



NOTICE OF MEETING

RIGHTS OF WAY AND HIGHWAY LICENSING PANEL

will meet on

TUESDAY 3 MARCH 2015

at

6.30 PM

in the

COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, MAIDENHEAD

TO: MEMBERS OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY & HIGHWAY LICENSING PANEL

COUNCILLOR JOHN STRETTON (CHAIRMAN)

COUNCILLOR MAUREEN HUNT (VICE-CHAIRMAN)

COUNCILLORS WISDOM DA COSTA, JAMES EVANS, MOHAMMED ILYAS, GARY
MUIR AND TOM BURNSNALL

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

COUNCILLORS PETER COMBER, JESSE GREY, CHRISTIAN HARRIS, HARI DEV
SHARMA, JOHN STORY, JOHN PENFOLD AND CATHERINE BURNSNALL

Karen Shepherd
Democratic Services Manager

Issued: 16 February 2015

Members of the Press and Public are welcome to attend Part I of this meeting.

The agenda is available on the Council's web site at www.rbwm.gov.uk or contact the
Panel Administrator **Tanya Leftwich** (01628) 796345

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AGENDA

PART I

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>WARD</u>	<u>PAGE NO</u>
1	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> To receive any apologies for absence.	-	-
2	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> To receive declarations of interests in respect of any item to be considered at this meeting.	-	-
3	<u>MINUTES</u> To confirm the Part I minutes of the meeting of the Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel held on 15 December 2014.	-	i – ii
4	<u>MILESTONES STATEMENT 2015/16</u> To seek the Panel's approval for the 'Milestones Statement 2015/16', which sets out the Council's objectives, priorities, targets and service standards for public rights of way work in the coming year. Appendix 1 – 'Milestones Statement and Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan Annual Review 2015/16'.	All	1-3 4-30
5	<u>PATH PROGRESS REPORT</u> To update the Panel on progress made with Public Rights of Way issues during the period from August 2014 to February 2015. Appendix 1 - The Progress Report.	All	31-33 34-46
6	<u>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</u> ❖ To be confirmed.	-	-

MEMBERS' GUIDANCE NOTE

DECLARING INTERESTS IN MEETINGS

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPIs)

The Localism Act 2011 makes failure by members to comply with the regulations in respect of disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs), without reasonable excuse, a criminal offence.

DPIs include:

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit made in respect of any expenses occurred in carrying out member duties or 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 relevant authority.
- Any license to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where the landlord is the relevant authority, and the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where
 - a) that body has a piece of business or land in the area of the relevant authority, or
 - b) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or 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.

You **must make** the declaration of interest at the beginning of the meeting, or as soon as you are aware that you have a DPI in the matter being discussed, whether or not this is in your Register of Interest. **A member with a DPI is unable to take part in discussion or vote at a meeting.** The term 'discussion' has been taken to mean a discussion by the members of the committee or other body determining the issue. A member with a DPI **may make** representations, statements or ask questions as a member of the general public can, but can not be part of the committee discussion. You should notify Democratic Services before the meeting of your intention to speak. In order to avoid any accusations of taking part in the meeting, it is suggested that you leave the room or at least move to the public area.

If the interest declared has not been entered on to your Register of Interests, you must notify the Monitoring Officer in writing within the next 28 days following the meeting.

OTHER INTERESTS

If the issue being discussed is not a DPI, but affects you more than another member of the public (either positively or negatively), or if you have a conflict of interest, then you should obtain advice from the Legal or Democratic Services Officer before participating in the meeting. You may not be able to take part in the committee discussion or vote, as this could invalidate the decision and have further legal consequences. You could still speak at the meeting if a member of the public has a right to speak on the subject.

If you have any queries in relation to the above, please seek further advice from the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services.

RIGHTS OF WAY & HIGHWAY LICENSING PANEL

15 DECEMBER 2014

PRESENT: Councillors John Stretton (Chairman), Maureen Hunt (Vice-Chair), Wisdom DaCosta, Jesse Grey (sub for James Evans), Mohammed Ilyas and Gary Muir.

Officers: Anthony Hurst and Tanya Leftwich.

PART I

09/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor James Evans.

10/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

11/14 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 5 June 2014 be approved.

12/14 BRAY RESTRICTED BYWAY 60 (PART): PROPOSED EXTINGUISHMENT ORDER

The Chairman asked the Principal Rights of Way Officer to outline the report to the Panel.

The Principal Rights of Way Officer, Anthony Hurst, explained to Members that the report was to seek approval to make and publish an Extinguishment Order for part of Bray Restricted Byway 60, which ran from the Drift Road opposite the 'New Lodge' estate to Braywood House and to make a Definitive Map Modification Order to record the width of the remaining section of the restricted byway.

The Principal Rights of Way Officer referred Members to the draft order plans in Appendix 1.

The Principal Rights of Way Officer went onto explain that all costs would be met by the applicant which meant there would be no cost to the Council arising from the extinguishment proposal.

Members were informed that the Local Access Forum, Bray Parish Council, East Berkshire Ramblers, British Horse Society, Cycle Forum, British Driving Society and Ward Members had been informally consulted and no objections had been made to the extinguishment proposal. The Principal Rights of Way Officer explained that if the Panel approved the making of an Order, statutory consultations would be undertaken which would entail the posting of Notices on site and in the Maidenhead Advertiser, and formal written consultations with statutory consultees. If any objections are

received during the statutory 28 day consultation period the proposal would be reported back to the Panel for further consideration.

In the ensuing discussion the following points were made:

- ❖ The Principal Rights of Way Officer explained that the land in question was private land that had a public right of way on it.
- ❖ It was noted that extinguishment order, if approved, would be permanent.
- ❖ Members were informed that a hedge had been planted on the rights of way in the early 1980's and whilst it had been recorded as an obstruction in 1992 no complaints had been received about it.
- ❖ The Principal Rights of Way Officer explained that he believed it had once been a carriageway to the graveyard.
- ❖ Members were informed that the public right of way on this land was not a through-route.

The Vice-Chair proposed that the Panel authorised the Head of Legal Services, in consultation with the Strategic Manager of Highways and Transport, to make and publish an Extinguishment Order for Bray Restricted Byway 60 (part) as detailed in this report which Councillor Ilyas seconded.

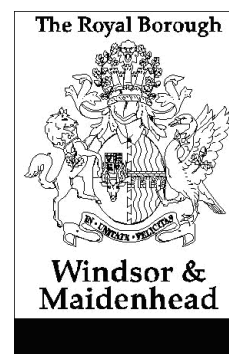
RESOLVED: Unanimously that the Panel authorised the Head of Legal Services, in consultation with the Strategic Manager of Highways and Transport, to make and publish an Extinguishment Order for Bray Restricted Byway 60 (part) as detailed in this report.

- **If no objections are received following publication of the Order, or any such objections are subsequently withdrawn, to confirm the Order without further recourse to the Panel.**
- **If objections are received and not subsequently withdrawn, to report the proposal back to the Panel for further consideration.**

13/14 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- Tuesday 3 March 2015.

Report for: Decision
Item Number: 4



Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	No
Title	PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: “MILESTONES STATEMENT 2015/16”
Responsible Officer(s)	Anthony Hurst, Principal Rights of Way Officer Ben Smith, Strategic Manager Highways and Transport
Contact officer, job title and phone number	Anthony Hurst, Principal Rights of Way Officer 01628-796180
For Consideration By	Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel
Date to be Considered	3 rd March 2015
Implementation Date if Not Called In	2015/16
Affected Wards	All

Report Summary This report seeks the Panel’s approval for the “Milestones Statement 2015/16”, attached at Appendix 1, which sets out the Council’s objectives, priorities, targets and service standards for public rights of way work in the coming year.

If recommendations are adopted, how will residents benefit?	
Benefits to residents and reasons why they will benefit	Dates by which residents can expect to notice a difference
The approved Milestones Statement will ensure that the Council’s Public Rights of Way team will have a clear set of objectives, priorities, and targets for the coming year, as set out on page 6 of the draft Statement. This will assist in the effective management of the borough’s public rights of way network for the benefit of residents and visitors to the borough.	2015/16

1. Details of Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION: That the Panel approve the “Milestones Statement and Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan Annual Review 2015/16”

2. Financial Details: resources available for public rights of way work in 2015/16 are set out on page 7 of the draft Milestones Statement attached.

3. Legal Implications: none.

4. Value for Money: setting clear targets for the Council's rights of way team and their partners ensures good value for money is achieved in delivering agreed objectives.

5. Sustainability Impact Appraisal: effective management of the public rights of way network has a positive impact on sustainable transport by encouraging alternative forms of transport to the car.

6. Risk Management: The Milestones Statement approach is an efficient and effective way of planning, prioritising and monitoring public rights of way work. Without an approved set of objectives, priorities, targets and service standards for the coming year there is a risk that the quality of service delivery would decline.

7. Links to Strategic Objectives: effective management of the rights of way network has a positive impact on healthy lifestyles by encouraging walking and cycling.

8. Equalities, Human Rights and Community Cohesion: the Milestones Statement includes a number of initiatives aimed at improving access for people with disabilities or restricted mobility, the elderly and people with young children or pushchairs.

9. Staffing/Workforce and Accommodation implications: N/A

10. Property and Assets: N/A

11. Consultation: a consultation on the draft Milestones Targets, priorities and service standards was carried out in December 2014/January 2015. A list of consultees is included on page 17 of the draft Milestones Statement attached.

The Local Access Forum endorsed the targets, priorities and service standards at its meeting held on 2nd December 2014.

Hurley Parish Council and Sunninghill and Ascot Parish Council responded to the consultation, and are discussing specific projects in their areas with the Rights of Way team.

12. Timetable for Implementation: 2015/16.

13. Appendices

Appendix 1: Draft Milestones Statement 2015/16.

Background Information: none

Consultation

Name of consultee	Post held and Department	Date sent	Date received	See comments in paragraph:
Internal				
Cllr John Stretton	Panel Chairman		Briefing 12th Feb	
Cllr Maureen Hunt	Panel Vice-Chair		Briefing 12th Feb	

Ben Smith	Strategic Manager Highways & Transport		Briefing 12th Feb	
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Report History

Decision type:	Urgency item?
Key decision	No

Full name of report author(s)	Job title	Full contact no:
Anthony Hurst	Principal Officer – Rights of Way	01628 796180

Schedule for writing and reviewing report

Stages in the life of the report (not all will apply)	Date to complete
1. Officer writes report	5/2/2015
2. To Chairman's briefing	12/2/2015
3. To Panel	3/3/2015

Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

Milestones Statement

*and Public Rights of Way
Improvement Plan review*

2015-2016

FOREWORD

I am pleased to introduce the 17th annual Milestones Statement for the Royal Borough, marking 17 years since this Council, as Highway Authority, became responsible for the management and maintenance of the borough's public rights of way in 1998.

