

NOTICE
OF
MEETING

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**RIGHTS OF WAY & HIGHWAY LICENSING
PANEL**

will meet on

TUESDAY, 7TH MARCH, 2017

At 6.30 pm

in the

COUNCIL CHAMBER - TOWN HALL, MAIDENHEAD

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

COUNCILLORS MAUREEN HUNT (CHAIRMAN), LYNDA YONG (VICE-CHAIRMAN),
CLIVE BULLOCK, JOHN COLLINS, MOHAMMED ILYAS, GARY MUIR,
SAMANTHA RAYNER AND SIMON WERNER

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

COUNCILLORS PAUL BRIMACOMBE, MARIUS GILMORE, JESSE GREY,
DAVID HILTON, JOHN STORY, NICOLA PRYER, JULIAN SHARPE, MALCOLM BEER
OR LYNNE JONES

Karen Shepherd - Democratic Services Manager - Issued: Friday 24 February 2017

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>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.	5 - 6
3.	<u>MINUTES</u> To confirm the Part I minutes of the Panel held on the 01 December 2016.	7 - 10
4.	<u>PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: PROPOSED DIVERSION ORDER, BRAY FOOTPATH 61(PART)</u> To seek the Panel's authorisation to publish a Diversion Order for part of Bray Footpath 61, in response to an application received from the owner of the land crossed by the footpath. Appendix 1 - A plan showing the proposal.	11 - 16
5.	<u>MILESTONES STATEMENT 2017/18</u> To seek the Panel's approval for the "Milestones Statement 2017/18", 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 2017/18'.	17 - 54
6.	<u>PATH PROGRESS REPORT</u> To update the Panel on progress made with Public Rights of Way issues during the period from August 2016 to February 2017. Appendix 1 - The Progress Report.	55 - 74
7.	<u>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 July 2017• 14 September 2017• 4 December 2017• 5 March 2018	-

MEMBERS' GUIDANCE NOTE

DECLARING INTERESTS IN MEETINGS

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPIs)

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, and
 - b) either (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body **or** (ii) the total nominal value of the shares of any one class belonging to the relevant person exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

This is an interest which a reasonable fair minded and informed member of the public would reasonably believe is so significant that it harms or impairs your ability to judge the public interest. That is, your decision making is influenced by your interest that you are not able to impartially consider only relevant issues.

DECLARING INTERESTS

If you have not disclosed your interest in the register, 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 or Prejudicial Interest. If you have already disclosed the interest in your Register of Interests you are still required to disclose this in the meeting if it relates to the matter being discussed. A member with a DPI or Prejudicial Interest **may make representations at the start of the item but must not 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. You should notify Democratic Services before the meeting of your intention to speak. In order to avoid any accusations of taking part in the discussion or vote, you must move to the public area, having made your representations.

If you have any queries then you should obtain advice from the Legal or Democratic Services Officer before participating in the meeting.

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.

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Agenda Item 3

RIGHTS OF WAY & HIGHWAY LICENSING PANEL

THURSDAY, 1 DECEMBER 2016

PRESENT: Councillors Maureen Hunt (Chairman), Clive Bullock, Gary Muir, Julian Sharpe (sub for Samantha Rayner) and Simon Werner.

Officers: Tanya Leftwich and Anthony Hurst.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Yong, Ilyas and Samantha Rayner.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

The Chairman informed everyone present that the meeting was being recorded and that the audio would shortly be available on the RBWM website.

MINUTES

RESOLVED Unanimously; That the Part I minutes of the Panel held on the 27 July 2016 were agreed as a correct record.

The Panel confirmed that they had nothing to add to the information sent out (6-monthly progress report) when the last meeting in September had been cancelled.

That an update had been received from the Legal Department stating that Footpath at Hurley 18 modification order had gone through.

The Chairman informed the Panel that Margaret Bowdery had very sadly died. It was noted that the Council would miss everything she had put forward in the residents interests and in keeping this footpath open. The Chairman requested that it be minuted that the Panel were saddened to hear of Margaret Bowdery's death.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: PUBLIC PATH CREATION ORDER: ASCOT STATION TO ASCOT HIGH STREET

The Parks and Countryside Team Leader, Anthony Hurst, informed Members that the report sought the Panel's authorisation to make a Public Path Creation Order to create a public footpath between Ascot High Street and Ascot Railway Station. It was noted that the public footpath would follow an existing informal footpath which was currently blocked by locked gates that were only opened on Ascot race days. Members were informed that a draft Order, including a plan of the proposed footpath, was attached at Appendix 1.

The Parks and Countryside Team Leader showed Members some photos of the footpath:

- From point A looking north towards Ascot High Street.
- From point A looking south towards Ascot Station.
- From point B at southern end of footpath: north of Ascot Station.
- Southern end of footpath: Ascot Station.
- Ascot Station access road.
- Subway under railway line (existing permitted path).

Members were referred to page 13 of the agenda which explained the legal implications which were noted as follows:

- The proposed Public Path Creation Order must be considered under the criteria set out in Section 26 of the Highways Act 1980. This required that before making a Public Path Creation Order the Council must be satisfied that there was a need for the footpath. The Council must also have regard to “*the extent to which the path would add to the convenience or enjoyment of a substantial section of the public, or to the convenience of persons resident in the area*”; and “*the effect which the creation of the path would have on the rights of persons interested in the land, account being taken of the provisions as to compensation contained in Section 28 of the Act*”. There was provision in s 28 of the Highways Act 1980 for the payment of compensation to anyone who was able to show that the value of his interest in land was depreciated, or that he had suffered damage by being disturbed in his enjoyment of land as a consequence of a Path Creation Order. However, it should be noted that the land crossed by the proposed footpath was unregistered land, and a Land Registry search had revealed no parties with a legal interest in the land.

The Parks and Countryside Team Leader explained that the new public footpath would be added to the Council's maintenance schedule for litter picking, annual leaf clearance/sweeping, and winter maintenance (approx. £1,000 per annum). It was noted that there would also be a one-off cost for newspaper advertising of the making and confirmation of the Order (approx. £1,000). The Parks and Countryside Team Leader explained that the costs could be met from within the annual Public Rights of Way maintenance budget (Budget Book page 53, item Rights of Way). The Panel was informed that the new public footpath would require the installation of lighting columns. The Parks and Countryside Team Leader explained that the outline cost of the lighting was £88,000 and provision had already been made for this in the approved capital programme (Budget Book page 148, item CD53). Members were informed that there were therefore no additional funds being sought to enable the implementation of the Path Creation Order.

In the ensuing discussion the following points were noted:

- ❖ The Chairman explained that Councillor Yong, the new Vice-Chair, had submitted her apologies for the meeting tonight as she had submitted written support for the opening of the path and therefore had a prejudicial interest in this item.
- ❖ That Councillor David Hilton was also in support of the opening of this path.
- ❖ The Chairman informed the Panel that Network Rail had believed Ascot Racecourse to own the path and vice-versa. It was noted that Network Rail had installed the gates after someone had fallen on some leaves.
- ❖ Members were referred to the plan of the path which could be found on page 19 of the agenda.
- ❖ That 16 to 20 lighting columns would be installed on the right hand side of the path (away from the trees). It was noted that this was the standard number of columns for a path of this length (approx. 470 metres long).
- ❖ Councillor Sharpe stated that he felt this was the safer route to use.
- ❖ Councillor Werner stated that he felt this to be a fantastic route and one that was really useful to the public. It was noted that he believed there to be only a small additional risk if the path was opened, as it would form a very small percentage of the overall public rights of way network.

Councillor Werner proposed that the Council proceeded to make a Public Path Creation Order to create a Public Footpath between Ascot High Street and Ascot Station as detailed in this report which Councillor Muir seconded.

The Parks and Countryside Team Leader explained that if no objections were received following publication of the Path Creation Order, or any such objections were subsequently withdrawn, to confirm the Order without further recourse to the Panel (possibly by the end of

January). Members noted that if objections were received and not subsequently withdrawn, the proposal would be brought back to the Panel for further consideration.

RESOLVED Unanimously; That the Head of Highways and Transport be authorised to make a Public Path Creation Order to create a Public Footpath between Ascot High Street and Ascot Station as detailed in this report. If no objections were received following publication of the Path Creation Order, or any such objections are subsequently withdrawn, to confirm the Order without further recourse to the Panel. If objections were received and not subsequently withdrawn, the proposal be brought back to the Panel for further consideration.

A.O.B.

Changes to the Public Rights of Way Team

The Chairman informed the Panel that changes had been made to the Public Rights of Way Team. It was noted that the former 'Outdoor Facilities' and 'Public Rights of Way' teams had been merged into a single team. Members were informed that the new 'Parks and Countryside Team' had eight staff (five full-time and three part-time) led by Anthony Hurst, and the remit of the team included the following:

- Public rights of way
- Parks and open spaces
- Play areas
- Allotments
- Cemeteries
- Nature reserves/nature conservation
- Braywick Nature Centre
- Highway verge maintenance
- Outdoor volunteering
- Working with Parish Councils

The Parks and Countryside Team Leader confirmed that no change had been made to the number of staff in the newly merged team.

It was noted that the name of this Panel would not change as there were no changes to be made to the terms of reference of the Rights of Way & Highway Licensing Panel.

Local Access Forum

The Chairman informed the Panel that the Local Access Forum looked at public access, etc. It was noted that the Parks and Countryside Team Leader had previously emailed the Panel and subs the Local Access Forum training notes which might be of interest to them. The Chairman explained that Appendix B (matters on which LAFs may advise) had also been attached for info.

The Chairman requested that the Clerk emailed this information to the Panel and subs to ensure they all had a copy of the Local Access Forum information.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- Tuesday 7 March 2017.

The meeting, which began at 6.30 pm, finished at 6.50 pm

CHAIRMAN.....
DATE.....

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Report Title:	PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: Proposed Diversion Order, Bray Footpath 61(part)
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information?	NO
Officer reporting:	Anthony Hurst, Parks and Countryside Team Leader
Meeting and Date:	Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel 7 th March 2017
Responsible Officer(s):	Ben Smith, Head of Highways and Transport
Wards affected:	All

REPORT SUMMARY

This report seeks the Panel's authorisation to publish a Diversion Order for part of Bray Footpath 61, in response to an application received from the owner of the land crossed by the footpath. There will be no cost to the Council as all costs will be met by the applicant. A plan showing the proposal is attached at Appendix 1.

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Head of Highways and Transport be authorised to publish a Diversion Order for Bray Footpath 61 (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, the proposal is to be brought back to the Panel for further consideration.

2. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Option	Comments
Publish a Diversion Order.	This is the recommended option , as it would be in the interests of both the landowner and the public for the footpath on the Definitive Map to match the footpath used on the ground.
Decline the Diversion Order application	This option is not recommended.

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

Outcome	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date of delivery
Order confirmed, and diversion implemented	Order not made.	Diversion implemented by 30 June.	Diversion implemented by 16 June.	Diversion implemented by 1 June.	30 June 2017.

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS / VALUE FOR MONEY

Financial impact on the budget

All costs associated with the diversion, (including legal and administration costs, and the cost of newspaper advertisements) will be met by the applicant. There will thus be no cost to the Council. The diverted route of the footpath will be maintainable by the Council as part of the public rights of way network, but no additional maintenance costs will be incurred as a result of the diversion.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

The application: the reason for the diversion as stated by the applicant is to formalise the route of the footpath so that the route shown on the Definitive Map follows the same route that walkers use on the ground. This will provide clarity both for the applicant/landowner and path users.

No works are proposed to the new route of the footpath which already has a firm, level well-drained surface. The new route of the footpath will have a legally defined width of 2.0m (the current route has no legally defined width).

It is considered that the criteria set out in Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980, as detailed above are met in this case. No objections were received in response to the preliminary consultations on the proposal, as detailed in paragraph 14 below. It is therefore recommended that a Diversion Order is published, as shown on the Plan attached at Appendix 1.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

There are no identified risks associated with this proposal.

7. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

7.1 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.

7.2 EQUALITIES, HUMAN RIGHTS AND COMMUNITY COHESION

None.

7.3 STAFFING/WORKFORCE AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS

None.

7.4 PROPERTY AND ASSETS

None.

8. CONSULTATION

The Local Access Forum's 'Fast Response Team' has been consulted and has confirmed it has objection to the proposal.

Bray Parish Council considered the application at its meeting held on 6th February and has confirmed it has no objection to the proposal.

The East Berks Ramblers have been consulted, and have raised no objection to the proposal.

The ward councillors have been consulted, and have raised no objections to the proposal.

9. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

If no objections are received during the statutory public consultation period, it is anticipated that the diversion could be confirmed and implemented by the end of June 2017.

10. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: plan of the diversion proposal.

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.

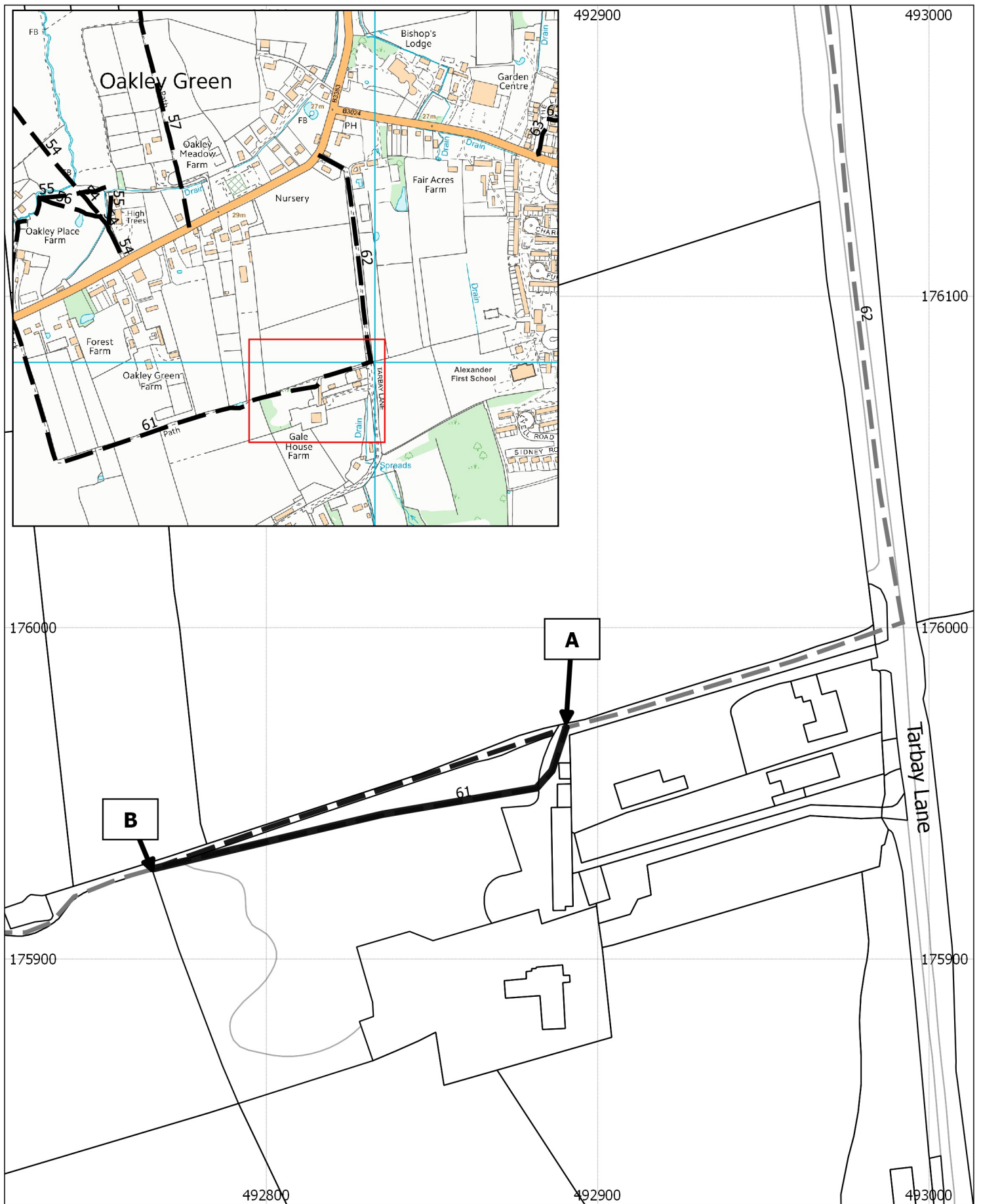
12. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held	Date sent	Commented & returned
Cllr Maureen Hunt	Panel Chairman	03/02/17	
Ben Smith	Head of Highways and Transport	03/02/17	

REPORT HISTORY

Decision type: Non-key decision	Urgency item? No
Report Author: Anthony Hurst, Parks and Countryside Team Leader 01628-796180	

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Public Rights of Way
Drawn by: Andrew Fletcher

Date: 17/01/2017
Scale: 1:1,500

Bray Footpath 61 - Diversion Order Proposal

- Path to be added to the definitive map
- Path to be deleted from the definitive map
- Section of footpaths unaffected by the proposal



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Report Title:	PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: “MILESTONES STATEMENT 2017/18”
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information?	NO
Officer reporting:	Anthony Hurst, Parks and Countryside Team Leader
Meeting and Date:	Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel 7 th March 2017
Responsible Officer(s):	Ben Smith, Head of Highways and Transport
Wards affected:	All

REPORT SUMMARY

This report seeks the Panel’s approval for the *“Milestones Statement and Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan Annual Review 2017/18”* 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, and the resources available for delivering this service.

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Rights of Way and Highways Licensing Panel approves the *“Milestones Statement and Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan Annual Review 2017/18”* attached at Appendix 1.

2. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

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.

Option	Comments
Approve the Milestones Statement 2017/18	This is the recommended option
Do not approve the Milestones Statement 2017/18	This option is not recommended.

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

Outcome	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date of delivery
Approval of Milestones Statement 2017-18	<i>n/a</i>	March 2017	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	2017/18

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS / VALUE FOR MONEY

Financial impact on the budget

Resources available for public rights of way work in 2017/18 are set out on page 4 of the draft Milestones Statement attached. 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. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

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. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

7.1 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.

7.2 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.

7.3 STAFFING/WORKFORCE AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS

None.

7.4 PROPERTY AND ASSETS

None.

8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The Local Access Forum considered the Milestones Statement 'Targets', 'Priorities' and 'Service Standards' at its meeting held on 11th November 2016, and made the following recommendations:

1. Targets for 2017/18:

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: 95%.*

LAF recommendation: keep this target at 95%.

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

LAF recommendation: keep this target at 10 paths.

WM3: *To repair or replace 5 bridges.*

LAF recommendation: keep this target at 5 bridges.

Legally Defined

LD1: *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.*

LAF recommendation: remove this target. The Forum notes that there is already a service standard to deal with uncontested DMMO applications within 1 year.

Well Publicised

WP1: *To produce 1 new Parish rights of way leaflet.*

LAF recommendation: increase this target to 2 new Parish rights of way leaflets

WP2: *To assist others to produce effective promotional material: a minimum of 1 new or updated publication.*

LAF recommendation: keep this target at 1 new or updated publication.

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.*

LAF recommendation: keep this target at 1 new path.

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.*

LAF recommendation: keep this target at 15 physical access improvements.

Enforcement

EN 1: *To resolve 10 enforcement issues.*

LAF recommendation: change target to 'resolve all new enforcement cases within 3 months'.

2. Priorities for 2017/18

LAF recommendation: change existing priority to: "Improvements: seek improvements *and additions* to the network to *enhance connectivity* for horse riders, cyclists and people restricted mobility".

LAF recommendation: change existing priority to "Liaise with landowners and occupiers on all public rights of way matters, including updating and advising landowners on changes in legislation *and encouraging the establishment of permitted routes*".

3. Service Standards for 2017/18

LAF recommendation: replace the existing enforcement Service Standard with the following procedure:

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 *[replace "within 6 weeks of inspection" with "in accordance with the Council's Ploughing and Cropping procedure below"]*, and give consideration to all available statutory powers including prosecutions where appropriate.

Ploughing and cropping procedure:

1. Make first contact with farmer via telephone and email to explain the report or issue. This telephone call and email should agree the date with the farmer for the resolution of the issue based upon the statutory 14 day deadline. Explain that if the works are not done by this deadline the issue will be reported to the Rural Payments Agency.
2. Take the 14 day deadline from the date that the farmer is first contacted by the Council. Where necessary, agree an extension of this deadline for up to 28 days, for example where ground conditions do not allow proper reinstatement within the normal 14 day period.
3. Request the farmer to contact RBWM when the reinstatement works have been done, if possible providing photographic evidence. If the agreed deadline has not been met, the breach of regulations should then be reported to the Rural Payments Agency
4. If the path has not been cleared and the path reinstated by the stated deadline the Council arranges for a contractor to clear the path and reinstate the

surface (as required) and the cost of these works is re-charged to the farmer. This issue is then closed.

