Public Document Pack

NOTICE

OF

MEETING



RIGHTS OF WAY & HIGHWAY LICENSING PANEL

will meet on

MONDAY, 4TH MARCH, 2019

At 6.30 pm

in the

COUNCIL CHAMBER - TOWN HALL,

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

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

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

COUNCILLORS MARIUS GILMORE, DAVID HILTON, JOHN STORY, NICOLA PRYER, JULIAN SHARPE, CHARLES HOLLINGSWORTH, DEREK WILSON AND MARION MILLS

Karen Shepherd - Service Lead- Governance - Issued: 22/02/2019

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 **Nabihah Hassan-Faroog** 01628 796345

Accessibility - Members of the public wishing to attend this meeting are requested to notify the clerk in advance of any accessibility issues

Fire Alarm - In the event of the fire alarm sounding or other emergency, please leave the building quickly and calmly by the nearest exit. Do not stop to collect personal belongings and do not use the lifts. Do not re-enter the building until told to do so by a member of staff.

Recording of Meetings —In line with the council's commitment to transparency the public part of the meeting will be audio recorded, and may also be filmed and broadcast through the online application Periscope. If filmed, the footage will be available through the council's main Twitter feed @RBWM or via the Periscope website. The audio recording will also be made available on the RBWM website, after the meeting.

Filming, recording and photography of public Council meetings may be undertaken by any person attending the meeting. By entering the meeting room you are acknowledging that you may be audio or video recorded and that this recording will be in the public domain. If you have any questions regarding the council's policy, please speak to the Democratic Services or Legal representative at the meeting

<u>AGENDA</u>

<u>PART I</u>

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>PAGE</u> <u>NO</u>
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
	To receive any apologies for absence.	-
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	5 - 6
	To receive declarations of interests in respect of any item to be considered at this meeting.	
3.	MINUTES	7 - 8
	To confirm the Part I minutes of the Panel held on the 10 th September 2018.	
4.	DRAFT MILESTONES STATEMENT 2019/2020	9 - 48
	To receive a report on the above titled item.	
5.	PATH PROGRESS REPORT: SEPTEMBER 2018- FEBRUARY 2019	49 - 56
	To receive a report on the above titled item.	
6.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	-
7.	DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS	
	To be confirmed.	



Agenda Item 2

MEMBERS' GUIDE TO DECLARING INTERESTS IN MEETINGS

Disclosure at Meetings

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

A member with a DPI or Prejudicial Interest may make representations at the start of the item but must not take part in the discussion or vote at a meeting. The speaking time allocated for Members to make representations is at the discretion of the Chairman of the meeting. In order to avoid any accusations of taking part in the discussion or vote, after speaking, Members should move away from the panel table to a public area or, if they wish, leave the room. If the interest declared has not been entered on to a Members' Register of Interests, they must notify the Monitoring Officer in writing within the next 28 days following the meeting.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) (relating to the Member or their partner) include:

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit 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 licence 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 \underline{or} (ii) the total nominal value of the shares of any one class belonging to the relevant person exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

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

A Member with a DPI should state in the meeting: 'I declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in item x because xxx. As soon as we come to that item, I will leave the room/ move to the public area for the entire duration of the discussion and not take part in the vote.'

Or, if making representations on the item: 'I declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in item x because xxx. As soon as we come to that item, I will make representations, then I will leave the room/ move to the public area for the entire duration of the discussion and not take part in the vote.'

Prejudicial Interests

Any interest which a reasonable, fair minded and informed member of the public would reasonably believe is so significant that it harms or impairs the Member's ability to judge the public interest in the item, i.e. a Member's decision making is influenced by their interest so that they are not able to impartially consider relevant issues.

A Member with a Prejudicial interest should state in the meeting: 'I declare a Prejudicial Interest in item x because xxx. As soon as we come to that item, I will leave the room/ move to the public area for the entire duration of the discussion and not take part in the vote.'

Or, if making representations in the item: 'I declare a Prejudicial Interest in item x because xxx. As soon as we come to that item, I will make representations, then I will leave the room/ move to the public area for the entire duration of the discussion and not take part in the vote.'

