jones for her to contact each Council directly	AF	Email sent on 19 th June 2017
3.3	Investigate options for potential training for volunteers to understand disabled access issues	AF / LH	Training being developed by Lisa Hughes

Agenda Item 4: Planning and Consultations

Item	Action / Issue	Action Owner	Outcome
4.1	VG to update AF with details of what requirements are needed for a particular size of development	VG	There are various planning policies within the Borough's Local Plan that set out the amount of public open space required within a development, set out design principles and also policies that encourage good highway design and transport

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			<p>improvements. All development proposals need to comply with these policy requirements unless there are material considerations that indicate otherwise.</p> <p>The local plan sets out public open space requirements for all new housing development and play space standards for family housing development for site of over 0.4 hectare and over 15 units. However each site is considered on its own merits and there may be competing issues i.e. slightly less public open space could result in more affordable homes so these issues need to be balanced and addressed by the Local Planning Authority on a case by case basis.</p>
4.2	Planning policy team to liaise with AF regarding LAF position statements	VG / AF	The LAF position statements will be distributed to the Planning Policy teams once approved by the Forum.

Agenda Item 5: Access and Brexit

Item	Action / Issue	Action Owner	Outcome
5.1	Circulate Mid and West Berks LAF Access and Brexit proposals to all LAF members	AF	These notes have been sent to all members on 15 th June 2017.
5.2	Inform MWBLAF that the RBWM LAF were not prepared to support their proposals at the present time, but have resolved to write separately to the Secretary of State for the Environment to register support of stewardship schemes and financial incentives to gain access improvements	AF	Mid and West Berks have informed of the Forum's decision.
5.3	Draft letter to the Secretary of State for the Environment to highlight that Countryside Stewardship schemes and other financial incentives have worked in this area, and asking him to bear this in mind when considering policies in future following the withdrawal from the EU.	AF	Letter to be tabled at LAF meeting on 1 st November 2017 for approval

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	Letter to be sent to all members for comments before it is sent		
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Agenda Item 6: LAF Work Programme

Item	Action / Issue	Action Owner	Outcome
6.1	AF to work with AK to approach the other stakeholders at Ashley Hill to see if they would be happy in principle for increased horse riding access in the woods	AF / AK	This project will be taken forward in 2018.
6.2	A LAF working group to be put together with interested members to develop draft position statements on behalf of the LAF which define strategic access benefits that would be desirable in the identified development areas in the Local Plan.	AF	The working group met on the 21 st September and 16 th October to discuss opportunities in the identified Housing Allocation areas included in the Borough Local Plan. The outcomes of the meeting are included in Agenda Item 4.
6.3	Share the LAF position statements with local Parish Councils, Highways and Planning Policy for their consideration when responding to pre planning advice and formal planning applications.	AF	To be completed when the position statements have been approved.

Agenda Item 7: LAF Annual Report

Item	Action / Issue	Action Owner	Outcome
7.1	Publish the LAF Annual Report	AF	The approved LAF Annual report was published on 19 th June 2017.
7.2	PT suggested that the financial value of the volunteer works be communicated as a percentage of the annual revenue budget in future publications	AF	This will be included in the next Path Progress Report in September.
7.3	The LAF work programme for 2017/2018 was decided as follows: 1. Opportunities for access improvements in large development sites 2. Multi-user routes 3. Improvement of access at Ashley Hill, Hurley	AF	This has been added to the LAF Annual Report 2016-2017 and will be added to the agenda for the forthcoming meetings.
7.4	Write to Maidenhead Civic Society regarding the Millennium Walk to inform them that the LAF will be continuing to monitor progress towards this aim, but at	AF	Email sent to Ann Darracott on 24 th July 2017

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	the present time have decided that no further advice to the Council is necessary.		
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Agenda Item 9: Feedback from meetings and conferences

Item	Action / Issue	Action Owner	Outcome
9.1	Ask the LAF chairs group who represents disabled access users on other forums	AF	Email sent 15/6
9.2	Circulate details of potential fund for improving PROW affected by Highways England schemes to all members	AF	Details sent on 29 th August 2017 to all members
9.3	Draft letter on behalf of the LAF to the late Cllr Mike Bruton's family expressing condolences for their loss	AF/PT	Unfortunately the letter was not able to be sent as we do not have current address details for Mike Bruton's family.
9.4	Contact Margaret Bowdery's family regarding wording for memorial plaque	SG	An approach has been made on 17 th June 2017.