8.2 **Hurley Parish Council** submitted the following comment:

“The Milestones Statement was discussed at last week’s Hurley Parish Council meeting and our response is broadly supportive. Whilst the council understands and applauds the setting of targets we suggest that given the limited resources of the team, the specific targeted items should be interchangeable should the need arise. The council also welcomed the initiative to work closer with the Parish Councils”.

8.3 **Cox Green Parish Council** submitted the following comment:

“This Council supports the priorities, targets and standards as supplied”.

9. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

2017/18

10. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Draft Milestones Statement 2017/18.

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.

12. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held	Date sent	Commented & returned
Cllr Maureen Hunt	Panel Chairman	03/02/17	
Ben Smith	Head of Highways and Transport	03/02/17	

REPORT HISTORY

Decision type: Non-key decision	Urgency item? No
Report Author: Anthony Hurst, Parks and Countryside Team Leader 01628-796180	

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Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

Milestones Statement

*and Public Rights of Way
Management and Improvement
Plan review*

2017-2018

FOREWORD

I am pleased to introduce the 19th annual Milestones Statement for the Royal Borough, marking 19 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 Maureen Hunt

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

April 2017

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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 Management and Improvement Plan 2016-2026.

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 2016/17, a number of volunteer groups worked on public rights of way around the Borough:

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) carried out **6 work days** with a total of **67** participant days.

Ways in Work (WiW) carried out **31 work days** with a total of **161** participant days. Berkshire College of Agriculture (BCA) carried out **29 work days** with a total of **146** participant days.

Volunteers from the East Berks Ramblers undertook **207 hours** of work, including path surveys and practical works.

Based upon our current commercial rates for path works the value of the volunteer works listed above is **£5,883.88**

Youth Offenders Team

The Youth Offenders Team carried out two projects on public rights of way during the year: graffiti removal works at a bridleway that passes through an underpass beneath the Royal Windsor Way in Eton, and vegetation clearance works at Primrose Lane, a bridleway in Bray.

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 team provides 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

2016/17	2017/18
£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)

2016/17	2017/18
£40,000	£20,000

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)

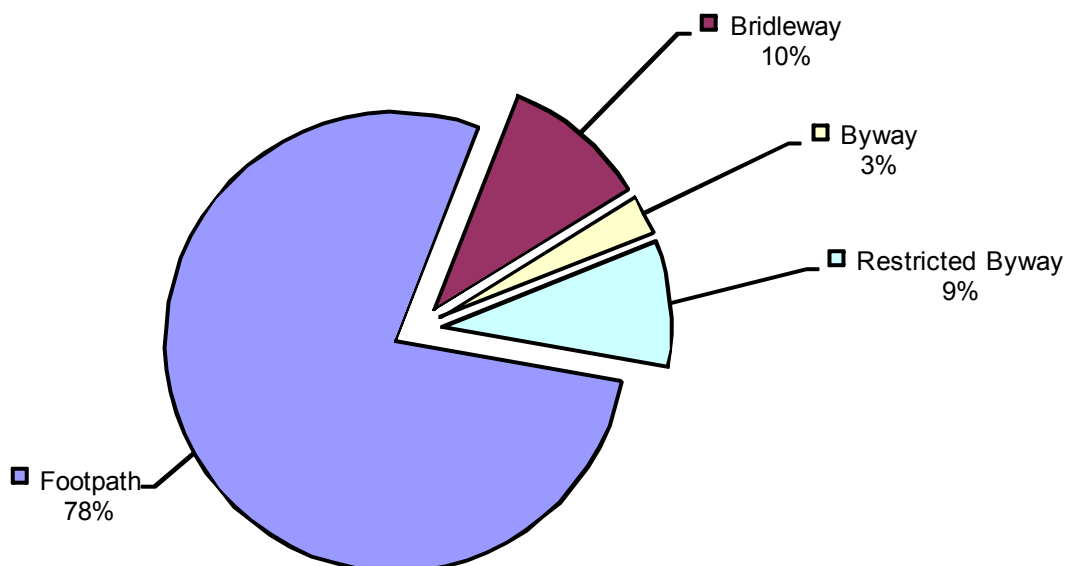
2016/17	2017/18
£20,000	£40,000

The Council has maintenance responsibility for 183 bridges and 5 boardwalks on footpaths and bridleways on public rights of way in the borough. These bridges are inspected on a rolling programme, and remedial safety works identified. In some cases this work is reactive, in response to bridge damage caused by flooding or general wear and tear.

Table 1: Lengths of Rights of Way by Parish,

Parish			Length (km)				
	Footpath	Bridleway	Byway	Restricted Byway	Total km	% of network	
Bisham	13.146	2.524	-	2.228	17.898	5.81	%
Bray	36.803	9.999	2.184	0.564	49.550	16.08	%
Cookham	34.138	1.980	0.469	0.405	36.992	12.01	%
Cox Green	8.395	1.399	-	-	9.794	3.18	%
Datchet	4.761	-	-	-	4.761	1.55	%
Eton	18.396	3.561	-	-	21.957	7.13	%
Horton	1.200	1.254	-	-	2.454	0.80	%
Hurley	31.608	6.115	-	6.909	44.632	14.49	%
Maidenhead	29.796	0.439	-	2.596	32.831	10.66	%
Old Windsor	4.574	-	-	-	4.574	1.48	%
Shottesbrooke	3.240	-	-	1.612	4.852	1.57	%
Sunningdale	3.554	1.666	0.337	-	5.557	1.80	%
Sunninghill	11.244	-	3.592	1.299	16.135	5.24	%
Waltham St Lawrence	17.728	-	-	7.209	24.937	8.09	%
White Waltham	11.011	0.530	0.342	4.165	16.048	5.21	%
Windsor	4.339	1.994	1.644	0.259	8.236	2.67	%
Wraysbury	6.876	-	-	-	6.876	2.23	%
Total (km)	240.809	31.461	8.568	27.246	308.084	100.00	%

Path status across the network



2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 Priorities for 2017/18

- 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, cyclists and people with restricted mobility.
- Enhance and extend the network through the creation of Multi User Routes
- 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 2017/18

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 2017/18 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** new Parish rights of way leaflet.

WP 2: To assist others to produce effective promotional material: a minimum of **1** new or updated 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 **10** 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 Management and 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

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.

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 2016/17:

- RBWM Cycling Strategy
- The Milestones Targets for 2017/18
- Cross compliance reporting procedures and policies
- Ecology and public rights of way
- Proposed diversion of Maidenhead Footpath 19

- Development of Multi-User Routes
- Use of volunteers for works on public rights of way.
- The Ramblers' Big Path Watch project
- Potential memorial for the late Margaret Bowdery MBE
- Responding to British Horse Society consultation document regarding the process for removing entries for adopted highways in the 'List of Streets'.
- Proposed development of a care village at Berkshire College of Agriculture.

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://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/info/200215/rights_of_way/452/local_access_forum

2.6 Thames Path National Trail

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

The Thames Path 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 Partnership, which also includes representatives from all Highway Authorities along the route of the Trail, as well as the River Thames Society, the Environment Agency, the Ramblers, Sustrans, Cycling UK, Transport for London, and Natural England.

Volunteers organised by the Thames Path Partnership regularly monitor the condition of the Trail, and also undertake practical maintenance works. Information about the Trail can be found on the following website:

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 **22 to 15** 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*

- Improvements to the Thames Path National Trail
- Replacement of step-stiles with easy access gates

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

	Outstanding at 31st Mar 2016	Reported 1st April 2016 to 31st Jan 17	Closed 1st April 2016 to 31st Jan 17	Total Outstanding at 31st Jan 17	Issues outstanding over 5 years
ENFORCEMENT					
Ploughing and lack of marking	0	7	7	0	0
Obstruction by crops	0	2	2	0	0
Fence encroachment	3	2	4	1	1
Fence obstruction	0	3	2	1	0
Building obstruction	0	0	0	0	0
Other obstructions	2	3	4	1	0
Stiles	2	1	2	1	0
Gates	0	4	3	1	0
Bulls/ other animal problems	0	1	1	0	0
Unauthorised use by horses	0	2	2	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	0	6	6	0	0
Other Enforcement Problems	2	5	7	0	0
TOTAL ENFORCEMENT:	9	37	41	5	1
MAINTENANCE					
Vegetation	0	8	8	0	0
Rutting	0	0	0	0	0
Drainage	4	0	3	1	0
Fallen trees	1	18	19	0	0
Erosion	6	9	10	5	0
Tree problems	0	0	0	0	0
Bridges	0	2	1	1	0
Safety barriers	0	2	2	0	0
Steps	0	0	0	0	0
Roadside signposting	0	16	14	2	0
Signposting at path junctions	0	2	2	0	0
Waymarking	0	7	7	0	0
Rubbish/ waste	1	6	7	0	0
Other Maintenance Problems	1	8	8	1	0
TOTAL MAINTENANCE:	13	78	81	10	0
TOTALS OF MAINTENANCE AND ENFORCEMENT	22	115	122	15	1

* 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 2015 (effective date 1st November 2015) including all legal changes made since the previous consolidated Map was published in 2008.

Copies of the Map and Statement are available for inspection in Maidenhead and Windsor central libraries, Borough Council offices, and can also 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 7 claims currently being investigated, listed in Appendix 5. 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 current 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, Datchet, Waltham St Lawrence, White Waltham and Hurley Parish Councils have all produced their own walks leaflets, with help from the Borough Council through the 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)
- Waltham St Lawrence Parish Paths and Circular Walks (Waltham St Lawrence Parish Council)
- White Waltham Parish and Paths (White Waltham Parish Council)
- Hurley Circular Walks (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, including the Thames Path National Trail.

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 can be accessed directly at https://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/info/200215/rights_of_way

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

The Council’s MapsOnline service 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.

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 originally 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 2016 was **99%** (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.

Monthly updates on progress towards the Milestones Statement targets are also published on the borough website.