I hope that residents and visitors to the borough will continue to enjoy these public rights of way as a means of accessing the borough's beautiful countryside, and as a healthy and stress-free way of getting about.

We will continue to work with all our partners, including the Local Access Forum, Parish and Town Councils, landowners, and path user groups (including the East Berks Ramblers, the Disabled Ramblers, the British Horse Society and SUSTRANS) to achieve these goals, and I wish to thank all our partners for their continued co-operation, support and enthusiasm.

Councillor John Stretton

Chair of Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel
Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

April 2015

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

The Royal Borough as the surveying and highway authority is responsible for the management and maintenance of the public rights of way network in the borough. There are over 300 km (approx. 190 miles) of public rights of way, about a third of the borough's total highway network (see Table 1 for lengths of rights of way by parish).

This Milestones Statement sets out the Council's priorities and targets for ensuring that the network is legally defined, properly maintained and well publicised. The Statement also incorporates an annual update on the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2005-2015.

1.2 The Milestones approach

The 'milestones approach' is an effective means of prioritising public rights of way work and measuring performance against an agreed set of targets. This is achieved by:

- setting individual, realistic targets, taking into account the available resources – these are the Milestones Targets (see page 6).
- monitoring progress towards achieving the Milestones Targets (see page 19).

1.3 Partnership working

The Council works closely with public rights of way user groups, landowners, parish and town councils, local conservation volunteers, and the borough's Local Access Forum. Two Parish Councils (Cookham and Old Windsor) undertake routine clearance of vegetation from public rights of way in their area on behalf of the borough, as part of the Parish Paths Initiative.

1.4 Volunteers

During 2014/15, volunteers from the "The Conservation Volunteers" (TCV) carried out **4 work days** on public rights of way in the borough attended by a total of **37 volunteers**, and volunteers from the East Berks Ramblers undertook **300 hours** of work, including path surveys and practical works.

A 26-strong working party from Pinkneys Green Scouts carried out **1 day's work** clearing vegetation and installing waymarks on public rights of way in Maidenhead Thicket.

1.5 Resources

The Council employs a public rights of way team of 2 full time and 1 part time Public Rights of Way Officers (total 2.7 fte). In addition, the Council's Legal Services (*Shared Legal Solutions*) provide legal support, and the Democratic Services team provides secretarial support for administering the Rights of Way and Highways Licensing Panel and the Local Access Forum.

Revenue Budget

2014/15	2015/16
£60,000	£60,000

This includes an annual vegetation clearance contract of programmed works, and additional reactive works such as clearance of fallen trees and branches from public rights of way.

Capital Budget (Rights of Way general)

2014/15	2015/16
£40,000	£40,000

This includes surface improvements or repairs to public rights of way that have become eroded, rutted or poached, and access improvements such as replacement of step-stiles with more accessible gates.

Capital Budget (Rights of Way Bridges)

2014/15	2015/16
£20,000	£20,000

The Council has maintenance responsibility for approximately 175 bridges on footpaths and bridleways on public rights of way in the borough. These bridges are inspected on a rolling programme by the Council's consultants Jacobs, and remedial safety works identified. In some cases this work is reactive, in response to bridge damage caused by public use, flooding, or general wear and tear.

Thames Path riverbank repairs/improvements

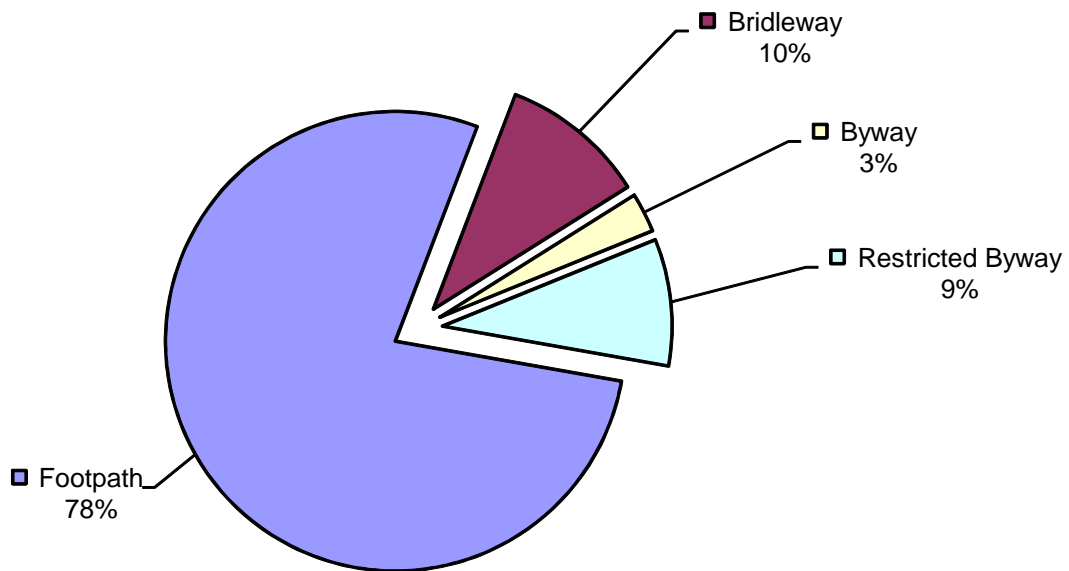
2014/15	2015/16
£375,000	£50,000

Government funding has been secured for flood damage repairs in 2014/15. An additional £50,000 has been set aside from the Council's capital programme for further works in 2015/16

Table 1: Lengths of Rights of Way by Parish, April 2015

Parish	Length (km)				Total km	% of network	
	Footpath	Bridleway	Byway	Restricted Byway			
Bisham	13.397	2.524	-	2.228	18.149	5.92	%
Bray	36.665	9.999	2.184	0.682	49.530	16.15	%
Cookham	33.611	1.980	0.469	0.405	36.465	11.89	%
Cox Green	8.395	1.399	-	-	9.794	3.19	%
Datchet	4.761	-	-	-	4.761	1.55	%
Eton	18.289	3.561	-	-	21.850	7.12	%
Horton	1.200	1.254	-	-	2.454	0.80	%
Hurley	31.468	6.115	-	6.909	44.492	14.50	%
Maidenhead	29.619	0.439	-	2.596	32.654	10.64	%
Old Windsor	4.574	-	-	-	4.574	1.49	%
Shottesbrooke	3.240	-	-	1.612	4.852	1.58	%
Sunningdale	3.554	1.666	0.337	-	5.557	1.81	%
Sunninghill	10.771	-	3.592	1.299	15.662	5.11	%
Waltham St Lawrence	17.728	-	-	7.209	24.937	8.13	%
White Waltham	11.011	0.530	0.342	4.165	16.048	5.23	%
Windsor	4.230	1.994	1.644	0.259	8.127	2.65	%
Wraysbury	6.876	-	-	-	6.876	2.24	%
Total (km)	239.389	31.461	8.568	27.364	306.782	100.00	%

Path status across the network



2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 *Priorities for 2015/16*

- Maintenance and enforcement: bring all public rights of way up to an acceptable standard for all users.
- Encourage and support the involvement of volunteers in the maintenance and improvement of public rights of way.
- Equality of service: ensuring that the needs of all users, regardless of race, disability, sexuality, age and religion, are taken into account.
- Ensure that the Thames Path National Trail is consistently safe and easy to use by all members of the public.
- Seek to complete the missing links in the Millennium Walk.
- Partnership working: working with all interested parties in the management of public rights of way, (e.g. Local Access Forum, Parish Councils, Civic Societies, residents associations, user groups and landowners)
- Claims: reduce the backlog of applications to add to or amend the Definitive Map.
- Changes to the network: seek improvements in association with development and other proposals.
- Improvements: seek improvements to the network for horse riders and people with restricted mobility.
- Ensure effective early consultation with interested parties on proposed changes to the network, in accordance with government regulations, circulars and codes of practice.
- Liaise with landowners and occupiers on all public rights of way matters, including updating and advising landowners on changes in legislation.
- Maximise the use of recycled and reused materials in rights of way maintenance where practicable.
- Develop and enhance the information available online for public rights of way, including the use of social media where appropriate.

2.2 *Milestones Targets for 2015/16*

Well Maintained

WM 1: To ensure that all public rights of way are easy to use by members of the public. (This is the former Best Value Performance Indicator for public rights of way). Target for 2015/16 is **95%**.

WM 2: To carry out major surface improvements/vegetation clearance on **10** public rights of way.

WM 3: To repair or replace **5** bridges.

Legally Defined

LD 1: To actively progress a minimum of **4** applications to add public rights of way to the definitive map, including resolving significant errors in the map.

Well Publicised

WP 1: To produce **1** leaflet publicising access opportunities for people with special needs.

WP 2: To assist others to produce effective promotional material. Target: a minimum of **1** new publication.

Improving Access and Connectivity

AC 1: Create **1** new strategic path, either public right of way or permitted, to fill identified gaps in the public rights of way network

AC2: To make **15** physical access improvements, including the replacement of stiles with gates or gaps, to facilitate use by those with special needs, the elderly, people with pushchairs etc.

Enforcement

EN 1: To resolve **30** enforcement issues.

2.3 Equal opportunities

The Council continues to seek improvements to public rights of way to enable use by a wide range of people with sensory or physical disabilities or learning difficulties.

The Council supports the establishment of routes suitable for use by disabled people, in consultation with the Council's Access Officer, the Access Advisory Forum, the Windsor and Maidenhead User Network (WAMU) and the Disabled Ramblers.

The Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan and annual Milestones Targets include a number of policies and proposals relating to access for people with special needs.

2.4 Parish Paths Initiative/Big Society

The Parish Paths Initiative (PPI) works with Parish and Town Council's to identify or carry out maintenance, improvement or promotional works on local path networks. All Parish Council's in the Borough and Eton Town Council participate in the PPI scheme.

Additionally, two Parish Councils (Cookham and Old Windsor) undertake routine vegetation clearance on the public rights of way networks in their area. Discussions are being held with other Parishes on whether they would like to adopt similar arrangements in their parishes.

The British Horse Society, East Berks Ramblers and National Trust are also members of the Parish Paths Initiative. The scheme operates a rolling condition survey of all public rights of way in the borough, carried out in partnership with the East Berks Ramblers.

2.5 Local Access Forum

The Local Access Forum is "*a partnership to promote and develop sustainable access for the growing benefit of the environment and all in our community*". Established in 2003, the Forum is statutory advisory group which advises the Council on the management and improvement of public access to land in the Royal Borough for open-air recreation.

The Forum has discussed and given advice to the Council on the following topics during 2014/15:

- The Milestones Targets for 2015/16
- The Rights of Way Improvement Plan review 2015-2025.