Personal interests

Any other connection or association which a member of the public may reasonably think may influence a Member when making a decision on council matters.

Members with a Personal Interest should state at the meeting: 'I wish to declare a Personal Interest in item x because xxx'. As this is a Personal Interest only, I will take part in the discussion and vote on the matter.

5



Agenda Item 3

RIGHTS OF WAY & HIGHWAY LICENSING PANEL

MONDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2018

PRESENT: Councillors Maureen Hunt (Chairman), Lynda Yong (Vice-Chairman), Clive Bullock, Mohammed Ilyas and Simon Werner

Officers: Anthony Hurst and Shilpa Manek

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Diment and S Rayner.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were received.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 5TH MARCH 2018

That the Part I minutes of the Panel held on the 5th March 2018 be agreed as a correct record.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: 6-MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

The Chairman informed the Panel of a ploughing match on 3 October 2018 at Berkshire College of Agriculture in Burchetts Green, Hurley.

Anthony Hurst, Parks and Countryside Team Leader outlined the report on the Public Rights of Way six monthly progress report. The Team Leader provided a presentation on the changes and improvements made to the path network over the past 6 months with before and after photos.

The Panel were informed about the twelve outstanding maintenance and enforcement issues. Anthony Hurst informed the Panel that this was a slight increase from the last meeting. He informed the Panel members of the results of the Thamesfield Inquiry published on 19th July for claimed footpaths. There had been Modification Orders made to add fourteen footpaths to the Public Rights of Way network. Thirteen of the fourteen orders had been now been confirmed as part of the Public Rights of Way network and of those thirteen, eleven were already fully open and available for public use. Arrangements were being put into place to reopen the remaining two footpaths that were currently blocked. Public footpath signs had been installed at the entrances to the footpaths from the surrounding road network.

Anthony Hurst informed Members that a new bridge linking Bray Road to the Green Way at Braywick Park was going to be opened on Monday 17 September 2018. Members were welcome to attend. The bridge was being named 'Margaret's Bridge' in Memory of Margaret Bowdery, former president of East Berkshire Ramblers. The Chairman commented on the components used to make the bridge, Anthony Hurst confirmed that the bridge superstructure is made from steel, and the decking is wood, but other elements of the structure including the ramps are made from a recycled plastic material that looked like wood but was lower cost and longer lasting.

Anthony Hurst informed Members of all the work carried out by volunteers and how many days they had contributed and the cost savings for the council. The volunteers had completed 265 days carrying out tasks such as vegetation clearance, litter picking, surfacing of footpaths and boadwalk repair and construction.

The Chairman informed the Panel about the Local Access Forum and the next meeting date and invited all to attend. The next meeting of the Local Access Forum was on 11 October 2018.

The Chairman informed the Panel of the cold case file and that it consisted of outstanding issues that could be reopened in the future. These issues were kept on file in case circumstances changed. A full list was produced at the meeting for members to review.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Panel Members noted the dates of the	future meetings.
--------------------------------------	------------------

The meeting, which began at 6.30 pm, finished at 7.24 pm		
	CHAIRMAN	
	DATE	

Agenda Item 4

Report Title:	PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: "MILESTONES STATEMENT 2019/20"
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information?	NO
Officer reporting:	Anthony Hurst, Parks and Countryside Manager
Meeting and Date:	Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel 4 th March 2019
Responsible Officer(s):	Ben Smith, Head of Commissioning- Communities
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 2019/20" 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 2019/20" 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	This is the recommended option
2019/20	
Do not approve the Milestones	This option is not recommended.
Statement 2019/20	,

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

Outcome	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date of delivery
Approval of Milestones Statement 2019/20	n/a	March 2019	n/a	n/a	2019/20

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS / VALUE FOR MONEY

Financial impact on the budget

Resources available for public rights of way work in 2019/20 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**

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, where feasible.

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.

8. CONSULTATION

8.1 The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Local Access Forum considered and endorsed the targets, objectives and service standards set out in the draft Milestones Statement at its meeting held on 5th February 2019.