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 2017/18 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, which includes members of the following organisations:

East Berks Ramblers

British Horse Society

The 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 Pittcroft 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) currently being investigated

Parish	Claim no	Claim date	Path description		Current status
			From	To	
Wraysbury	FP 501-505	2009	Various access points at/around Thamesfield	Various access points at/around Thamesfield	Fourteen 'Definitive Map Modification Orders' were made in July 2016: objections have been received to all fourteen Orders and the Orders were referred to the Planning Inspectorate in December 2016

APPENDIX 6

Achievement of Milestones Targets 2016/17

UPDATED 23 FEBRUARY 2017	
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 2016-17: 95%</i>	99%
WM2 <i>To carry out major surface improvements or vegetation clearance on 10 public rights of way.</i>	
Bisham Restricted Byway 11 (Bisham Woods)	Surface and drainage improvements
Bisham Restricted Byway 12 (Bisham Woods)	Surface and drainage improvements
Cookham Footpath 55 (Thames Path)	Surface improvements and riverbank protection
Maidenhead Footpath 23B (off Laggan Road)	Surface improvements
Maidenhead Footpath 58/68A (off Henley Road)	Major vegetation clearance
Sunninghill Footpath 5 (off Church Lane)	Boardwalk repaired
Sunninghill Byway 23 (Wells Lane)	Surface improvements
Sunninghill Byway 24 (St Georges Lane)	Surface improvements
Maidenhead Footpath 24 (off Gardner Road)	Surface and drainage improvements
Waltham St Lawrence Restricted Byway 35 (Uncles Lane)	Surface and drainage improvements
	Total 10
WM3 <i>To repair or replace 5 bridges.</i>	
Bray Footpath 27 (off Forest Green Road)	Sleeper bridge replaced
Bray Footpath 30 (off Primrose Lane)	Bridge repaired
Bray Footpath 54 (off Forest Green Road)	Bridge repaired
Cookham Footpath 60 (off Bell Rope Meadow)	Bridge replaced
Cox Green Footpath 11 (Ockwells Park)	Boardwalk repaired
Datchet Footpath 9 (Thames Path)	Bridge repaired
	Total 6
LEGALLY DEFINED	
LD1 <i>To actively progress a minimum of 4 applications to add public rights of way to the definitive map (DMMO claims), including resolving significant errors in the Map</i>	<p>Cookham FP 49: map alignment error resolved.</p> <p>Cookham FP 48a: DMMO confirmed</p> <p>Windsor FP 16: DMMO confirmed</p> <p>Wraysbury Thamesfield: DMMO made</p> <p>Total 4</p>
WELL PUBLICISED	
WP1 <i>To produce 1 new Parish rights of way leaflet</i>	White Waltham Parish Paths leaflet
	Total 1

WP2 <i>To assist others to produce effective promotional material. a minimum of 1 new or updated publication.</i>	Waltham St Lawrence information board and posters
	Total 1
IMPROVING ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY	
AC1 <i>Create 1 new strategic path, either public right of way or permitted, to fill identified gaps in the public rights of way network</i>	New public footpath: Ascot High Street to Ascot Station, opened 1 st Feb 2017 Total 1
AC2 <i>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.</i>	
Bisham Footpath 11 (Bisham Woods)	Path levelling
Bisham Footpath 12 (Bisham Woods)	Path levelling
Bray Footpath 27 (off Forest Green Road)	1 stile replaced with kissing gate
Bray Footpath 49 (off Fifield Road)	2 stiles replaced with kissing gates
Bray Footpath 54 (off Forest Green Road)	3 stiles replaced with kissing gates
Bray Footpath 55 (off Forest Green Road)	1 inaccessible gate replaced with kissing gate
Bray Footpath 58 (off Forest Green Road)	1 stile replaced with kissing gate
Cookham Footpath 48 (Widbrook Common)	2 swing gates improved
Cox Green Footpath 11 (Ockwells Park)	1 stile replaced with kissing gate
Hurley Footpath 33 (Ashley Hill / Knowl Hill Common)	2 stiles replaced with gaps
Sunninghill Footpath 8 (off Winkfield Road)	1 stile replaced with kissing gate
Waltham St Lawrence Footpath 16 (off Hungerford Lane)	1 stile replaced with swing gate
	Total 17
ENFORCEMENT	
EN 1 <i>To resolve 10 enforcement issues</i>	
Bisham Footpath 9 (Town Farm, Bisham): Path obstructed by crops	<i>Path reinstated by land owner.</i>
Bray Footpath 2 (off A308 Windsor Road): Path surface damaged due to fencing and clearance works	<i>Path reinstated by land owner</i>
Bray Footpath 25 (off Forest Green Road): Path ploughed and not reinstated	<i>Path marked out by land owner</i>
Bray Footpath 28 (off Forest Green Road): Path ploughed and not reinstated	<i>Path marked out by land owner</i>
Bray Footpath 52 (off Fifield Road): Path obstructed by electric fencing and branches	<i>Fencing and branches removed by tenant</i>
Bray Footpath 52 (off Fifield Road): Surface of path rutted and muddy	<i>Surface repairs undertaken by tenant.</i>
Bray Footpath 61 (off Tarbay Lane): Path encroachment by fencing	<i>Fencing removed by landowner.</i>
Cookham Footpath 48 (Strande Lane, Cookham): Path encroached by fencing	<i>Fence moved back by land owner.</i>

Cookham Footpath 50 (off Cookham High Street): Razor wire hanging over path	<i>Razor wire removed by land owner.</i>
Cookham Footpath 50 (off Cookham High Street): Horse riders using the path	<i>'No Horse Riding' waymarks added to path</i>
Cox Green Footpath 10 (off Thrift Lane, Cox Green): Path damaged by farming operations	<i>Path repaired by land owner.</i>
Datchet Footpath 6 (off Horton Road): Path obstructed by concrete blocks	<i>Concrete blocks moved off the path by land owner.</i>
Datchet Footpath 6 (off Horton Road): Entrance to the path has been narrowed by a new gate	<i>Path entrance widened by land owner as requested.</i>
Datchet Footpath 6 (off Horton Road): Kissing gate has been moved and no longer meets the British Standard requirements	<i>Gate has been modified and restored to British Standard by land owner.</i>
Eton Footpath 4 (North field): Crop has grown up obscuring the line of the path	<i>Path marked out and sprayed by farmer.</i>
Eton Bridleway 17 (South Field): Path has been cropped and not reinstated	<i>Path marked out and sprayed by farmer</i>
Eton Bridleway 18 (South Field): Path has been cropped and not reinstated	<i>Path marked out and sprayed by farmer</i>
Eton Footpath 19 (South Field): Path has been cropped and not reinstated	<i>Path marked out and sprayed by farmer</i>
Hurley Footpath 1 (Thames Path): Report of litter and BBQs being used on the path	<i>Rubbish and BBQ debris cleared by land owner.</i>
Hurley Footpath 4 (off Henley Road): Overhanging vegetation from adjacent property	<i>Overhanging vegetation cut back by house owner.</i>
Hurley Bridleway 15 (Hodgedale Lane): Gates erected across the bridleway	<i>Gates secured permanently open by landowner.</i>
Maidenhead Footpath 1 (off Church Road): Garden waste dumped on path verge	<i>Garden waste removed by adjacent house owner</i>
Maidenhead Footpath 48 (off A4 Bath Road to Altwood Road): Iron fence leaning into path	<i>Fence removed by land owner.</i>
Maidenhead Footpath 83 (off Fishery Road): Ivy overgrowing onto path	<i>Ivy cut back and cleared by adjacent house owner.</i>
Sunninghill Byway 24 (St Georges Lane, Ascot): Footway blocked by overhanging vegetation	<i>Hedges cut back by land owner</i>
Waltham St Lawrence Footpath 11 (off Mire Lane): Lock attached to gate	<i>Lock removed by landowner</i>
Waltham St Lawrence Footpath 23 (off Shurlock Road): Unauthorised stile erected on the path	<i>Stile removed by land owner.</i>
Waltham St Lawrence FP 23 (off Shurlock Road): Barbed wire erected next to path against agreed design of fence	<i>Plain wire installed on path side by landowner</i>
Waltham St Lawrence Restricted Byway 24 (Pool Lane): Trees encroaching onto the road	<i>Trees/hedges cut back by landowner on southern side.</i>
White Waltham Footpath 5 (off A4 Bath Road): Temporary fencing installed by neighbouring developer	<i>Temporary fencing removed by developer.</i>
	Total 30

APPENDIX 7

Updates on site specific projects in “Rights of Way Management and Improvement Plan 2016-2026 (new updates in bold)”

Hurley, Shottesbrooke & the Walthams

Ref	Proposal (not in priority order)
1	Work with Wokingham Borough Council to secure a new off-road horse riding link between Star Lane (Hurley) and Canhurst Lane by upgrading Wargrave Footpath 42
2	A crossing over the Thames across Hurley Lock and weirs
3	Upgrade White Waltham Footpath 9/National Cycle Route 4 to permitted bridleway. <i>(April 2015 update: the landowner has declined a proposal to create this new pedestrian link: however, if circumstances change this project could be re-opened)</i>
4	(a) New route along the Cut from Bray Wick upstream to Westleymill on the Bracknell Forest boundary <i>(March 2017 update: new section of streamside footpath to be included within layout of Ockwells Park extension, Cox Green)</i> (b) Establish a new path from Windmills (White Waltham Footpath 20) to Howe Lane near Howe Lane Bridge
5	Work with Wokingham Borough Council to upgrade Waltham St. Lawrence Footpath 9 / Ruscombe Footpath 4 for horse riding use
6	Creation of a path from Great Wood, White Waltham, south of the B3024 road to the track at Pond Wood Farm
7	Create a route for carriage drivers from Beenhams Road in White Waltham to Mare Lane in Binfield.
8	Improve bridleway links between RBWM and identified horse riding networks in Wokingham and Bracknell Forest
9	Direct crossings over/under the M4 avoiding the use of road bridges

Cookham & Bisham

10	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> <i>(February 2016 update: reopened consultation with neighbouring landowner. Quotation received for clearance. Discussions ongoing regarding funding from cycleway budget)</i> <i>(March 2017 update: feasibility studying being prepared in conjunction with Highways England)</i>
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11	Create a new right of way for non-motorised users linking Burchetts Green Roundabout to Permitted Bridleway 20, following the route of the A404 on its western side <i>(June 2015 update: proposal not supported by Temple Golf Club)</i>
12	Create a 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 link: however, if circumstances change this project could be re-opened)</i> <i>(March 2014 update: ongoing discussions with horse riders)</i>
13	Upgrade Bisham Footpath 19 (Michael's Path) to a bridleway and divert the path to adjoin the disused Henley Road. <i>(March 2017 update: the landowner has declined a proposal to upgrade this footpath, therefore further investigation into potential alternative route via adjacent woodland)</i>
14	Improve links between Bisham and Bisham Woods for non-motorised traffic, particularly with regard to crossing the A404 Bisham Roundabout. <i>(February 2016 update: Highways England have decided not to proceed with the proposed alterations to this roundabout, however they are keeping the junction performance under review to identify whether small scale improvements can be made.)</i>
15	Extend the southern end of Bisham Bridleway 22 to connect with Dungrove Hill Lane
16	Upgrade part of Bisham Footpath 17 to a Bridleway
17	Upgrade Bisham Footpath 23 to a bridleway, to link Burchetts Green to Stubbings and Maidenhead Thicket
18	Create a cycling route between Hurley and Temple (a) Create a route adjacent to Bisham Footpath 21 to allow cycle use (b) Upgrade part of Bisham Footpath 21 and Hurley Footpath 9 to allow cycle use and link with Mill Lane
19	Improve the surface of Bisham Restricted Byway 11 and Bisham Bridleway 12 <i>(December 2015 update: consulting with Natural England over works specification)</i> <i>(March 2017 update: surface improvements completed)</i>
20	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>
21	Access improvements at Cookham Lock to provide high degree of accessibility to the site.
22	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>
23	Crossings over the Thames: (a) from Hythe End to south bank avoiding M25 (b) from Magna Carta Island to north bank