- Improvements for cycling in Maidenhead
- Linking bridleways in the Borough, and creating multi-use paths allowing horse riding to use along existing cycle tracks where possible.
- Responding to the DEFRA consultation on reforming access and engagement guidance.
- Dog issues on public rights of way
- Monitoring the progress of the Thames Path 'missing link' and completing the Millennium Walk.
- Use of volunteers for works on public rights of way.

The Forum publishes an annual report detailing its activities.

The Forum membership details, agendas, minutes, and annual reports are available on the Local Access Forum website:

http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/prow_local_access_forum.htm

2.6 Thames Path National Trail

Natural England promotes the Thames Path as one of 13 National Trails in England.

The Trail passes through Hurley, Cookham, Maidenhead, Eton, Windsor, Datchet and Old Windsor, where possible following the course of the river. In places the Trail crosses the Thames to follow the Buckinghamshire side of the river.

The Royal Borough recognises both the national and local importance of the Thames Path and is represented on the Thames Path Management Group, which includes representatives from the relevant Highway Authorities, the Environment Agency, the National Trails Office and Natural England.

A review of the way in which the Thames Path is managed is currently in progress, with the establishment of a "Thames Path Partnership" to replace the existing Management Group during 2015.

2.7 *Equestrians*

- Investigating possible upgrading of existing footpaths to bridleways, by negotiating with landowners and user groups, to improve road safety for horses and riders while taking into account the needs of other users. All negotiations must have clear resolutions, and ensure that all users are satisfied with any changes to the status of the footpath(s) before modifications take place, including adequate width and, where appropriate, segregation of users.
- Continuing with an initiative to designate highway verges as horse margins by identifying suitable areas adjacent to the carriageways, and adapting the maintenance of highway verges to enable safe use by horse riders. As an example, a new horse margin has been created adjacent to the Henley Road, to create a safe riding link between Rose Lane and Hodgedale Lane.
- Continuing with an initiative to identify and establish multi-use paths to allow horse riders to use existing cycleways and other tracks where appropriate, and where suitable surfaces can be provided, in conjunction with land owners and Parish Councils.
- Development and promotion of circular riding routes where appropriate, in particular to avoid main roads.
- Improvements to gates to make them more 'horserider friendly'.

3 WELL MAINTAINED

3.1 *Maintenance and Enforcement*

Table 2 (over page) includes a summary of reported maintenance and enforcement problems.

The number of reported problems outstanding has been reduced **from 106 to 78** during the course of the year.

Path condition surveys are carried out on a 3-year rolling programme, with approximately 1/3 of the network being surveyed each year. Volunteers from the East Berks Ramblers carry out these surveys on the Council's behalf.

During these surveys the volunteers also check whether problems that had previously been reported and entered onto the Council's rights of way database have since been resolved, and this helps to keep the records up-to-date.

Priority criteria for dealing with maintenance and enforcement problems are listed on page 15 of this Milestones Statement.

3.2 *Noteworthy current issues*

- Path restoration works following 2014 floods
- Re-publication of the Definitive Map and Statement
- Review of Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2005-2015

3.3 *Access for people with special needs*

When dealing with the provision of stiles and gates, an assessment is made to ensure that the appropriate type of barrier is used, and that wherever possible gaps are used rather than stiles or gates.

The Council places high priority on the use of effective designs of barrier to facilitate use by those with restricted mobility, the elderly, people with young children in pushchairs etc.

Service standards, including British Standards for path furniture, are set out on page 16 of this Milestones Statement.

Table 2: Reported problems on Public Rights of Way (to be updated at end of March 2015)

	Outstanding at 31 st Mar 2014	Reported 31st Mar 2014 to 30 th Jan 15	Closed 31st Mar 2014 to 30 th Jan 15	Total Outstanding at 30 th Jan 15	Issues outstanding over 5 years
ENFORCEMENT					
Ploughing and lack of marking	0	0	0	0	0
Obstruction by crops	0	6	5	1	0
Fence encroachment	15	6	15	6	2
Fence obstruction	0	2	1	1	0
Building obstruction	1	0	1	0	0
Other obstructions	12	3	10	5	3
Stiles	10	3	7	6	3
Gates	4	0	4	0	0
Bulls/ other animal problems	0	0	0	0	0
Unauthorised use by horses	0	0	0	0	0
Unauthorised vehicular use	0	0	0	0	0
Electric fencing	0	1	1	0	0
Misleading notices	0	0	0	0	0
Intimidation	0	0	0	0	0
Overhanging vegetation	5	13	17	1	0
Other Enforcement Problems	6	8	11	3	0
TOTAL ENFORCEMENT:	53	42	72	23	8
MAINTENANCE					
Vegetation	3	48	47	4	1
Rutting	2	1	0	3	0
Drainage	3	5	4	4	1
Fallen trees	0	19	18	1	0
Erosion	16	19	19	16	0
Tree problems	1	5	4	2	0
Bridges	5	5	8	2	1
Safety barriers	3	0	2	1	1
Steps	0	0	0	0	0
Roadside signposting	2	11	5	8	0
Signposting at path junctions	2	6	3	5	0
Waymarking	3	3	1	5	2
Rubbish/ waste	1	5	5	1	0
Other Maintenance Problems	12	8	17	3	2
TOTAL MAINTENANCE:	53	135	133	55	8
TOTALS OF MAINTENANCE AND ENFORCEMENT	106	177	205	78	16

* most problems of waste/ rubbish are dealt with by the waste management section and are not recorded here

4 LEGALLY DEFINED

4.1 *Definitive Map and Statement*

The Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way are legal documents that provide conclusive evidence of the existence and status of public rights of way. It is therefore important that these documents are kept up to date and accurate.

The Map and Statement was last updated in 2008, to include all legal changes made since the previous Map was published in year 2000. Any subsequent changes are shown by Modification Orders (see 4.2 below). An updated Definitive Map and Statement is being prepared for publication in summer of 2015.

Copies of the Map and Statement are available for inspection in Maidenhead and Windsor central libraries, Borough Council offices, and can be viewed on the borough website.

Copies are also held by user groups and relevant extracts are held by Parish Councils.

4.2 *Modification Orders*

Definitive Map Modification Orders are made to update the definitive map, to show the effect of legal changes to public rights of way. Copies of the Orders are sent to all those who hold copies of the Definitive Map and Statement, so that up to date information is available

4.3 *Rights of way database*

The Definitive Map is shown on the Council's GIS system. The Council also maintains a comprehensive public rights of way database, the Countryside Access Management System (CAMS). Information is held on path maintenance records, condition surveys, reported problems, landownership details, and path furniture such as stiles, gates, bridges and signposts.

The Council also maintains a comprehensive electronic library of photographic records covering many of the public rights of way in the borough.

These electronic records enable the rights of way officers to record, analyse and prioritise problems, and respond to public requests for information quickly and effectively.

4.4 *Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims)*

There are 3 outstanding claims listed in Appendix 5 of this Milestones Statement. A statement of priorities for dealing with claims is shown in Appendix 2.

4.5 *Changes to the network*

Applications for changes to the network are occasionally received from landowners or developers, and can also be initiated by the Council where they are considered to be in the public interest.

Planning applications are checked by planning officers who consult the Public Rights of Way team and the East Berks Ramblers on applications that may affect public rights of way. The Local Access Forum is also consulted on planning applications affecting public rights of way, and is sent weekly lists of all new planning applications received.

Where appropriate, conditions and informatives are then included in planning consents.

Policy R14 in the borough's Local Plan states that: ***"The Borough Council will safeguard and enhance the public rights of way network and recreational cycle routes"***

5 WELL PUBLICISED

5.1 Leaflets produced by the Council

- Public Rights of Way information booklet (*for landowners and path users*)
- Public Rights of Way and your Gardens, Hedges and Trees (*information leaflet for householders adjacent to rights of way*)
- Ploughing, crops and paths: a practical guide (*information leaflet for farmers and landowners*)
- The Green Way
- Knowl Hill Bridleway Circuit
- Cookham Bridleway Circuit
- Cycling in Windsor and Maidenhead
- Cookham Easy Going Route
- Windsor Great Park Easy Going Route

All the above leaflets are available from the Borough Council free of charge

5.2 Other books and publications

Sunningdale, Bray and Datchet Parish Councils have produced their own walks leaflets, with help from the Borough Council through Parish Paths Initiative:

- “Walk, discover, enjoy - your Sunningdale” (Sunningdale Parish Council)
- “Parish Millennium Rights of Way Map” (Bray Parish Council)
- Holyport health walk (Bray Parish Council)
- “Foot and Cycle Paths in and around Datchet” (Datchet Parish Council)
- **A new Hurley Walks leaflet is currently being prepared in partnership with Hurley Parish Council.**

(the above leaflets are available from the Parish Councils free of charge)

The Environment Agency has published a leaflet showing the paths along the Jubilee River (*available from the EA 08708 506506*)

The East Berks Ramblers, the British Horse Society, SUSTRANS and commercial publishers have produced a number of leaflets, booklets and

books promoting routes along public rights of way locally. These are widely available in libraries and bookshops.

5.3 Guided walks and rides

Guided walks and rides encourage the public to enjoy the countryside. The Ramblers organize a programme of walks for its members and the general public, and the British Horse Society organize various rides and events using the boroughs public rights of way and minor roads network.

5.4 Borough Website

The Borough’s Public Rights of Way web pages on can be accessed directly at

http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/prow_index.htm

The web pages contain detailed information including publications, “fix it” report forms, and maps of all public rights of way in the borough.

The Council’s MapsOnline service now allows users to view maps showing the locations of all stiles, gates, bollards and signs on public rights of way.

The web pages also include Registers of applications for Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMO’s), and landowner’s statutory declarations, together with application forms and guidance notes for path diversion orders.

The webpages are currently under review, as part of a corporate upgrade of the borough website.

6. MONITORING AND REVIEW

6.1 *Monitoring*

The Council publishes a performance indicator which provides a useful benchmark for assessing the condition of the network:

“The percentage of the total length of footpaths and other rights of way which were easy to use by members of the public”

The indicator is calculated using a methodology devised by the County Surveyors Society, and is widely adopted by Highway Authorities to enable benchmarking between individual authorities' performance.

The borough's indicator is based on information obtained from condition surveys undertaken by volunteers from the East Berks Ramblers, and the indicator result for the borough in 2014/15 was **90.6%** against a target of **95%**.

6.2 *Review*

The Council is committed to working with all interested parties in carrying out public rights of way work in the borough.

This Milestones Statement and Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan will continue be reviewed and published annually and the Milestones Targets will be discussed with the Local Access Forum and other interested parties so that co-ordinated priorities can be adopted.

The Public Rights of Way team also produce a 6-monthly Path Progress Report, which provides updates on specific path improvements. These reports are submitted to the Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel in March and September each year, circulated to the Local Access Forum and published on the borough website.