8.2 Consultation response from Hurley Parish Council

Hurley Parish Council was supportive of the draft and the wider work of the Public Rights of Way Team.

9. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

2019/20

10. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Draft Milestones Statement 2019/20.

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.

12. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held	Date sent	Commented & returned
Cllr Maureen Hunt	Panel Chairman	08/02/19 (for briefing 13/02/18)	13/02/18
Ben Smith	Head of Commissioning- Communities	08/02/19	-

REPORT HISTORY

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



Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

Milestones Statement

and Public Rights of Way Management and Improvement Plan review

2019-20

FOREWORD

I am pleased to introduce the 21st annual Milestones Statement for the Royal Borough, marking 21 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 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 2019

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	4
1.1	General	4
1.2	The Milestones approach	4
1.3	Partnership working	4
1.4	Volunteers	4
1.5	Resources	4
Tabl	e 1: Lengths of Rights of Way by Parish	5
2	OBJECTIVES	6
2.1	Priorities for 2019/20	6
2.2	Milestones Targets for 2019/20	6
2.3	Equal opportunities	7
2.4	Parish Paths Initiative	7
2.5	Local Access Forum	7
2.6	Thames Path National Trail	7
2.7	Equestrians	7
3	WELL MAINTAINED	9
3.1	Maintenance and Enforcement	9
3.2	Noteworthy current issues	9
3.3	Access for people with special needs	9
4	LEGALLY DEFINED	10
4.1	Definitive Map and Statement	10
4.2	Modification Orders	10
4.3	Rights of way database	10
4.3 4.4	Rights of way database Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims)	10
	Applications to modify the Definitive Map	
4.4	Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims)	10
4.4	Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims) Changes to the network	10 10
4.44.55	Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims) Changes to the network WELL PUBLICISED	10 10
4.4 4.5 5 5.1	Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims) Changes to the network WELL PUBLICISED Leaflets produced by the Council	10 10 11 11
4.4 4.5 5 5.1 5.2	Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims) Changes to the network WELL PUBLICISED Leaflets produced by the Council Other books and publications	10 10 11 11 11
4.4 4.5 5 5.1 5.2 5.3	Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims) Changes to the network WELL PUBLICISED Leaflets produced by the Council Other books and publications Guided walks and rides	10 10 11 11 11 11
4.4 4.5 5 5.1 5.2 5.3 6.	Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims) Changes to the network WELL PUBLICISED Leaflets produced by the Council Other books and publications Guided walks and rides MONITORING AND REVIEW	10 10 11 11 11 11
4.4 4.5 5 5.1 5.2 5.3 6. 6.1 6.2	Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims) Changes to the network WELL PUBLICISED Leaflets produced by the Council Other books and publications Guided walks and rides MONITORING AND REVIEW Monitoring Review	10 10 11 11 11 11 12
4.4 4.5 5 5.1 5.2 5.3 6. 6.1 6.2	Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims) Changes to the network WELL PUBLICISED Leaflets produced by the Council Other books and publications Guided walks and rides MONITORING AND REVIEW Monitoring Review endix 1	10 10 11 11 11 11 12 12
4.4 4.5 5 5.1 5.2 5.3 6. 6.1 6.2	Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims) Changes to the network WELL PUBLICISED Leaflets produced by the Council Other books and publications Guided walks and rides MONITORING AND REVIEW Monitoring Review	10 10 11 11 11 11 12
4.4 4.5 5 5.1 5.2 5.3 6. 6.1 6.2 Apple	Applications to modify the Definitive Map (claims) Changes to the network WELL PUBLICISED Leaflets produced by the Council Other books and publications Guided walks and rides MONITORING AND REVIEW Monitoring Review endix 1	10 10 11 11 11 11 12 12

Appendix 3	
Statement of priorities for dealing with maintenance and enforcement problems	15
Appendix 4	
Service standards	16
Appendix 5	
Definitive map modification order applications (claims)	18
Appendix 6	
Achievement of Milestones Targets 2019/20	19
Appendix 7	
Public Rights of Way Management and	
Improvement Plan 2016-2026: site specific proposals	21
Appendix 8	
Planning Position Statements	30
Appendix 9	
Table of problems reported and resolved	

15 ³ -3 -3

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 2018/19, 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 51 participant days.