	<p>(c) from Wraysbury riverside to Old Windsor</p> <p>(d) from Ham Island to Sunnymeads</p> <p>(e) from Datchet centre to Home Park</p> <p>(f) from north side of Eton to south bank</p> <p>(g) from Windsor near Slough railway bridge to north bank</p> <p>(h) from west side of Windsor (A308) to north bank</p> <p>(i) from Bray village to east bank</p> <p>(j) from west bank to southern tip of National Trust Cliveden Park</p> <p>(k) upstream of Maidenhead where towpath crosses to Bucks bank</p> <p>(l) near Cookham Lock where towpath crosses back again</p> <p>(m) from south side of Cookham bridge to towpath on Lock Cut</p> <p>(n) from Spade Oak Farm to south bank</p> <p>(o) downstream of A404 bridge</p> <p>(p) at Bisham Church</p> <p>(q) from south bank to Medmenham</p>
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Maidenhead & Cox Green

24	<p>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:</p> <p>(a) Nightingale Lane to the Green Way, subject to rail crossing provision</p> <p>(b) Lower Cookham Road at Widbrook Common to the Thames Path. (<i><u>March 2014 update</u></i>): Discussions are being held with the landowners about the proposed new footpath. (<i><u>March 2015 update</u></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).</p>
25	<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</p> <p>(b) a route from the Causeway at Braywick Park to Old Mill Lane via Bray Bridge</p> <p>(c) make the Green Way accessible to mobility restricted users</p>

	<p><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>
26	<p>To establish a continuous riverside route 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)</i></p> <p><i>(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 and new roadside footpath opened north of Bridge Gardens)</i></p>
27	<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 Boulter's 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 on east side of the river being approved by South Bucks District Council)</i></p> <p><i>(March 2017 update: new footbridge to be provided in association with Mill Lane development)</i></p>
28	<p>Create a new foot/cycle bridge across the Cut and new footpath-cycleway linking Braywick Park to Bray Road adjacent to Oldfield Primary School</p> <p><i>(March 2017 update: funding secured, bridge and footpath-cycle way being designed, estimated opening Sept 2017)</i></p>
29	<p>(a) Upgrade Kinghorn Lane (Maidenhead Footpath 30) to a cycle route</p> <p>(b) <i>March 2009 addition:</i> Reinstate the definitive width of Kinghorn Lane (Maidenhead FP 30) to provide segregated route for cyclists</p>
30	Create a continuous streamside footpath around "The Maidenhead Ring", including the Moor Cut and The Green Way, in association with the Maidenhead Waterways project
31	Upgrading Thames Path to allow cyclists to share route

Bray, Windsor and Eton

32	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.
33	Promote a circular route around Bray village, and also around the old Biffa pits
34	Improve bridleway links between Eton, Dorney and Bray working with Bucks County Council and other neighbouring authorities.
35	A riverside path should be created in parallel to the Thames Path on the opposite side of the river

36	A route from Bray to Windsor, past Bray Film Studios
37	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>
38	Expand the multi-user routes in Eton to surrounding areas and link with other bridleway routes. <i>(March 2017 update: Discussions with landowners to allow horse riding use of the Jubilee River cycleway. At present permission has not been granted due to concerns about path width and potential issues at M4 underpass)</i>
39	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
40	Secure a Public Right of Way or permitted link at end of Bridleway 11a Windsor, and a new footway along Winkfield Road to create a circular walk
41	Crossings over the Thames to link villages /settlements on either bank with paths on the other, and to link isolated bits of the old towpath

Datchet, Horton, Old Windsor & Wraysbury

42	Access around the Queen Mother reservoir, Datchet <i>(March 2011 update): The landowner has declined to agree the creation of a new footpath across this land; however, if circumstances change this project could be re-opened</i>
43	Improve and ensure long term accessibility (including possible bank repair / diversion) Datchet Footpath 8 <i>(March 2009 update: handrails installed by landowner in 2008)</i> <i>(March 2015 update: discussion with landowner about potential for widening the footpath)</i> <i>(March 2016 update: landowner has declined to widen the path, bank repair improvements completed to secure the river bank)</i>
44	Thames side paths: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) along the banks of Ham Island (b) south bank of Thames from Home Park (c) along the shores of the big islands downstream of Cookham (d) south bank between Bisham and Temple
45	Create the following paths from the 1981 Horton, Datchet and Wraysbury Local Plan, depending on the working arrangements with the landowner: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) footpath from Datchet Footpath 7 southwest around the Queen Mother Reservoir, over the Horton Road (B376) to the railway line (b) footpath from Datchet Footpath 5 running southeast on the northern side of the

	<p>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 from Park Avenue, Wraysbury to Kingswood Creek</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> <p>(h) footpath running from Horton Footpath 3 around northern part of lakes to Stanwell Road</p> <p>(i) footpath from Station Road, Wraysbury, to Stanwell Road running along the western bank of the Colne Brook.</p> <p>(j) footpath from Hythe End Lane to southern end of Ferry Lane (Wraysbury Footpath 3)</p> <p>(k) bridleway from Embankment to Magna Carta Lane in Wraysbury</p> <p>(l) bridleway from Horton Road, alongside the Queen Mother Reservoir to Majors Farm Road (B370)</p> <p>(m) Footpath from Kingswood Creek to Old Ferry Drive</p> <p>(n) Footpath from Stanwell Road, northeast along Mill Lane, running east along the Colne Brook.</p>
46	New route along the Colne Brook

Ascot, Sunninghill & Sunningdale

47	<p>Disabled friendly routes should be investigated at Eton, Sunninghill and Ascot, Sunningdale, Knowl Hill, White Waltham and Hurley Lock</p> <p><i>(December 2015 update: replacement of stepped footbridge west of Hurley Lock completed)</i></p> <p><i>(March 2015 update: surface improvements at St Georges Lane and Wells Lane)</i></p>
48	<p>Extend Sunningdale Footpath 13 through to Sunninghill</p> <p><i>(March 2009 update: feasibility studies have indicated that this project is not viable, however if circumstances change this project could be re-opened)</i></p>
49	<p>Create a path from Ascot Station westwards parallel to the railway line to Kings Ride</p> <p><i>(March 2007 update: Network Rail are unwilling to consider this proposed footpath creation)</i></p>

50	New footpath between Ascot High Street and Ascot Rail Station. <i>(March 2017 update: Path Creation Order confirmed and path opened 1st February 2017)</i>
51	New footpath or cycle route from Ascot Centre to Ascot Rail Station
52	New footpath from St Georges Lane to Ascot Rail Station
53	New footpath or cycle route from Heatherwood Hospital to Prince Albert Drive
54	New footpath or cycle route between Prince Albert Drive and Ascot High Street around Heatherwood Hospital
55	New footpath or cycle route linking Bridge Road to Kings Road
56	New footpath or cycle route from Cavendish Meads to railway line
57	New footpath from Farm Close to Upper Village Road
58	New footpath linking Allens Field to Swinley Forest
59	New footpath from Coombe Lane to Victory Fields Recreation Ground
60	New cycle route from Ascot High Street east of Station Hill to South Ascot via the A330 viaduct
61	New cycle route alongside Winkfield Road from the entrance to Ascot Racecourse and Royal Ascot Golf Course to the junction of A330 and A329 London Road/Ascot High Street
62	New cycle route from A330 Winkfield Road alongside New Mile Road, Cheapside Road and Watersplash Lane to B383 Sunninghill Road
63	Upgrade Sunninghill Footpath 5 to a bridleway usable by cyclists
64	Upgrade Sunninghill Footpath 1 to a bridleway usable by cyclists
65	New footpath from Liddell Way to Whiteladies Park
66	New footpath or cycle route from Heatherwood Hospital to Ascot Rail Station
67	New footpath from North Ascot to Ascot High Street across Ascot racecourse and through tunnel
68	New footpath east of Ascot Racecourse alongside Winkfield Road
69	New footpath through Silwood Park from Sunninghill Footpath 2 to Buckhurst Road
70	New footpath along Mill Lane linking into Windsor Great Park
71	New footpath alongside Whitmore Lane linking Sunningdale Byway 4, Sunningdale Footpath 2 and A329 London Road
72	New footpath alongside railway between Beech Hill Road to Kings Road

73	New footpath or cycle route from Sunninghill to Charters School on the edge of the railway and around school sites
74	New footpath from Sunningdale Park parallel to Larch Avenue
75	New footpath from Sunningdale Park / Larch Avenue to Park Drive
76	New footpath within Sunningdale Park linking Silwood Road to Station Road
77	New footpath around Southern border of Sunninghill Park parallel to Park Drive
78	New footpath from Sunningdale Park to Station Road
79	New footpath from Sunningdale Footpath 1 to Windsor Great Park adjacent to London Road
80	New footpath or cycle route linking Beech Hill Road over railway line to Charters School
81	New footpath from Bagshot Road to Charters School along Broadlands Drive
82	New footpath from Sunning Avenue into Charters School
83	Record the existing path round Beaufort Gardens loop to Burleigh Lane
84	Record the existing path from Kings Ride west of Heatherwood Hospital to the railway line
85	Record the existing path between Vernon Drive and Ruston Way
86	Record the existing path around Allen's Field
87	Record the existing path around the woods off Allen's Field
88	Record the existing path from Woodlands Ride to Allen's Field
89	Record the existing path along pine tree ridge near Liddell Way
90	Record the existing path to the west of Allen's Field
91	Record the existing path From Carroll Crescent via Beaumont Court to adopted path onto Bouldish Farm Road
92	Record the existing path between Elizabeth Gardens and Brockenhurst Road
93	Record the existing path from Armitage Court through open land / woods off St Mary's Hill
94	Record the existing path through woodland north west of Coombe Lane
95	Record the existing footpath round woodland off Coombe Lane
96	Record the existing path from St George's Lane to Coombe Lane
97	Record the existing path from Coombe Lane to Victory Field through Tom Green's Field
98	Record the existing path around the woods off Allen's Field