APPENDIX 1

Consultation on the Milestones Statement

The following organisations were consulted on the 2015/16 Milestones Statement

- Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel
- All Parish and Town Councils in the borough
- The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Local Access Forum, whose members represent a variety of interest groups including land management interests, health issues, walking, cycling, horse riding and disabled access issues:

East Berks Ramblers

British Horse Society

Council for the Protection of Rural England

Crown Estate

Royal East Berks Agricultural Association

National Trust

National Farmers Union

APPENDIX 2

Statement of priorities for dealing with applications to amend the Definitive Map

The Council aims to process uncontested applications for Public Path Orders and Definitive Map Modification Orders (claims) within 1 year of receipt.

Applications for Orders to amend the Definitive Map and Statement (claims) will be prioritised on the basis of the following factors:

Highest Priority: Closure very likely (e.g. area subject to planning application).

Path currently blocked by planting, fencing etc. which could be removed.

Path currently blocked by permanent structure e.g. building.

Possible threat to path, and/or partial blocking likely.

Lowest Priority: No recognised threat, and route useable by the public.

APPENDIX 3

Statement of priorities for dealing with maintenance and enforcement problems

Maintenance and enforcement problems will be prioritised on the basis of the following factors:

Safety of users

Level of usage

Extent of obstruction of definitive line (i.e. completely obstructed or partially obstructed)

Benefit to public once resolved

Cost/time effectiveness in resolving problem

Number/level of complaints

Potential for deterioration of the problem

Age of the problem

Note: for efficient working practice, lower priority problems will be dealt with alongside higher priority problems where appropriate, for example if they are in the same locality or involve the same landowner. Lower priority problems will also be tackled as required in order to meet specific targets.

APPENDIX 4

Service standards

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has the following key aims in relation to public rights of way:

- To ensure that the borough's public rights of way network is properly maintained and well publicised
- To ensure that public rights of way are safeguarded and enhanced
- To help landowners and users to understand their responsibilities and rights
- To consult and work with interested parties to achieve the provision of a well-maintained and signed network of public rights of way

We will liaise with and involve:

- Local Access Forum
- Parish and Town Councils
- Natural England
- East Berks Ramblers
- Disabled Ramblers
- British Horse Society
- British Driving Society
- Cyclists' Touring Club
- Sustrans
- Vehicle User Groups
- National Farmers' Union
- Country Land & Business Association
- Thames Path Management Group
- Any other interested parties

Comply with **British Standards** on all new structures and furniture, and where possible, upon replacement of existing structures or furniture. BS 5709-2006 gaps, gates and stiles; order of preference; a) gap, b) gate, c) kissing gate, d) stile.

Barbed wire, razor wire, farm type electrical fences and suchlike should not normally be used in the vicinity of structures covered by this standard, but where these wires are necessary then assessment should be made of the effect they have on the safety and convenience of people in the vicinity.

A condensed version of BS 5709-2006 produced by the Pitcroft Trust is available on request from the public rights of way team.

Carry out:

- A condition survey of each path every three years, based on a rolling programme of six-monthly surveys (in partnership with East Berks Ramblers Association).
- An inspection of rights of way in a dangerous condition within one working day of notification, make safe within one working day of inspection, and inform correspondents of the results within three working days.

Use our powers:

- To enforce and remove any obstructions to the public rights of way network within three months of inspection, and enforce compliance with the Rights of Way Act 1990 (ploughing etc) within 6 weeks of inspection, and give consideration to all available statutory powers including prosecutions where appropriate.
- To process uncontested applications for Public Path Orders and Definitive Map Modification Orders (claims) within 1 year of receipt.
- To inform the correspondents of the reasons for any delay beyond the periods stated above.

Publish:

- The definitive map and statement every five years.
- Information leaflets and updates regularly

APPENDIX 5

Definitive map modification order applications (claims)

Parish	Claim no	Claim date	Path description		Current status
			From	To	
Cox Green	FP 501	2009	Culley Way	Farmers Close	Order made March 2011, objections received. Currently on hold pending outcome of Alley Gating Order process.
Wraysbury	FP 501-505	2009	Various paths at Thamesfield		Under investigation.
Maidenhead	FP 530	2013	Bray Road	Field boundary	Order refused January 2014, appeal lodged by applicant. Appeal refused April 2014.
Windsor	FP 501	2013	Oxford Road	Clewer Fields	Order confirmed on 17 th June 2014
Windsor	FP 502	2014	Priors Road	Keepers Farm Close	Order referred to Planning Inspectorate.

No formal applications have been received in respect of the paths listed below; however they were included in a list of paths submitted to Berkshire County Council by the Ramblers Association in 1977 following publication of the Draft Revised Map in 1976. ***NB These paths are therefore listed here for information only.***

Parish	Ref. no	date	Path description: from	to
Eton	FP 502	1977	North end of Somerville Rd between numbers 23 and 25	FP 8 Eton
Eton	FP 505	1977	W end of Common Lane	Bell Lane at entrance to Bell Farm
Eton	FP 506	1977	Bend in FP46	Common Lane
Maidenhead	FP 508	1977	Moorfield Terrace	FP 4 Maidenhead
Maidenhead	FP 506	1977	Ray St	FP 4 Maidenhead
Maidenhead	FP 523	1977	Castle Hill	The Crescent
Wraysbury	FP 500	1977	Staines Road	River Thames

APPENDIX 6

Achievement of Milestones Targets 2014/15

Public Rights of Way Milestone Targets 2014-15: [to be updated at end of March 2015]	
WELL MAINTAINED	
WM1 <i>To ensure that all public rights of way are easy to use by members of the public (former Best Value Performance Indicator 178). Target for 2014-15: 95%</i>	90.6%
WM2 <i>To carry out major surface improvements or vegetation clearance on 10 public rights of way. (FP =footpath, BR = bridleway, RB = restricted byway)</i> Bray Footpath 30 (off Moneyrow Green) Sunninghill Byway 18 (Blythewood Lane) Maidenhead Footpath 6 (off Blackamoor Lane) Maidenhead Footpath 30 (Kinghorn Lane) Cookham Footpath 30 (off High Road) Sunningdale Footpath 13 (off Beech Hill Road) Sunningdale RB 23/24 (St Georges/Wells Lanes) Hurley Footpath 58/68a (off Pinkneys Green Road) Windsor Bridleway 4 (Roses Lane)	surface improvements surface improvements surface improvements surface improvements surface improvements surface improvements surface improvements major clearance work surface improvements Total 9
WM3 <i>To repair or replace 5 bridges.</i> Cox Green Footpath 6 (off Snowball Hill) Cox Green Footpath 11 (off Ockwells Road) Cookham Footpaths 48/49 (The Green Way) Datchet Footpath 9 (off Windsor Road) Hurley Footpath 23 (Juddmonte)	Bridge replacement Bridge repaired Two bridge replaced/repared Bridge repaired Handrail replaced Total 6
LD1 <i>To actively progress a minimum of 4 applications to add public rights of way to the definitive map (DMMO claims).</i> Windsor FPC 501 (Oxford Road- Clewer Fields) Windsor FPC 502 (Priors Road- Keepers Farm Close)	Order confirmed Order made Total 2

LD2 To resolve a minimum of 1 significant error in definitive map.	
	Total 0
WELL PUBLICISED	
WP1 To produce 1 leaflet publicising access opportunities for people with special needs.	
	Total 0
WP2 To assist others to produce effective promotional material: 1 new publication.	
Sunningdale Parish Walk	Total 1
IMPROVING ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY	
AC1 Create 1 new strategic path, either public right of way or permitted, to fill identified gaps in the public rights of way network	
Eton Footpath 51 (off Brocas Street)	Total 1
AC2 To make physical improvements, including replacement of 15 stiles with gates, to facilitate use by those with special needs, the elderly, people with pushchairs etc.	
Old Windsor FP7 (off Straight Road)	gate replacement
Cookham FP 48 (The Green Way)	gate replacement (EBR)
Bisham FP 15 (off A404)	stile replaced with gate
Bray FP 21 (off Long Lane)	redundant gate removed
Hurl FP 29 (off Bath Road)	boardwalk installed
	Total 5
ENFORCEMENT	
EN 1 To resolve 30 enforcement issues	
Bisham Footpath 32 (Town Farm, Bisham) path not cut to the legal width	<i>Path cut to legal width by landowner</i>
Bray Footpath 4 (Meadow View Lane, Stud Green) – Overhanging vegetation from adjacent properties	<i>Vegetation cleared by landowners</i>
Cookham Footpath 14 (Hollybush Lane, Cookham) – Overhanging vegetation reducing width of the path from ‘Orchard Cottage’	<i>Path cleared by Council using enforcement powers. Costs re covered from property owner.</i>
Cookham Footpath 14 (Hollybush Lane, Cookham) – Overhanging vegetation from ‘Copper Coin’	<i>Vegetation cleared by property owner</i>
Cookham Footpath 14 (Hollybush Lane, Cookham) – Overhanging vegetation from ‘St. Boniface’	<i>Vegetation cut back by property owner</i>
Cookham Footpath 14 (Hollybush Lane, Cookham) – Encroaching fence from ‘Hillfields’	<i>Fence removed by landowner</i>