<u>Ways into Work (WiW)</u> carried out 29 **work days** with a total of **218** participant days.

Berkshire College of Agriculture (BCA) carried out 19 work days with a total of 115 participant days.

St Mary's School carried out 1 work day with a total of 8 participant days.

Centrica carried out 1 work day with a total of 15 participant days.

Volunteers from the East Berks Ramblers undertook **325 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 £12,587.34

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

2018/19	 2019/20
£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)

Cupitul Bunger (Hights o	1 11 dy generaly
2018/19	2019/20
£20,000	£40,000

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

Capital Budget (Rights of Way Bridges)

2018/19	2019/20
£40,000	£40,000

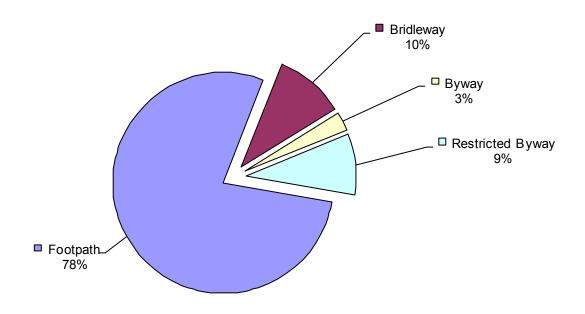
The Council has maintenance responsibility for 183 bridges and 5 boardwalks on footpaths and bridleways on public rights of way in the borough. These bridges are inspected on a rolling programme, and remedial safety works identified. In some cases this work is reactive, in response to bridge damage caused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

4 16 - 4 - 4

Table 1: Lengths of Rights of Way by Parish, March 2019

Parish			Length (km)			
	Footpath	Bridleway	Byway	Restricted Byway	Total km	% of network
Bisham	13.146	2.524	-	2.228	17.898	5.76
Bray	36.803	9.999	2.184	0.564	49.550	15.94
Cookham	34.138	1.980	0.469	0.405	36.992	11.90
Cox Green	8.395	1.399	-	-	9.794	3.15
Datchet	4.761	-	-	-	4.761	1.53
Eton	18.396	3.561	-	-	21.957	7.06
Horton	1.200	1.254	-	-	2.454	0.79
Hurley	31.608	6.115	-	6.909	44.632	14.36
Maidenhead	29.796	0.439	-	2.596	32.831	10.56
Old Windsor	4.574	-	-	-	4.574	1.47
Shottesbrooke	3.240	-	-	1.612	4.852	1.56
Sunningdale	3.554	1.666	0.337	-	5.557	1.79
Sunninghill	11.244	-	3.592	1.299	16.135	5.19
Waltham St Lawrence	17.728	-	-	7.209	24.937	8.02
White Waltham	11.011	0.530	0.342	4.165	16.048	5.16
Windsor	4.339	1.994	1.644	0.259	8.236	2.65
Wraysbury	9.648	-	-	-	9.648	3.10
	242.524	04.404	0.500		040.070	400.00
Total (km)	243.581	31.461	8.568	27.246	310.856	100.00

Path status across the network



17⁵ -5-5

2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 Priorities for 2019/20

- 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)
- Changes to the network: seek improvements in association with development and other proposals. [e.g with reference to the Borough Local Plan Position Statements submitted by the Local Access Forum; see Appendix 8]
- Improvements: seek improvements and additions to the network to enhance connectivity for horse riders, cyclists and people with restricted mobility.
- Explore opportunities to extend, create or promote 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 and encouraging the establishment of permitted routes.
- 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 2019/20

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 2019/20 is 95%.

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

WM 3: To repair or replace 7 bridges.

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, as/when opportunities arise.

AC2: To make **10** 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.

<u>Note:</u> the targets set out above are interchangeable and subject to change should the need arise, to ensure flexibility in light of changing circumstances or to take advantage of opportunities that may arise during the course of the year.