99	Record the existing path between New Road and Kennel Ride
100	Record the existing path between Winkfield Road and Oaklands Drive
101	Record the existing path across Ascot Racecourse
102	Record the existing path behind Hilltop Close
103	Record the existing path south of Hilltop Close to Sunninghill Footpath 2
104	Record the existing path from Hilltop Close to Playground
105	Record the existing path from Park Drive to Sunningdale Park
106	Record the existing path from Queen's Road Car Park to High Street by Chapmans
107	Record the existing path through woodland adjacent to Blythewood recreation area
108	Record the existing path through protected woodland by Blythewood recreation area
109	Record the existing path to/from green on Hanover Estate
110	Record the existing path under Ascot station and to Lyndhurst Rd
111	Record the existing path between Sutherland Chase and Blythewood Lane
112	Record the existing path from Cross Rd into Sunningdale Golf Course
113	Record the existing path between the A30 and the RBWM Car Park
114	Record the existing path around RBWM car park at Sunningdale
115	Record the existing path between Priory Road and Richmond Road
116	Record the existing path between Ridgemount Road and Priory Road to the level crossing
117	Record the existing path between Cedar Drive and Sunningdale Footpath 13
118	Record the existing path through Broomhall Recreation Ground <i>(March 2016 update: Sunningdale Parish Council to arrange surfacing works and footpath to be dedicated as a public right of way)</i>
119	Record the existing paths linking from Hamilton and Greenways Drives to London Road A30
120	Record the existing path through Sunningdale Park from Old Sunningdale via Silwood Rd to Sunninghill via Larch Avenue
121	Record the existing path through Sunningdale Park from Silwood Rd to Sunninghill or Sunningdale
122	Record the existing path from Dale Lodge Rd via Leacroft (west) to Coworth Rd
123	Record the existing path from Dale Lodge Rd via Leacroft (east) to Coworth Rd

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://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/info/200215/rights_of_way

**Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead
Operations Directorate
Highways 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

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Report Title:	PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: 6-MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information?	NO
Officer reporting:	Anthony Hurst, Parks and Countryside Team Leader
Meeting and Date:	Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel 7 th March 2017
Responsible Officer(s):	Ben Smith, Head of Highways and Transport
Wards affected:	All

REPORT SUMMARY

This report updates the Panel on progress made with Public Rights of Way issues during the period from August 2016 to February 2017. 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.

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Panel notes the report.

2. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

To update the Panel on current public rights of way matters.

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

Outcome	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date of delivery
Panel updated	<i>n/a</i>	March 2017	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	March 2017

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS / VALUE FOR MONEY

Financial impact on the budget: none.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

None.

7. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

7.1 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.

7.2 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

7.3 STAFFING/WORKFORCE AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS

None.

7.4 PROPERTY AND ASSETS

None.

8. CONSULTATION

The Progress Report includes the minutes of the most recent meeting of the RBWM Local Access Forum, a statutory consultative Forum established under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

9. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

n/a

10. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Public Rights of Way: 6-monthly Progress Report August 2016 to February 2017.

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.

12. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held	Date sent	Commented & returned
Cllr Maureen Hunt	Panel Chairman	03/02/17	
Ben Smith	Head of Highways and Transport	03/02/17	

REPORT HISTORY

Decision type: Non-key decision	Urgency item? No
Report Author: Anthony Hurst, Parks and Countryside Team Leader 01628-796180	

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

1st AUGUST 2016 - 1st FEBRUARY 2017

The total number of outstanding reported problems on Public Rights of Way has fallen from **29** to **15** during the six month period, (*see table at Annex A for further details*).

1. ENFORCEMENT

Problems reported and problems closed

	<i>Outstanding on 1st Aug 2016</i>	<i>Reported 1st Aug 2016- 1st Feb 2017</i>	<i>Closed 1st Aug 2016 –1st Feb 2017</i>	<i>Outstanding on 1st Feb 2017</i>
Enforcement problems	8	18	21	5

Examples of enforcement cases that have been resolved:

Path	Problem
Bray Footpath 52 (off Fifield Road)	Surface of the path damaged by vehicle use. <i>Path surface repaired by tenant</i>
Cox Green Footpath 10 (off Thrift Lane)	Surface of the path damaged by vehicle use. <i>Path surface repaired by land owner</i>
Datchet Footpath 6 (off Horton Road)	Path obstructed by concrete blocks. <i>Obstruction removed by landowner</i>
Eton Footpath 19 (Southfield, Eton)	Path has been cropped and not reinstated. <i>Path sprayed and marked out by farmer</i>
Hurley Footpath 4 (off Henley Road)	Path obstructed by overhanging vegetation. <i>Vegetation cut back by adjacent house owner</i>

The following breaches of Ploughing and Cropping regulations were reported to the Rural Payments Agency under Defra's Cross Compliance procedure during this period:

- Bisham Footpath 9 (Town Farm, Bisham) – paths cropped and not reinstated.

2. MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT

Problems reported and problems closed

	<i>Outstanding on 1st Aug 2016</i>	<i>Reported 1st Aug 2016- 1st Feb 2017</i>	<i>Closed 1st Aug 2016 –1st Feb 2017</i>	<i>Outstanding on 1st Feb 2017</i>
Maintenance problems	21	42	53	10

Examples of maintenance and improvement projects completed:

Bisham Restricted Byways 11 and 12 (Bisham Woods)	Major resurfacing and drainage works
Maidenhead Footpath 23B (off Laggan Road)	Surface improvements

Bray Footpath 49 (off Fifield Road)	Two stiles replaced with kissing gates
Maidenhead Footpath 24 (off Gardner Road)	Major drainage and surfacing works

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

3.1 Wraysbury claimed footpaths 501 to 505 (Thamesfield)

On 15th July 2016 Orders were made to add fourteen footpaths at Thamesfield to the Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way. A number of objections were received to all the Orders, and therefore the Orders and objections have been referred to the Secretary of State: the decision on whether or not the Orders are confirmed will be made by an Inspector from the Planning Inspectorate, following a Local Public Inquiry, hearing or a written representation procedure.

4. CHANGES TO THE NETWORK

4.1 Footpath 36 Sunninghill (Ascot High Street to Ascot Station): Creation Order

A new public footpath has been created from Ascot High Street to Ascot Station by means of a Public Path Creation Order. The footpath, which was previously an unrecorded path, was closed to the public in November 2013, and was re-opened as a public right of way on 1st February 2017 following consultations with the adjacent landowners, the Crown Estate and Network Rail/South West Trains.

4.2 Byway 67 Bray (Hog Oak Lane): Traffic Regulation Order

A Traffic Regulation Order was made on 14th February 2017 to prohibit vehicles wider than 1.6 metres from driving along Hogoak Lane from Drift Road to Hawthorn Lane in Bray. The order came into effect on 21st February 2017, and bollards and signs were installed at both ends of the lane to prevent any unauthorised access.

4.3 Footpath 18 Hurley (Berkshire College of Agriculture): Diversion Order

A Diversion Order to re-route part of the footpath within the BCA grounds was confirmed and implemented in November 2016: the new route of the footpath gives walkers access to the historic “*Diana the goddess of Hunting*” statue as well as extensive views across the countryside, whilst security for College students is improved by re-routing the footpath away from teaching buildings and student walkways.

5. VOLUNTEERS

5.1 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.

5.2 Volunteering

The Public Rights of Way team have worked with The Conservation Volunteers (TCV), Berkshire College of Agriculture (BCA), Ways into Work (WiW) to carry out practical work on public rights of way in the borough over the past 6 months. The PROW team is actively looking to expand works with other volunteer groups including local Scouts and Girl Guide groups, Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme participants and other conservation groups.

The following projects were completed between August 2016 and February 2017

Path	Group	Date(s)	Task	Number of participants
Maidenhead Footpath 48 (off Altwood Road)	WiW	7 th Sept 16	Cut back / litter picking	5
Maidenhead Bridleway 46 (Muddy Lane)	WiW	14 th Sept 16 21 st Sept 16	Cut back	10
Maidenhead Footpath 24 (off Malvern Road)	BCA	15 th Sept 16 22 nd Sept 16 (2)	Cut back overgrowth	16
Bray Footpath 39 (off Holyport Road)	WiW	28 th Sept 16	Cut back	5
Maidenhead Footpath 44 (Pinkneys Road to Thicket)	BCA	29 th Sept 16 6 th Oct 16 (2) 13 th Oct 16 20 th Oct 16 (2)	Cut back / clearance	34
Hurley Bridleway 22 (off Pudding Hill)	WiW	5 th Oct 16 12 th Oct 16	Cut back / clearance	10
Hurley Footpath 29 (Ashley Hill)	TCV	20 th Oct 16	Boardwalk construction	3
Maidenhead Footpath 61 (Maidenhead Golf Course)	WiW	19 th Oct 16 26 th Oct 16	Cut back / tree removal	10
Hurley Footpath 9 (off Hurley High Street)	BCA	27 th Oct 16	Winter cut back	6
Sunningdale Byway 4 (Kiln Lane)	WiW	2 nd Nov 16	Winter cut back	5
Bisham Restricted Byway 11 & 12 (Bisham Woods)	WiW	9 th Nov 16	Raking and spreading soil	5
Henley Road Horse Margin	BCA	17 th Nov 16 1 st Dec 16 15 th Dec 16 12 th Jan 17 26 th Jan 17	Winter cut back	22
Sunninghill Footpath 5 (off Church Lane)	TCV	19 th Jan 17	Boardwalk repair	5
Total number of task days: 27		Total participant days: 136		

Based upon our current commercial rates for path works the value of the volunteer works listed above is:

Berkshire College of Agriculture: £398.40

Ways into Work: £374.80

The Countryside Volunteers: £900.00

Additionally, the East Berks Ramblers (see below) carried out 207 hours of condition survey work during the six-month period Aug 2016-Feb 2017. This equates to £1,707

added value (based on the National Living Wage of £8.25 which is used as a notional figure for the hourly rate of volunteers).

Grand Total: £3,380.20

5.3 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 2016/17 is 99%.