Cox Green Footpath 8 (off Thrift lane) – Piles of stones blocking footpath	<i>Materials repositioned away from footpath by landowner</i>
Eton Footpath 2 (off Common Lane) – Field gate and kissing gate out of repair	<i>Gates repaired by landowner</i>
Eton Footpath 19 (South Field) – Path cropped and not sprayed	<i>Path cleared by farmer</i>
Eton Bridleway 17 (South Field) – Path cropped and not sprayed	<i>Path cleared by farmer</i>
Eton Bridleway 18 (South Field) – Path cropped and not sprayed	<i>Path cleared by farmer</i>
Eton Footpath 40 (Victoria Road) – Fence encroachment by adjacent development	<i>Fences moved back by developer</i>
Eton Footpath 40 (Victoria Road) – Cladding on adjacent property encroaching onto width of path	<i>Cladding removed by property owner</i>
Hurley Bridleway 19 (off Honey Lane) – Hedges and trees encroaching onto bridleway	<i>Hedges and trees cleared by landowner.</i>
Hurley Bridleway 19 (off Honey Lane) – Staggered barrier erected at the entrance to Honey Lane	<i>Barrier modified with agreement of private rights owners and authorized</i>
Hurley Footpath 25 (Around “Channers” at Ashley Hill) – Unofficial diversion of path	<i>Official diversion of path confirmed and new route opened</i>
Maidenhead Footpath 19 (North Town Moor) – Fallen tree hanging over footpath	<i>Tree cleared by landowner</i>
Maidenhead Footpath 24 (Gardner Road to Malvern Road) – Brambles growing through fence	<i>Brambles cleared by occupiers</i>
Maidenhead Footpath 42 (Halifax Road to Lancaster Road) – Fence panels blown over the path	<i>Fence panels repositioned by landowner</i>
Maidenhead Footpath 61 (Shoppenhangers Road to Clifton Close) – People using incorrect line of path	<i>Barrier installed at unofficial entrance and legal line cleared.</i>
Maidenhead Footpath 61 (Shoppenhangers Road to Clifton Close) – Roadside sign and pavement heavily overgrown by adjacent hedge	<i>Hedge cut back by landowner</i>
Maidenhead Footpath 76 (Aldebury Road to North Town Moor) – Hedge encroaching onto path	<i>Hedge cut back by landowner</i>
Old Windsor Footpath 3 (Thames Path) – Fencing encroaching onto the width of the path	<i>Fencing removed by landowner</i>
Old Windsor Footpath 3 (Thames Path) – Rubbish and old fencing left by the side of the path	<i>Rubbish and old fencing removed by landowner</i>
Sunningdale FP 9 – Path encroachment by fencing.	<i>Fencing moved back by landowner</i>
Sunninghill Footpath 8 – Electric fence erected by landowner	<i>Electric fence removed by landowner</i>
Sunninghill Byway 23 (Wells Lane) – Fence encroaching onto width of the lane	<i>Fence moved back by landowner</i>
Sunninghill Byway 23 (Wells Lane) – Overgrowing hedge restricting width of the lane	<i>Hedges cut back by property owner</i>
Sunninghill Byway 24 (St. Georges Lane) – Fence encroaching onto width of the lane	<i>Fence moved back by landowner</i>
Wraysbury Footpath 6 (Douglas Lane to Parish Boundary) – Steel palisade fence erected encroaching onto the width of path	<i>Fence moved back by landowner</i>
	Total 30

APPENDIX 7

Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan: site specific proposals

[NOTE: the 2005-2015 Plan is to be reviewed during 2015]

In the course of conducting research in preparing the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan, many site-specific suggestions for network improvements were made. The suggestions have been categorised as follows:

Category One

It is considered that the proposal may be achievable within the period of the Plan (i.e. 2005-2015), provided that current staffing and budgetary levels are maintained. Third party consent may also be required.

Category Two

Initial feasibility study recommended, and/or the proposal may only be achievable with additional internal or external funding. It may also require third party consent.

Note: This is not intended to be a complete list of schemes for the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan, and other schemes may be identified during the period of the plan that were not listed in the document approved in 2005.

The proposals **shown in bold** are currently being investigated by the public rights of way team.

Updates are *shown in italics*.

Category One

Ref	Proposal (not in priority order)	Parish
1.1	Develop a route for cycling and horse riding under the A404 from Dungrove Hill Lane to Hurley via Hurley Lane utilising existing tunnel and track (Bisham Footpath 20) at the golf course. Seek upgrade of route through tunnel and Bisham Footpath 20 to Hurley Lane to definitive bridleway. <i>(March 2009 update: the tunnel under the A404, and Bisham FP 20, have been upgraded to permitted bridleway)</i>	Bisham
1.2	Secure public rights on the crossing over the Thames at Bray utilising the Summerleaze owned bridge: <i>The planning consent for the gravel conveyor includes a requirement that following cessation of use of the conveyor the footpath-cycleway bridge is dedicated as a public highway.</i> <i>(March 2012 update) surface improvements carried out to the paths either side of Summerleaze bridge in conjunction with improved access to Eton-Dorney Lake for the 2012 Olympics.</i>	Bray
1.3	Create a circular route around Eton and the Boveney area for mobility restricted users <i>(March 2012 update): surface improvements carried out to paths in this area in conjunction with access to Eton-Dorney Lake for the 2012 Olympics, facilitating use by mobility restricted users.</i>	Eton
1.4	Extend Sunningdale Footpath 13 through to Sunninghill <i>(March 2009 update: feasibility studies have indicated that this project is not viable)</i>	Sunningdale, Sunninghill and Ascot

Category Two:		
Ref	Proposal (not in priority order)	Parish
2.1	Create a pedestrian link between Bisham Bridleway 22 and the A404 tunnel at Dungrove Hill Lane: (<i>March 2013 update: the landowner has declined a proposal to create this new pedestrian link: however, if circumstances change this project could be re-opened</i>)(<i>March 2014 update: ongoing discussions with horse riders</i>)	Bisham
2.2	Fill in missing links on the “Millennium Walk” from Hurley to Maidenhead Riverside / Cliveden Reach connecting to the Thames Path by securing a path from: (a) Nightingale Lane to the Green Way (b) Prospect Hill to the entrance of Temple Golf Club (<i>March 2012 update</i>): New permitted footpath opened across BCA land and associated highway safety works undertaken. (c) Lower Cookham Road at Widbrook Common to the Thames Path. (<i>March 2014 update</i>): Discussions are being held with the landowners about the proposed new footpath. (<i>March 2015 update</i>): the landowners have declined to agree the creation of a new footpath across this land; however, if circumstances change this project could be re-opened).	Cookham/ Maidenhead
2.3	Divert Bisham Footpath 19 (Michael’s Path) to run along the disused Henley Road	Bisham
2.4	Create a new bridleway connecting the end of Hurley Lane with the eastern end of Bradenham Lane using existing highway land alongside the A404 northbound carriageway: (<i>March 2007 update: Initial feasibility studies and consultations have indicated that the potential benefits of this project would not justify the cost</i>)	Bisham
2.5	An extension of the Green Way from Hibbert Road in Braywick to the River Thames at Summerleaze Bridge to provide a traffic free route for walkers, cyclists and disabled users.	Bray
2.6	New route along the Cut from Bray Wick upstream to Westleymill on the Bracknell Forest boundary	
2.7	A circular route around Bray village, and also around the old Biffa pits	
2.8	Possible improvements / extension to the Green Way and upgrading of some sections to permit use by cyclists (<i>March 2010 update: surface improvements completed on Maidenhead FP 84, Ray Mill Road West to Town Moor.</i> (<i>March 2013 update</i>): new off-road link opened north of Ray Mill Road West.	Various Maidenhead

2.9	<p>Improve and ensure long term accessibility (including possible bank repair / diversion) of:</p> <p>(a) Thames Path from Boulter's Lock to Cookham <i>(March 2010 update: river bank repairs, erosion control and path reinstatement works completed)</i></p> <p>(b) Datchet Footpath 8 <i>(March 2009 update: handrails installed by landowner in 2008)</i></p> <p><i>(March 2015 update: discussion with landowner about potential for widening the footpath)</i></p>	<p>Cookham</p> <p>Datchet</p>
2.10	<p>Make the Thames Path and associated paths accessible to mobility restricted users from Temple to Frog Mill via Hurley</p> <p><i>(March 2014 update: surface upgrade completed at Bisham FP 21)</i></p> <p><i>(March 2015 update: replacement of stepped bridge west of Hurley Lock being investigated)</i></p>	<p>Bisham</p> <p>Hurley</p>
2.11	<p>Route from Mill Lane to Odney Road, Cookham – perhaps across Odney Common <i>(March 2009 update: the landowner has declined a proposal to create this new pedestrian link: however, if circumstances change this project could be re-opened)</i></p>	<p>Cookham</p>
2.12	<p>Access improvements at Cookham Lock to provide high degree of accessibility to the site.</p>	<p>Cookham</p>
2.13	<p>Creation of a path parallel to the Lower Cookham Road at Widbrook common</p>	
2.14	<p>Upgrade Kennel Lane (Cookham Footpath 22) to a bridleway <i>(March 2009 update: one of the affected landowners has declined a proposal to upgrade this footpath to bridleway: however, if circumstances change this project could be re-opened)</i></p>	
2.15	<p>Create the following paths from the 1999 Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Local Plan:</p> <p>(a) a path from Lower Cookham Road at Widbrook Common to the Thames Path <i>(see 2.2 c. above)</i></p> <p>(b) a route from the Causeway at Braywick Park to Old Mill Lane via Bray Bridge</p> <p>(c) a crossing of dry flood ditch, Town Moor, Maidenhead as part of Green Way</p> <p>(d) make the Green Way accessible to mobility restricted users <i>(March 2014 update: upgrades to footbridges on Cookham FP 48 to enable disabled access: works ordered)</i></p> <p><i>(March 2015 update: improvements to gates at National Trust land, and stepped footbridge replaced with step-free accessible bridge)</i></p> <p><i>(March 2015 update: steps south of Chapel Arches being replaced with a ramp, in association with redevelopment at former cinema site)</i></p>	<p>Cookham/ Maidenhead</p> <p>Bray</p> <p>Cookham</p> <p>Maidenhead</p>

2.16	<p>Create the following paths from the 1981 Horton, Datchet and Wraysbury Local Plan:</p> <p>(a) footpath from Datchet Footpath 7 southwest around the Queen Mother Reservoir, over the Horton Road (B376) to the railway line <i>(March 2011 update, see 2.17 below)</i></p> <p>(b) footpath from Datchet Footpath 5 running southeast on the northern side of the railway line to Datchet Footpath 6</p> <p>(c) footpath along northern side of the Thames from Albert Bridge linking with Datchet Footpath 6</p> <p>(d) footpath from Welley Road, Wraysbury along southern side of the railway line to Wraysbury Footpath 6</p> <p>(e) footpath along Park Avenue, Wraysbury to Old Ferry Drive</p> <p>(f) footpath from northern end of Douglas Lane (at termination of Wraysbury Footpath 6) to The Green</p> <p>(g) footpath running from High Street car park in Wraysbury, around southern part of lakes parallel to Staines Road to Staines Road near termination of Wraysbury Footpath 4</p>	Datchet, Horton, Wraysbury
	<p>(h) footpath running from Horton Footpath 3 around northern part of lakes to Stanwell Road</p> <p>(i) footpath from Stanwell Road, northeast along Mill Lane, running east along the Colne Brook to the Horton Parish Boundary</p> <p>(j) footpath from Station Road, Wraysbury, to Stanwell Road running along the western bank of the Colne Brook.</p> <p>(k) footpath from Hythe End Lane to southern end of Ferry Lane (Wraysbury Footpath 3)</p> <p>(l) bridleway from Embankment to Magna Carta Lane in Wraysbury</p> <p>(m) footpath from Horton Bridleway 4 to Horton Road</p> <p><i>(March 2011 update: new bridleway constructed and in use)</i></p> <p>(n) bridleway from Horton Road, alongside the Queen Mother Reservoir to Majors Farm Road (B370)</p>	Datchet, Horton, Wraysbury Horton
2.17	<p>Access around the Queen Mother reservoir, Datchet</p> <p><i>(March 2011 update: discussions held with the landowner on a proposal to create a circular path around the perimeter of the Queen Mother Reservoir, project abandoned as landowner unwilling to proceed)</i></p>	Datchet
2.18	<p>Disabled friendly routes should be investigated at Eton, Sunninghill and Ascot, Sunningdale, Knowl Hill, White Waltham and Hurley Lock</p> <p><i>(March 2015 update: replacement of stepped footbridge west of Hurley Lock)</i></p> <p><i>(March 2015 update: surface improvements at St Georges Lane and Wells Lane)</i></p>	Hurley Sunninghill
2.19	<p>Upgrade Jubilee River paths to allow horse riding</p> <p><i>(March 2014 update: horse riding permitted on some sections of Jubilee River Paths, for trial period May 2013-May2014)</i></p>	Eton
2.20	<p>A crossing over the Thames across Hurley Lock and weirs</p>	Hurley