6. PUBLICATIONS

Public Rights of Way Milestones Statement 2017-18

The Milestones Statement for 2017-18, which sets out targets and priorities for the coming year, has been submitted for approval by the Rights of Way & Highways Licensing Panel at its meeting on 7th March 2017.

Public Rights of Way Management and Improvement Plan 2016-2026

The "Public Rights of Way Management and Improvement Plan 2016-2026" came into effect on 1st January 2016. Annual updates are published as part of the Milestones Statement.

Public Rights of Way information booklet

This booklet has produced by the Rights of Way team in partnership with the Local Access Forum.

Public Rights of Way section of Borough website

http://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/info/200215/rights_of_way

White Waltham Parish Walks leaflet

This leaflet was updated, rewritten and republished in partnership with White Waltham Parish Council.

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 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, and view the location of all stiles, gates, bollards and signs on public rights of way.

7. 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 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 8th November 2016 are included in Appendix D. The Local Access Forum web pages can be found at:

http://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/info/200215/rights_of_way/452/local_access_forum

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

Public Rights of Way: issues outstanding, March 2017

Parish/path number	Issue	Date reported
Bray Bridleway 22 (Long Lane)	Potholes need filling	20 February 2017
Bray Bridleway 29 (Primrose Lane)	Surface improvement needed	8 June 2016
Bray FP 30 (off Primrose Lane)	Footbridge requires replacement due to rotting beams	8 February 2017
Bray FP 40 (off Windsor Road)	Overhanging hedge	8 February 2017
Cookham FP 29 (off Winter Hill)	Investigating boundary fence alignment	10 January 2017
Hurley Bridleway 15 (Hodgedale Lane)	Investigating fence encroachment	4 January 2017
Hurley FP 25 (Channers Cottage)	Waymark needed at junction with FP 25a	8 February 2017
Old Windsor FP 3 (Thames Path)	Exposed tree routes and concrete bag-work	11 September 2012
Shottesbrooke FP 8 (off cricket ground)	Stile boarded up to prevent dog access. Plus handpost needed.	9 January 2017
Shottesbrooke FP 12 (off Broadmoor Lane)	Unauthorised stile	3 January 2014
Sunninghill FP 5 (off Church Lane)	Drainage issue being investigated	19 January 2017
Sunninghill FP 8 (off Winkfield Road)	Gates in poor condition, and surface improvements needed	10 th January 2017
Sunninghill FP 36 (Ascot Station to Ascot High Street)	Misleading signs at station end of footpath	1 st February 2017

ANNEXE B

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 CLAIMED PATHS CURRENTLY UNDER INVESTIGATION

FEBRUARY 2017

Parish	Claim no	Claim date	Path description		Current status
			From	To	
Wraysbury	FP 501-505	2009	Various roads and paths in and around Thamesfield	Various roads and paths in and around Thamesfield	Orders referred to Secretary of State

LOCAL ACCESS FORUM MEMBERSHIP

February 2017

Name	Main Interests
Peter Thorn (Chairman) (Basildon, Berks)	Land management
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)	Walking, open spaces, CPRE, Bisham Parish Council
John Foulger (Fifield)	Walking and open spaces
Christine Gadd (Sunningdale)	Walking and cycling
Steve Gillions (Old Windsor)	Walking, East Berks Ramblers
Lisa Hughes (Maidenhead)	Disabled access
Councillor Maureen Hunt (Hurley)	RBWM nominated councillor
Tom Jarvis (Windsor)	Land management, Crown Estate
Alan Keene (Bisham)	Bisham Parish Council, Countryside, public rights of way, farming and land management
Councillor Asghar Majeed (Maidenhead)	RBWM nominated councillor
Gordon Marrs (Maidenhead)	Walking, East Berks Ramblers
Andrew Nye (Cookham)	Cookham Parish Council, public rights of way
Geoff Priest (Hurley)	Hurley Parish Council, open countryside, access for younger users
Katie Sarsfield (Waltham St Lawrence)	Waltham St Lawrence Parish Council, public rights of way
Ian Wilson (Bucks)	National Trust, Access and Rights of Way

ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD

LOCAL ACCESS FORUM MEETING MINUTES

8 November 2016

ATTENDANCE LIST

Name	Interest Area
Peter Thorn	Chair of LAF, Land Management
James Copas	Land management, Copas Farms
John Foulger	Walking
Christine Gadd	Cycling and walking
Steve Gillions	Walking, East Berks Ramblers
Lisa Hughes	Disabled users
Councillor Maureen Hunt	RBWM Councillor
Alan Keene	Bisham Parish Council, Land Management
Gordon Marrs	Walking, East Berkshire Ramblers
Geoff Priest	Walking, Hurley Parish Council
William Emmett	
Tanya Leftwich	Clerk to the Forum
Andrew Fletcher	Local Access Forum Secretary
Gordon Oliver	Principal Transport Policy Officer

OBSERVERS

Annie Keene	
Colin Patient	Mid & West Berks LAF
Nick Philp	David Philp and PTNS

APOLOGIES

Councillor Malcolm Beer
Sara Church
Margaret Cubley
Rachael Forsyth
Councillor Asghar Majeed
Katie Sarsfield

**ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD
LOCAL ACCESS FORUM
8 November 2016
MINUTES**

1 Welcome, apologies and introductions

The Chairman, **Peter Thorn**, welcomed everyone to the **thirty-fifth** meeting of the Local Access Forum.

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Malcolm Beer, Councillor Asghar Majeed, Sara Church, Rachel Forsyth, Margaret Cubley and Katie Sarsfield.

Councillor Maureen Hunt declared an interest in relation to Item 7 of the agenda (Berkshire College of Agriculture planning application: Development of a care village) as the Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Group and a member of the Maidenhead Development Control Panel.

A personal declaration of interest was received from **Peter Thorn** in relation to Item 7 of the agenda (Berkshire College of Agriculture planning application: Development of a care village) as he was a trustee on the statutory body.

The Forum approved the minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2016.

The Chairman informed everyone present that the meeting was being recorded and would be uploaded onto the RBWM website.

Matters arising from last meeting

Andrew Fletcher referred members to pages 3-5 of the agenda and explained that nine actions had been completed, four were in progress and one was incomplete.

- ❖ **Action (AF): Item 4.2 – To circulate outline information of local wildlife sites to each Parish Council.**
- ❖ **Action (AF): Item 6.3 To develop a site visit schedule for Feb-June 2017.**
- ❖ **Action (AF): Item 7.1 – To approach schools around Sunningdale and Sunninghill for potential volunteer groups.**

2 Members' update

Margaret Bowdery

The Chairman, **Peter Thorn**, informed the Forum that **Margaret Bowdery, a leading light in the Ramblers Association**, had recently very sadly died. It was noted that Margaret had been very instrumental in ensuring the Local Authority met its statutory requirements with regard to footpath construction. It was felt that Margaret had been very committed and outstanding in the work that she had done.

Councillor Malcolm Beer had sent an email which **Andrew Fletcher** read out:

"We will all be deprived of her vast historical knowledge and continued oversight of local access matters. I would like to propose that "The LAF recommends to the Royal Borough that **Margaret Bowdery's** decades of dedication and enthusiasm to promote and improve access to the countryside is permanently appreciated by associating her name with a local path or linked route with which she may have been particularly involved in its creation or protection, or perhaps some future significant future project".

- ❖ **Action (PT): To write to Mrs Bowdery's family on behalf of the Forum to express the Forums' sympathy for their loss and appreciation for her work.**
- ❖ **Action (PT/AF): The Forum recommended to the Council that Margaret**

Bowdery's decades of dedication and enthusiasm to promote and improve access to the countryside was permanently appreciated by associating her name with a local path or linked route with which she may have been particularly involved in its creation or protection, or perhaps some future significant future project.

Rights of Way Team

Andrew Fletcher informed the Forum that there had been a number of changes to the Public Rights of Way Team and that over the last few weeks two teams had been merged into one. It was noted that the title of the team was now the Parks and Countryside team which was lead by Anthony Hurst. It was noted that the merging of the two teams now allowed for cover and the cross fertilisation of ideas. **Andrew Fletcher** explained that they were now able to work closer with Braywick Nature Centre and as a result could use the volunteers for more days.

General Forum membership

Andrew Fletcher informed the Forum that Lisa Hughes had joined since the last meeting.

It was noted that the following members had resigned from the Forum:

- ❖ Roy Fabry
- ❖ Rachel Forsyth

William Emmett requested that someone from the Windsor Park be invited to attend the next meeting. It was suggested that the new Deputy Ranger be contacted and invited to attend.

- **Action (AF): To invite the Crown Estate to talk to the Forum about current and future developments and changes within Windsor Great Park.**

3 Volunteering in RBWM

The Forum was advised that this item was being deferred to a future agenda (date to be advised) as Buffy Harris-Jones was unable to attend the meeting tonight.

4 Cross compliance reporting

The Chairman, **Peter Thorn**, informed the Forum that he would take this item next as **William Emmett** may need to leave before the end of the meeting.

The Forum was referred to pages 163-166 of the agenda which informed the Forum on the current procedures for reporting obstructions caused by ploughing and cropping to the Rural Payments Agency. **William Emmett** stated that cross compliance reporting was something that the Forum had debated in the past but that he had wanted to raise it again today to get the Forums thoughts.

William Emmett explained that the farming community worked well with **Andrew Fletcher** to alter byways to restricted byways to tackle unsavoury activities such as fly tipping that were stopping people from enjoying the area. However, **William Emmett**, went onto explain that he was concerned there had been six issues of enforcement action made against farmers in the South of the Borough. It was noted that enforcement action had taken place where a footpath had not been cleared or marked 100% in line with the code / regulations (Common Agricultural Policy). **William Emmett** explained that there had been two ongoing inspections in the South of the Borough and that consequences were enormous and could be financially damaging to local farmers. It was noted that once reported the Rural Payments Agency inspectors then looked at all aspects of your business.

William Emmett went onto show the Forum some photos to help explain his concerns.

William Emmett explained that he felt the process used by the Council needed to be softened a bit.

James Copas asked **Andrew Fletcher** why farmers were not called directly after a complaint was received by the Council rather than it being reported officially. **Andrew Fletcher** explained that this was the case and that most of the time phone calls worked perfectly well and that the 14 days were counted from the day the issue was reported. It was noted that if the 14 days were exceeded then the issue was reported to the Rural Payments Agency (RPA).