2.21	<p>Secure a continuation of the Thames Path in Maidenhead beside the river bank from the landing steps opposite Thames Hotel to Bridge Gardens</p> <p><i>(March 2010 update: the footpath opposite the Thames Hotel was extended in 2007, however a gap of approximately 30m remains in order to complete the link to Bridge Gardens)(March 2011 update: funding options for completing the remaining section of missing link are being explored in discussion with the Ramblers)</i></p> <p><i>(March 2015 update: Path Creation Agreement secured for roadside footpath at Bridge Gardens)</i></p>	Maidenhead
2.22	<p>A footbridge from Boulter's Island to east bank of the Thames, which would link the Thames Path and Jubilee River, and the walks in Taplow</p> <p><i>(March 2013 update: a new footbridge across the Thames at Boulters Lock is included in a Draft Development Brief for the Mill Lane, Taplow site produced by South Bucks District Council)</i></p> <p><i>(March 2015 update: new footbridge design agreed, subject to redevelopment proposal being approved by South Bucks DC)</i></p>	Maidenhead
2.23	Create a link between Braywick Park and Bray Road and Maidenhead Footpath 1	
2.24	<p>(a) Upgrade Kinghorn Lane (Maidenhead Footpath 30) to a cycle route</p> <p>(b) <i>March 2009 addition: Reinstate the definitive width of Kinghorn Lane (Maidenhead FP 30) to provide segregated route for cyclists</i></p>	
2.25	Create a path from Ascot station westwards parallel to the railway line to Kings Ride. <i>(March 2007 update: Network Rail is unwilling to consider this proposed footpath creation)</i>	Sunninghill and Ascot
2.26	Work with Wokingham DC to upgrade Waltham St. Lawrence Footpath 9 / Ruscombe Footpath 4 for horse riding use	Waltham St Lawrence
2.27	Create of a path from Great Wood, White Waltham, south of the B3024 road to the track at Pond Wood Farm	White Waltham
2.28	Establish a new path from Windmills (White Waltham Footpath 20) to Howe Lane near Howlane Bridge	
2.29	Create a route for carriage drivers from Beenhams Road in White Waltham to Mare Lane in Binfield.	
2.30	Create of a path between Sutherland Grange public open space, via the rear of the Centrica complex, and the access road to the Racecourse Marina	Windsor
2.31	New route along the Colne Brook	Horton
2.32	<p>[Added 10/1/2007] Divert Hurley Footpath 47 and Hurley Footpath 49 to improve A4 Road Crossings.</p> <p><i>(March 2009 update: The suggested diversions have not been progressed as the proposed diverted routes of the footpaths are across common land with existing public access rights).</i></p>	Hurley

Further information on public rights of way in the Royal Borough, including maps of all the paths and ways, and an electronic version of this document, can be found on the Borough website:

http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/prow_index.htm

**Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead
Operations Directorate
Highways, Engineering and Transport,
Town Hall, St Ives Road,
Maidenhead
Berks SL6 1RF**

If you require information in an alternative format please contact the Public Rights of Way Team on 01628-683800

Report for: Information
Item Number: 5



Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	No
Title	PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: 6-MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT
Responsible Officer(s)	Anthony Hurst, Principal Rights of Way Officer Ben Smith, Strategic Manager Highways and Transport
Contact officer, job title and phone number	Anthony Hurst, Principal Rights of Way Officer 01628-796180
For Consideration By	Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel
Date to be Considered	3 rd March 2015
Affected Wards	All

<p>Report Summary</p> <p>This report updates the Panel on progress made with Public Rights of Way issues during the period from August 2014 to February 2015. The Progress Report is attached as Appendix 1. Progress Reports are submitted to the Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel in March and September each year, and are also circulated to all members of the borough's Local Access Forum. During the 6-months reporting period the number of outstanding reported problems on public rights of way was reduced from 85 to 78.</p>

If recommendations are adopted, how will residents benefit?	
Benefits to residents and reasons why they will benefit	Dates by which residents can expect to notice a difference
Effective monitoring of the Council's performance in providing the Public Rights of Way service.	2015/16

- 1. RECOMMENDATION:** that the Panel notes the report.
- 2. Financial Details:** impact on the budget: none (information report only).
- 3. Legal Implications:** current legal cases are discussed in sections 4 and 5 of the Progress Report.
- 4. Value for Money:** effective monitoring of the Council's Public Rights of Way Service ensures that good value for money is achieved in meeting agreed objectives.

5. Sustainability Impact Appraisal: effective management of the public rights of way network has a positive impact on sustainable transport by encouraging alternative forms of transport to the car.

6. Risk Management: none (information report only).

7. Links to Strategic Objectives: effective management of the public rights of way network has a positive impact on healthy lifestyles by encouraging walking and cycling.

8. Equalities, Human Rights and Community Cohesion: the Progress Report refers to a number of initiatives aimed at improving access to the countryside for people with disabilities or restricted mobility, the elderly and people with young children or pushchairs.

9. Staffing/Workforce and Accommodation implications: n/a

10. Property and Assets: n/a

11. Consultation: the Progress Report includes the minutes of the December 2014 meeting of the RBWM Local Access Forum, a statutory consultative Forum established under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

12. Timetable for Implementation: 2015/16.

13. Appendices: Appendix 1: Public Rights of Way: 6-monthly Progress Report August 2014 to February 2015.

14. Background Information: none (information report only).

18. Consultation

Name of consultee	Post held and Department	Date sent	Date received	See comments in paragraph:
Internal				
Cllr John Stretton	Panel Chairman		Briefing 12 th Feb	
Cllr Maureen Hunt	Panel Vice-chair		Briefing 12 th Feb	
Ben Smith	Strategic Manager, Highways & Transport			

Report History

Decision type:	Urgency item?
Key decision	No

Full name of report author(s)	Job title	Full contact no:
Anthony Hurst	Principal Officer – Rights of Way	01628 796180

Schedule for writing and reviewing report

Stages in the life of the report (not all will apply)	Date to complete
1. Officer writes report	5/2/2015
2. To Chairman's Briefing	12/2/2015
3. To Panel	3/3/2015

**ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD
PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: 6- MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT**

AUGUST 2014 –FEBRUARY 2015

The total number of outstanding reported problems on Public Rights of Way has fallen from **85** to **78** during the six month period, (*see table at Annex A for further details*).

1. ENFORCEMENT

Problems reported and problems closed

	Outstanding on 1 st Sept 2014	Reported 1 st Sept 2014 to 31 st Jan 2015	Closed 1 st Sept 2014 to 31 st Jan 2015	Outstanding on 1 st Feb 2015
Enforcement problems	37	12	25	24

Examples of enforcement cases that have been resolved:

Path	Date reported	Problem
Cookham Footpath 14 (off Stubbles Lane)	2 nd Jan 14	Fence encroachment along the path. <i>Fence removed by landowner.</i>
Hurley FP 25 (at 'Channers' cottage)	30 th Sept 96	Path obstructed and unofficial diversion created. <i>Path legally diverted to new route</i>
Hurley Bridleway 19 (off Honey Lane)	7 th May 13	Unauthorised barrier. <i>Barrier authorised following modifications and agreement with residents.</i>
Maidenhead FP 24 (off Gardner Road)	15 th May 14	Brambles growing through fence from industrial units. <i>Brambles cleared by landlord.</i>
Maidenhead FP 61 (off Clifton Close)	18 th Sept 14	Public using incorrect line of path. <i>Barrier installed at unofficial entrance and legal line re-opened.</i>
Wraysbury Footpath 6	13 th Nov 14	Steel palisade fence erected encroaching onto path. <i>Fence moved back to boundary of the path.</i>

No cases have been reported to the Rural Payments Agency under Defra's Cross Compliance procedure during this period.

2. MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT

Problems reported and problems closed

	Outstanding on 1 st Sept 2014	Reported 1 st Sept 2014 to 31 st Jan 2015	Closed 1 st Sept 2014 to 31 st Jan 2015	Outstanding on 1 st Feb 2015
Maintenance problems	48	52	45	55

Examples of maintenance and improvement projects completed:

Bray FP 30 (off Moneyrow Green)	Surface improvements
Cox Green FP 6 (off Snowball Hill)	Footbridge replaced
Datchet FP 9 (Thames Path)	Footbridge decking replaced

Maidenhead FP 60 (Kinghorn Lane)	Surface improvements
Sunningdale Restricted Byways 23 and 24 (St Georges Lane and Wells Lane)	Surface improvements
White Waltham FP 16 (off Waltham Road)	Surface improvement and step repair
Windsor BR 4 (Roses Lane)	Surface improvements

Works due to be carried out

The following projects are scheduled to be carried out in the next 2 to 3 months:

Bray Bridleway 64 (Cruch Lane)	Surface improvements (woodchips)
Hurley Footpath 1 (Thames Path)	Replacement of stepped footbridge with accessible ramp and footbridge.

3. FLOOD DAMAGE

The floods in early 2014 caused significant damage to public rights of way in the Borough. The most notable of these was the collapse of sheet piling causing a major riverbank collapse along a section of the Thames Path at Hurley Riverside Park. This section of the Thames Path has been temporarily diverted with the agreement of the landowner. Major reconstruction work is currently underway, and £375,000 has been allocated for these works from the flood recovery funds provided by the Government. The works are expected to be complete by the end of February 2015. Further works are planned to other sections of the Thames Path during 2015.

4. DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER (DMMO) applications (path claims)

4.1 Wraysbury claimed footpaths 501 to 505 & Village Green applications

Five DMMO applications were received in June 2009 for footpaths crossing land at Thamesfield, north of Wharf Road, Wraysbury. A Village Green application was also received for the land crossed by these claimed footpaths. The Village Green application was refused following a public inquiry held in November 2012. Following a Judicial Review, the Council's decision was upheld in 2014. The footpath applications are currently being investigated.

4.2 Cox Green claimed footpath 501 (Culley Way to Farmers Close)

A DMMO application was received in July 2009 to add a footpath running from Culley Way to Farmers Close to the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way. A Modification Order was made in March 2011, and objections were received. Consideration of the objections is on hold pending the outcome of an Alley Gating Order for the same path.