RESOLVED: That the Forum recommended to the Council that the procedure for dealing with ploughing and cropping issues be changed to the following:

- ❖ **Make first contact with farmers via telephone to explain the report or issue. This telephone call should agree the date with the farmer for the resolution of the issue based upon the 14 day deadline. Explain that if the works are not done by this deadline the issue will be reported to the RPA. Take the 14 day deadline from the date that the farmer is contacted. Where necessary agree extension of this deadline up to 28 days, for example where ground conditions do not allow proper reinstatement.**
 - ❖ **Farmer to contact RBWM when the works have been done, providing photographic evidence.**
 - ❖ **If the agreed deadline has not been met this should then be reported to the RPA.**
- ❖ **Action (AF): To meet with the Rural Forum to explain this new process and gain contact details for all local farmers.**

It was noted that the above recommendations would be reported to the Rights of Way and Highways Licensing Panel on 07 March 2016.

5 RBWM Cycling Strategy

Gordon Oliver informed the Forum that this report (pages 13 - 98 of the agenda) was to present the draft Cycling Strategy and invite feedback from the Forum as part of the public consultation.

It was noted that the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead had prepared a draft Cycling Strategy, which set out the priorities for cycling investment over the 10 year period to 2026. It had been prepared with reference to national, regional and local policy documents and draws on industry best practice.

Gordon Oliver gave the Forum a brief presentation on the Cycling Strategy which would allow the Council to compare strategies and make it more cost effective. It was noted that it also helped with funding bids and helped deliver the Councils Manifesto Commitments. The presentation covered the following:

- ❖ Overview.
- ❖ Guiding principles.
- ❖ Strategic framework.
- ❖ Current situation.
- ❖ Vision.
- ❖ Aims and objectives.
- ❖ Action plan.
- ❖ Funding.
- ❖ Monitoring.
- ❖ Appendices – Area Plans.

In the ensuing discussion the following points were noted:

- That the consultation would be running until the 28 November 2016.
- That the Forum was trying to get someone from the Cycle Forum onto the Local Access Forum. It was noted that since **Roy Fabry** had left the area the Forum had lost his expertise. It was suggested that **Councillor Malcolm Beer** could be the informal link.
- That the link to the survey on the RBWM website be forwarded onto anyone interested.
- That multi-user routes would need to be installed at the developer stage when major housing developments were considered appropriate for the Royal Borough.
- It was suggested that the multi-user routes were not be labelled 'cycle routes' in the report.
- That more responsible cycling in the Royal Borough should be encouraged to avoid competitive / dangerous cycling.

RESOLVED: That the Forum supported the RBWM cycling strategy in principle, and recommended the following:

- **The strategy should seek to generate partnership working to develop multi-user routes and create links to fill gaps in the network.**
- **The strategy should ensure that the Council take advantage of development opportunities to create new links and improve the network, including ensuring that the cycling strategy is included as far as possible in the Local Plans.**
- **The strategy should include goals to encourage more responsible cycling in the Borough.**

The Chairman thanked **Gordon Oliver** for attending the meeting and addressing the Forum.

6 Milestones Statement and Annual Targets for 2017-2018

Andrew Fletcher informed the Forum that this report (pages 99 – 102 of the agenda) was to consult the Forum on the priorities, targets and service standards to be included in the Milestones Statement & Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan Annual Review 2017/18.

The Chairman, **Peter Thorn**, explained that the views of the Forum were requested on the following:

- Priorities for 2017/18: Were there any recommended changes to the priorities listed in the current 2016/17 Milestones Statement (Appendix A)?
- Milestones Targets for 2017/18: Were there any recommended changes to the Milestones Targets listed in the current 2016/17 Milestones Statement (Appendix A)?
- Service Standards for 2017/18: Were there any recommended changes to the Service Standards listed in the 2016/17 Milestones Statement (Appendix A)?

Andrew Fletcher gave Members a brief overview presentation. **Andrew Fletcher** informed the Forum that over the last five years the number of issues had significantly reduced to leave 18 outstanding. It was noted that the issues considered 'cold cases' had not been included in his figures as suggested by the Rights of Way & Highway Licensing Panel.

It was noted that the priorities and targets could be found on page 101 of the agenda.

RESOLVED: That the Forum recommended to the Council that the following changes be made to the priorities listed in the targets for 2017/2018:

- **WM 1: remain at 95%**
- **WM 2: remain at 10 surface improvements**
- **WM3: remain at 5 bridges**
- **LD1: Remove this target. The Forum notes the current service standard to deal with uncontested DMMO applications within 1 year.**
- **WP1: Increased to 2 leaflets.**
- **WP2: Remain at 1 leaflet**
- **AC1: remain at 1 new path**
- **AC2: Remain at 15 physical access improvements**
- **EN1: The forum suggested that the target be changed to 'resolve 100% of all new enforcement cases within 3 months'.**
- **Change existing priority to "seek improvements and additions to the network and enhance connectivity for horse riders, cyclists and people restricted mobility".**
- **Change existing priority to "Liaise with landowners and occupiers on all public rights of way matters, including updating and advising landowners on changes in legislation and encouraging the establishment of permitted routes".**

It was noted that the above recommendations would be reported to the Rights of Way and Highways Licensing Panel on 07 March 2016.

Lisa Hughes asked what indicators in the surveys picked up access issues with regard to changes needed to surfaces. An example was provided with regard to road surfaces of the speed bump on Ray Mead East which did not stretch all the way across the road. It was noted that this speed bump was known to throw people with mobility issues off balance.

- ❖ **Action (AF / SW): To review East Berks Ramblers survey with Lisa Hughes and East Berks Ramblers to capture issues relating to disabled access.**

7

Auditing the list of streets

Andrew Fletcher referred the Forum to pages 103-108 of the agenda and explained that the purpose of the report was to consult the Forum on the proposals put forward by the British Horse Society regarding the Council's 'List of Streets'.

It was noted that the British Horse Society had sent a proposal to all Local Access Forums asking the Forum to consider the processes currently in place for managing the Council's adopted highway records, also known as the 'list of streets'. It was explained that the society had produced a brief paper explaining the list of streets and its concerns about the loss of ways shown on the list of streets. The Forum was advised that this document, along with responses to the questions raised were included in Appendix A to this report.

Andrew Fletcher explained that the Forum was invited to consider and discuss the report and respond to the consultation questions.

RESOLVED: That the Forum recommended to the Council the following: No highway (or part highway) should be removed from the list of streets, other than pursuant to a legal event, unless to correct a mistake where there has been consultation with local interests (such as the local access forum and parish council), the correction is fully documented for archiving and indexation, and the decision be taken transparently within the Council by an appropriate panel, based on a report by officers.

- ❖ **Action (AF): To respond to British Horse Society to inform them of the Forums decision.**

8 **Berkshire College of Agriculture planning application: Development of a care village**

Councillor Maureen Hunt declared an interest as the Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Group and a member of the Maidenhead Development Control Panel. **Councillor Maureen Hunt** agreed not to take any part in the discussions on this item.

Andrew Fletcher referred the Forum to pages 109-162 of the agenda and explained that the purpose of the report was to consult the Forum on the planning application to develop a care village at Berkshire College of Agriculture (Planning application 16/02814).

It was noted that Berkshire College of Agriculture (BCA) had submitted a planning application for the development of a care village comprising of a 50 bedroom care home, village care and wellbeing centre, 26 assisted living units, 82 independent living units, landscaping, parking and associated new access drive within land at BCA and bordered by main buildings to the North and Dellars Copse to the South in Burchetts Green Road, Burchetts Green, Maidenhead. **Andrew Fletcher** informed the Forum that the application would be considered at the Development Control panel in December 2016. The Forum was invited to submit comments on this planning application in advance of the meeting.

The Forum provided comments on the planning application as follows:

The Forum had a mixed view regarding this application. There was a strong view that the open countryside should be retained, and that the proposed planting would change the nature of the landscape, and conversely there was also a view that the proposed planting would be acceptable.

Likewise, there was mixed view from the Forum regarding the height of the proposed development, with some suggesting that the 3 storey high buildings would be too high and adversely affect the view from the footpath, and others suggesting that this would not be too much of an impact.

The suggestion from the Highways Development Control Officer, supported by Anthony Hurst, for a 1-way system was debated and on balance the Forum felt that this would not be feasible to mitigate the traffic issues, however there were still mixed views.

An area where there was common ground within the Forum was the vehicular entrance point at the junction of Hurley Footpath 18. On this point the Forum as a whole felt that this would be dangerous.

9 **LAF Work programme**

Andrew Fletcher gave the Forum an update on the work programme for 2016/2017. It was suggested that as this was such a large piece of work that working parties be formed between January – March to look at the following areas:

Multi-User Routes.

- ❖ **Action (All): Members to respond to Andrew Fletcher with details of potential new multi-user routes.**

Fostering closer engagement with parish councils.

- ❖ **Action (AF/PT/GP): A small working party to be established to look at actions to foster closer engagement with Parish Councils.**

Opportunities and issues with identified large development sites

- ❖ **Action (GM): To review the weekly planning list and advise the Forum if there were applications made which may be of interest to the Forum.**
- ❖ **Action (AF): To liaise with the Council's planning teams and ensure that they were aware of what the LAF would wish to be consulted about, particularly in regard to large planning developments.**

Millennium Walk.

Andrew Fletcher explained that this was on-going and that information on this subject could also be found in the monitoring report.

It was noted that to date no reply had been received from landowners. **Andrew Fletcher** went on to explain that a revised planning application had been received and the current version indicated that they would carry on with that agreement. It was noted that **Anthony Hurst** had requested £50k from the Infrastructure Levy.

Improvement to access as Ashley Hill, Hurley.

Andrew Fletcher informed the Forum that he needed to look at exactly where improvements were looking to be made, set out parameters and draft a proposal. It was suggested that this could be done via a working group.

- ❖ **Action (AF): To meet with Alan Keene and Annie Keene to develop proposal for new horse riding access within Ashley Hill, to be subsequently taken forward to relevant land owners.**

10 **LAF Monitoring items**

The Forum was referred to the four page additional document handed out at the meeting.

It was noted that the purpose of the report was to update the Forum about the status of projects on the LAF regular monitoring list and to seek the Forums advice regarding the members' discussion forum.

The Forum were advised that they could read this document at their leisure.

11 **Feedback from meetings and conferences**

Andrew Fletcher provided the Forum Members with a handout which could be read at everyone's leisure.

- ❖ **Action (AF): To circulate slideshow from the De-regulation Act training to all members with the minutes.**

12 **Date of next meeting: tbc**

It was noted that the date of the next meeting would be confirmed by the clerk in due course.

The meeting, which started at 6.30 pm, ended at 9.05 pm.

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