4.3 Windsor claimed footpath 501 (Oxford Road to Clewer Fields)

A DMMO adding this path to the Definitive Map was confirmed as an unopposed order on 17th June 2014. Work was completed to re-open the path on 21st July and resurfacing works to reinstate the tarmac surface of the path was completed in September 2014.

4.5 Windsor claimed footpath 502

A DMMO application was received in March 2014 to add a footpath running from Priors Road to Keepers Farm Close to the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way. An Order was made in December 2014, and as objections have been received the Order has been referred to the Planning Inspectorate, who will determine whether or not to confirm the Order.

5. CHANGES TO THE NETWORK

5.1 Bray Footpath 24 (Harford Farm/Mount Skippet Farm)

A Diversion Order to divert part of Bray Footpath 24 was confirmed in 2014. The diversion will come into effect once works to construct the new section of footpath have been carried out.

5.2 Eton Footpath 51 (Thames Path at the Brocas, Eton)

A new section of Thames riverside footpath has been created at the former "Rafts" boathouse in Eton, adjacent to Brocas meadow. The new riverside footpath has been created as part of the redevelopment of the boathouses into residential properties, and opened in September 2014. The footpath has been added to the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way as Eton Footpath 51.

5.3 Hurley Footpath 25 (Channers)

A Diversion Order to divert part of Hurley Footpath 25, at 'Channers', off Honey Lane, has been confirmed. The new route of the footpath opened in September 2014.

5.4 Maidenhead Footpath 53 (Thames Path at Ray Mead Road)

A Path Creation Agreement has been made to extend Maidenhead Footpath 53 along the frontage of Bridge View, Ray Mead Road, to fill a gap in the roadside footway. Works are due to be completed in March 2015.

5.5 Bray Restricted Byway 60 (Drift Road to Braywood House)

Following an application by the landowner, the Panel approved the making of an Extinguishment Order for part of Bray Restricted Byway 60 at its meeting in December 2014. The Order is currently being prepared. If confirmed following the statutory consultation period, the Order will extinguish a part of the Restricted Byway which runs in a loop through the private grounds of the property. As part of the proposal, the existing width of the remaining section of the Restricted Byway (which ranges from 3.7m to 11.6m) will be recorded in the Definitive Statement.

5.6 Sunninghill Byways 23 and 24 (Wells Lane and St. Georges Lane)

A Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) has been published to restrict the width of parts of Wells Lane and St Georges Lane to 1.6 metres, preventing use by 4-wheeled vehicles. No objections were received during the statutory consultation period, and the works to enforce the Order (signage and bollards) are due to be carried out in late February.

5.7 Bray Byway 65 (Hawthorn Lane)

A joint Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) is being prepared with Bracknell Forest Council to restrict the width of the Hawthorn Lane (and the adjoining Berry Lane which is within the BFC area) to 1.6 metres, preventing use of the lanes by 4-wheeled vehicles. Informal consultations have been completed, and the TRO is being drafted prior to the formal consultation stage.

6. BIG SOCIETY

6.1 Working with Parish Councils, path user groups and the National Trust

All Parish/Town Councils in the borough, as well as the British Horse Society, East Berks Ramblers and National Trust, are members of the Parish Paths Initiative (PPI). Through this scheme the rights of way officers work directly with the Parish/Town Councils and the voluntary groups on maintaining and improving the rights of way network in the borough. As part of the PPI project, annual grants are paid to Cookham and Old Windsor Parish

Council's who organise routine path clearance works in their parishes. A number of successful projects have been completed this year and the partnership continues to deliver benefits to all involved.

6.2 Volunteers

The Public Rights of Way team work with "The Conservation Volunteers" (TCV) to carry out practical work on public rights of way in the borough. Works are also carried out by Community Payback (CP) teams organised by the Probation Service. The PROW team is actively looking to expand works with other volunteer groups including local Scouts and Girl Guide groups and other conservation groups.

The following projects were completed between August 2014 and Feb 2015:

Date	Group	Work carried out	Number of participants
4 th Sept	TCV	Boardwalk construction at Hurley FP 29	11
11 th Sept	TCV	Boardwalk construction at Hurley FP 29	12
30 th Oct	TCV	Boardwalk construction at Hurley FP 29	12
19 th Nov	TCV	Boardwalk construction at Hurley FP 29	2
		Total number of task days: 4	Total participants: 37

6.3 Partnership working with the East Berks Ramblers

Local volunteers from the East Berks Ramblers carry out inspections of the public rights of way network in spring and autumn each year, based on a three year rolling programme (i.e. approx. 1/3rd of the network is surveyed each year). The information obtained from these surveys is used to identify and prioritise works, and to calculate the annual performance indicator that measures the percentage of public rights of way that are easy to use. The 'easy to use' figure for 2014/15 is 90.6%.

7. PUBLICATIONS

Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2005-2015

The Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan is part of the Borough's Local Transport Plan. The Improvement Plan was published in 2005 as a requirement of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. The Plan was produced following wide ranging consultations, and identifies a range of potential improvements to the public rights of way network. Annual updates are published as part of the Milestones Statement. A review of the 10-year Plan is currently being prepared in partnership with the Local Access Forum.

Public Rights of Way Milestones Statement 2015/16

The Milestones Statement for 2015/16, which sets out targets and priorities for the coming year, is being submitted to the Rights of Way & Highways Licensing Panel at its meeting on 3rd March 2015.

Public Rights of Way information booklet

An updated and expanded version of the Council's Public Rights of Way information booklet was published in December 2013. This booklet was produced by the Rights of Way team in partnership with the Local Access Forum.

Public Rights of Way section of Borough website

The Public Rights of Way section of the borough website contains comprehensive information about public rights of way in the borough, including contact details, problem report forms, downloadable leaflets, registers of path claims and Highways Act landowner declarations.

The Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way is available online for members of the public to download and print, and the public rights of way information is also available through the Council's MapsOnline service, allowing users to view the paths around their home address. Recent additions to the MapsOnline service now allow users to view locations of stiles, gates, bollards and signs on rights of way.

The following publications are now available on the website:

Policy publications and Progress Reports

- Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2005-2015
- Milestones Statement 2014/15
- 6-Monthly Path Progress Reports (past two editions)

Information leaflets

- Public Rights of Way information booklet
- Public Rights of Way: gardens, hedges and trees leaflet
- Ploughing, crops and paths: a practical guide

Promotional leaflets

- The Green Way
- The Millennium Walk
- Map of the Maidenhead Boundary Walk
- Ascot and Sunninghill Circular Walks
- Walk, Discover, Enjoy: Your Sunningdale
- Foot and Cycle Paths in and around Datchet
- Holyport Health Walk
- Cookham Easy Going Route & enhanced web content
- Windsor Great Park Easy Going Route & enhanced web content
- Waltham St Lawrence Parish Paths and Circular Walk
- White Waltham Parish and Paths
- Knowl Hill Bridleway Circuit
- Cookham Bridleway Circuit

Current projects

- Preparation for the re-design of the RBWM website

The public rights of way web pages can be found at:

http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/prow_index.htm.

8. LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

The Local Access Forum (LAF) is *"a partnership to promote and develop sustainable access for the growing benefit of the environment and all in our community"*. Established under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, the LAF is a statutory forum advising the Council on the management and improvement of public access to land in the Royal Borough for open-air recreation.

The Forum membership is listed at Annexe C. The Forum meets twice a year, with additional informal meetings or site visits as required. The minutes of the meeting of the Forum held on 2nd Dec 2014 are included in Appendix D.

The Local Access Forum web pages can be found at:

http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/web/prow_local_access_forum.htm.

The LAF web content was developed by the Forum and contains the following:

- Information about the Forum, and how to get involved
- Minutes and agendas for the Forum meetings
- Links and information tailored for walkers, horse riders and cyclists
- Information about the Forum members and projects
- Copies of advice supplied by the Forum's Fast Response Team
- Links to neighbouring Local Access Forums and other useful links.

Anyone interested in applying to join the Forum should contact the Forum Secretary, Andrew Fletcher (01628-796122).

ANNEXE A

Recorded problems on Public Rights of Way in the Borough.

	Outstanding at 1 st Sept 14	Reported 1st Sept 2014 to 1 st Feb 15	Closed 1st Sept 2014 to 1 st Feb 15	Total Outstanding at 1 st Feb 15	Issues outstanding over 5 years
ENFORCEMENT					
Ploughing and lack of marking	0	0	0	0	0
Obstruction by crops	0	1	0	1	0
Fence encroachment	12	2	8	6	2
Fence obstruction	0	2	1	1	0
Building obstruction	0	0	0	0	0
Other obstructions	8	0	3	5	3
Stiles	6	3	3	6	3
Gates	2	0	2	0	0
Bulls/ other animal problems	0	0	0	0	0
Unauthorised use by horses	0	0	0	0	0
Unauthorised vehicular use	0	0	0	0	0
Electric fencing	0	0	0	0	0
Misleading notices	0	0	0	0	0
Intimidation	0	0	0	0	0
Overhanging vegetation	5	2	6	1	0
Other Enforcement Problems	4	2	3	3	0
TOTAL ENFORCEMENT:	37	12	26	23	8
MAINTENANCE					
Vegetation	5	11	12	4	1
Rutting	2	1	0	3	0
Drainage	3	2	1	4	1
Fallen trees	1	4	4	1	0
Erosion	12	7	3	16	0
Tree problems	3	0	1	2	0
Bridges	4	4	6	2	1
Safety barriers	3	0	2	1	1
Steps	0	0	0	0	0
Roadside signposting	2	10	4	8	0
Signposting at path junctions	2	4	1	5	0
Waymarking	3	2	0	5	2
Rubbish/ waste	1	1	1	1	0
Other Maintenance Problems	7	6	10	3	2
TOTAL MAINTENANCE:	48	52	45	55	8
TOTALS OF MAINTENANCE AND ENFORCEMENT	85	64	71	78	16

ANNEXE B

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 OUTSTANDING CLAIMED PATHS

SEPTEMBER 2014

Parish	Claim no	Claim date	Path description		Current status
			From	To	
Cox Green	FP 501	2009	Culley Way	Farmers Close	Order made March 2011, objections received. Currently on hold pending outcome of Alley Gating Order process.
Wraysbury	FP 501-505	2009	Various paths at Thamesfield		Under investigation
Windsor	FP502	2014	Priors Road	Keepers Farm Close	Referred to Planning Inspectorate due to objections being received to published Order

ANNEXE C

LOCAL ACCESS FORUM MEMBERSHIP

February 2015

Name	Main Interests
Peter Thorn (Basildon, Berks) (Chairman)	Land management
Julie Mason (Vice Chair) (Cox Green)	Strategy, planning and marketing
Malcolm Beer (Old Windsor)	Old Windsor Parish Council, walking, cycling
Sara Church (Eton)	Horse riding, British Horse Society
James Copas (Maidenhead)	Land management / farming
Margaret Cubley (Bisham)	Bisham Parish Council, CPRE, walking, open spaces
Rachel Forsyth (Taplow)	Land management, National Trust
John Foulger (Fifield)	Walking and open spaces
Christine Gadd (Sunningdale)	Sunningdale Parish Council, walking and cycling
Harry Hancock (Burnham, Bucks)	Walking, open spaces
Gordon Harris (Cookham)	Cookham Parish Council, footpaths and open spaces
Helen Howard (Bray)	Bray Parish Council, horse riding
Phil Jackson (Wraysbury)	Walking, cycling, open spaces. Wraysbury Parish Council
Tom Jarvis (Windsor)	Land management, Crown Estate
Councillor Asghar Majeed (Maidenhead)	RBWM nominated councillor
Gordon Marrs	Walking, East Berks Ramblers
Andrew Randall (Maidenhead)	Land management / farming
Joanne Stickland (Datchet)	Datchet Parish Council, walking and cycling,
Councillor John Stretton (Cookham)	RBWM nominated councillor, Cookham Parish Council
Chris Westacott (White Waltham)	Hurley Parish Council, land management/ farming

ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD

LOCAL ACCESS FORUM MEETING MINUTES

2 December 2014

ATTENDANCE LIST

Name	Interest area
Peter Thorn	Chairman, land management
Julie Mason	Vice-chair, Walkers, strategy
Harry Hancock	Walking, open spaces, Mid-Thames Ramblers
Councillor Beer	Walking, cycling, Old Windsor Parish Council
Hillary Essen	Walking, Open Spaces
Councillor Majeed	RBWM Councillor, Oldfield Ward
Sara Church	Horse Riding, British Horse Society
Owen Hibben	National Trust
Gordon Harris	Footpaths, Open Spaces, Cookham Parish Council
John Foulger	Walking, open spaces, public rights of way
Helen Howard	Horse Riding, Bray Parish Council
Phil Smith	Walking, East Berks Ramblers
Richard Davenport	Maidenhead Waterways Restoration Group
Andrew Fletcher	Local Access Forum Secretary
Wendy Binmore	Clerk to the Forum

OBSERVERS

Annie Keene
Alan Keene
Ray Sharp

APOLOGIES

Councillor John Stretton
Christine Gadd
James Copas
Margaret Cubley
Tom Jarvis
Andrew Randall
Joanne Stickland
Chris Westacott

		ACTION
1	Welcome, Apologies and Introductions, Declarations of Interest	
	<p>The Chairman Peter Thorn welcomed everyone to the thirty-first meeting of the Local Access Forum.</p> <p>Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor John Stretton, James Copas, Margaret Cubley, Tom Jarvis, Andrew Randall, Joanne Stickland and Chris Westacott.</p> <p>The Forum approved the minutes of the meeting held on 30 June 2014.</p> <p><u>Matters arising from last meeting</u> Andrew Fletcher referred members to pages 1-9 of the agenda.</p> <p>Peter Thorn informed the Forum that there were no matters arising from the minutes.</p>	
2	Members' Update	
	Nothing to report.	
3	Maidenhead Waterways	
	<p>Richard Davenport from the Maidenhead Waterways Project gave everyone a short presentation on the 'Maidenhead Waterways scheme' which covered the approach of the scheme, the progress made to date, accessibility of the scheme, footpaths and access impacts, the anticipated outcomes of the project and the next steps moving forward.</p> <p>Andrew Fletcher explained the Local Access Forum could keep up to date with events through the Officers in the Rights of Way team. Peter Thorn commented the scheme had a vision which was driven by volunteers and it was highly commendable.</p>	
4	Rights of Way Improvement Plan	
	<p>Andrew Fletcher informed everyone that the Rights of Way Plan had been in place for ten years and it was now time for it to be reviewed. Several suggestions were made as to how the update of the plan could be timed and co-ordinated.</p> <p>The forum RECOMMENDED to the Council that the site specific scheme list be revised to show which projects will be investigated over which years.</p> <p>Andrew Fletcher drew Members attention to pages 21-32 of the plan which set out the statement of action. Peter Thorn added the updated plan should include something on multi-user routes and that Members should provide comments on the plan to Andrew Fletcher.</p> <p>Andrew Fletcher agreed to research the legislation regarding quiet lanes.</p> <p>All members were requested to review the proposals contained within the Rights of Way Improvement Plan and respond to Andrew Fletcher by 9th January 2014 with any suggested changes, additions or deletions.</p> <p>Harry Hancock stated with the upcoming election, officers were going to be very busy and it would be better to postpone the update of the Right of Way Improvement Plan till after the election in 2015.</p> <p>The forum RECOMMENDED to the Council reduce the scope of the plan to 5 years. The forum RECOMMENDED to the Council that the review of the plan be postponed until the Summer of 2015.</p>	<p>AF</p> <p>AF</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>AF</p>
5	Milestones Statement and targets 2015/2016 consultation	
	Andrew Fletcher gave everyone a short presentation on the Milestones Statement and where we are now. He drew Members attention to paragraph 2.4 of the report and	

	<p>stated that feedback from the forum needed to be reported to the Rights of Way Panel in March 2015. Andrew Fletcher needed the Forum's comments by 9 January 2015. The presentation included areas, such as the state of the network, a few figures on incidents which had been dealt with, outstanding issues, issues resolved and photos of works which had been carried out by volunteers.</p> <p>Peter Thorn/Andrew Fletcher to write to the Conservation Volunteers to thank them for their hard work and effort.</p> <p>Andrew Fletcher to circulate Appendix B of the report to Members of the Forum.</p> <p>Peter Thorn and Members to provide comments on the Milestones Statement and targets 2015/2016 consultation by 9 January 2015 to Andrew Fletcher.</p> <p>Andrew Fletcher agreed to investigate the implications of the change to Section 106 funding on the Public Rights of Way Team budget.</p> <p>Cllr Beer to contact Parish Councils regarding S106 funding and to liaise with Andrew Fletcher on the best way forward.</p>	<p>PF/AF</p> <p>AF</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>AF</p> <p>MB</p>
6	Linking of bridleways in the Borough	
	<p>Andrew Fletcher was asked to provide a report on the new horse riding routes the Council had been working on. He had brought an updated list of bridleways to the Forum which were indicated on the map handed round to members. The map showed the bridleways linking and also; where there were gaps and where strategically, paths could be linked.</p> <p>Andrew Fletcher to organise a working party group or users and landowners in the new year to look at details for suggested new bridleways and ways to link up the existing network.</p> <p>Andrew Fletcher to organise meeting with other LAF's in neighbouring authorities to discuss horse riding routes that cross into other Borough's; the meeting to be scheduled in the New Year (2015).</p>	<p>AF</p> <p>AF</p>
7	LAF Monitoring items	
a)	<p>Thames Path 'missing link' at Bridge Gardens: The Forum was informed by Andrew Fletcher that a decision had been taken not to go ahead with car parking at Bridge Gardens. Peter Thorn stated that he has been advised that the sale documents for one of the properties at the site states that parking is available in front of the property which would be on the public footpath. Andrew Fletcher advised that Anthony Hurst had written to the agents regarding this point to remind them that no parking is allowed on the public footpath.</p> <p>Peter Thorn to write to the Borough again recognising no further parking added at Bridge Gardens and stating the issue of the footpath access was still not resolved. The letter was to highlight issues raised in previous letter sent in the summer which were still not resolved.</p>	PT
b)	<p>Deregulation Bill update: The Forum was updated on the Deregulation Bill by Andrew Fletcher. He stated it was current being examined by the House of Lords and various amendments have been suggested in committee.</p>	
c)	<p>Easy Going Routes: Andrew Fletcher informed the Forum that no more routes had been planned at present but the Access Advisory Forum had been approached for ideas</p>	
d)	<p>Volunteer Works: The Forum was informed by Andrew Fletcher that two days of clearing vegetation and building of boardwalks had taken place in Hurley with The Conservation Volunteers. Pinkneys Green Scouts had also undertaken vegetation clearance and installed</p>	

	waymark posts in Maidenhead Thicket. It was the intention to involve other Scout groups for volunteer works on Public Rights of Way.	
8	Current Legal Orders	
	It was noted that the purpose of this report was to inform the Forum regarding legal changes.	
9	Feedback from the LAF site visit to Rooks Nest Wood, Wokingham	
	<p>Andrew Fletcher informed the Forum that members from Bracknell and Wokingham LAFs had been invited to view the area as it was a suitable alternative green space. The space was now a dog walking area but not a dog emptying space. There were dog waste bins at all entrances and feedback was provided. The main issue appeared to be regarding dog owners and walkers not picking up dog waste and leaving it on the ground. One of the key learning areas was to place dog bins 30 metres from an entrance point rather than at the very start as experience has shown that most mess is caused within 30 metres of the car park. This has led to a greater amount of people picking up after their dog.</p> <p>Andrew Fletcher to pass on feedback to Craig Miller, Community Protection & Enforcement Service Lead for the Council</p>	AF
10	Feedback from LAF Chairs Meeting	
	It was noted that the first meeting had taken place on 24 September 2014 and had representatives attending from Buckinghamshire, Slough and Windsor & Maidenhead. The meeting produced seven points of action which included joint visits to discuss cross boundary, producing a map and the distribution of the RBWM web link to view signage positions. A future meeting of the LAF Chairs was to include Bracknell and West Berkshire regarding cross boundary issues.	AF
11	Activities of the LAF Fast Response Team	
	<p>The Forum notes the several pieces of advice given to the Council by the Fast Response Team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to informal consultation regarding the proposed extinguishment of Bray Restricted Byway 60. The response on behalf of the forum was that there were no objections to the proposal. • Submission to South Bucks District Council regarding the development of the former Skindles site in Taplow and construction of a footbridge over the Thames • Response to the Dept. for Transport consultation on the Draft Cycling Delivery Plan • Response to the consultation on the proposed Traffic Regulation Order banning use by motor vehicles for St. Georges Lane (Byway 24) and Wells Lane (Byway 23) in Ascot & Sunninghill. No objections were raised on behalf of the forum. • Response to the informal consultation on the proposed joint Traffic Regulation Order for Hawthorn Lane (Bray Byway 65) for a width restriction or total ban of motor vehicles along the lane. The advice on behalf of the forum is that in principle the forum does not object to the order and are happy to leave it to officers and their discussions with the police whether a width restriction or total ban is the most appropriate. <p>The Forum noted there was a vacancy on the Fast Response Team for a member representing land management interests</p>	AF
14	Date of Next Meeting	
	The date of the next meeting will be confirmed in 2015.	
	The meeting which started at 6.30pm, ended at 9.05pm.	