6 18 - 6 - 6

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 Councils 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 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:

http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/thames-path

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

19 7

to use existing cycleways and other tracks where appropriate, and where suitable surfaces can be provided, in conjunction with land owners and Parish Councils.

- Work is currently underway to create an off road link between Bradenham Lane and Hurley Lane in Bisham.
- Development and promotion of circular riding routes where appropriate, in particular to avoid main roads. This includes investigation into possible routes through and around Ashley Hill, Hurley.
- Improvements to gates to make them more 'horserider friendly'.

8 20 - 8 -8

3 WELL MAINTAINED

3.1 Maintenance and Enforcement

The table in **Appendix 9** includes a summary of reported and resolved maintenance and enforcement problems.

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 14 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 15 of this Milestones Statement.

21 9

1022 - 10-10

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 no outstanding applications for Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMO's)

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 plannings 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"

Following a recommendation from the Local Access Forum, "Planning Position Statements" have been passed to the Council's Planning team, as set out in **Appendix 8.**

23¹¹ -11-11

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

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.

12**24** - 12 - 12

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 2018/19 was 91% (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 coordinated 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.

25¹³ - 13 - 13

Consultation on the Milestones Statement

The following organisations were consulted on the 2019/20 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

¹⁴26 - ¹⁴-¹⁴

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.

27¹⁵ - 15 - 15

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.

¹⁶28 - ¹⁶-16

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

We will 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 Pittecroft Trust is available on request from the public rights of way team.

We will 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.

We will use our powers:

• To enforce removal of any obstructions to the public rights of way network within three months of inspection, enforce compliance with the Rights of Way Act 1990 (ploughing etc) in accordance with the

29¹⁷ - 17 - 17

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 (with a read-receipt) 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 to arrange 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.

We will publish:

The 'Definitive Map and Statement' every five years.

Information leaflets and updates regularly.

1830 - 18 - 18

Definitive map modification order applications (claims) currently being investigated

Parish	Claim no	Claim date	Path description		Current status
			From	То	
No current claims					

3119 - 19 - 19

Achievement of Milestones Targets 2018/19 (to 31st Feb 2019)

WELL	MAINTAINED			
WM1	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 2018-19: 95%	[note: surveys to be undertaken in Spring and Autumn by East Berks Ramblers		
WM2	To carry out major surface improvements or vegetation clearance on 10 public rights of way. (FP =footpath, BR = bridleway, RB = restricted byway)			
Cookh	am Footpath 61 (off Thames Path)	Surface improvements		
Cookh	am Footpath 46 (Adjacent to Shergold Way)	Surface improvements		
Datche	et Footpath 9 (Thames Path)	Surface improvements		
Hurley	Footpath 1 (Thames Path)	Surface improvements		
Hurley	Bridleway 15 (Hodgedale Lane)	Vegetation clearance works		
Hurley	Horse Margin (Henley Road)	Vegetation clearance works		
Hurley	Footpath 44 (off Star Lane)	Surface improvements		
Hurley	Footpath 45 (off Knowl Hill Common)	Surface improvements		
Maider	nhead RB 70 (Malders Lane)	Surface improvements		
Old Wi	ndsor Footpath 3 (Thames Path)	Surface improvements		
		Total : 10		
WM3	To repair or replace 5 bridges.			
Bray F	ootpath 4 (off Sturt Green)	Bridge replaced		
Cox G	reen Footpath 11 (Ockwells Park)	Boardwalk repairs		
Eton F	ootpath 3 (off Common Road)	Bridge repaired		
Sunnin	ghill Footpath 5 (off Cheapside Road)	Extension to boardwalk		
Sunnin	ghill Footpath 5 (off Cheapside Road)	Bridge repaired		
Sunnin	ghill Footpath 13 (off Coronation Road)	Repairs to bridge approaches		
Waltha	m St Lawrence Footpath 12 (off Mire Lane)	Bridge improvements		
Waltha	m St Lawrence Footpath 34 (off Hungerford Road)	Bridge replaced		
Waltha	m St Lawrence Footpath 38 (off Smewins Road)	Bridge repaired		
		Total: 9		
WELL	PUBLICISED	Total: 3		
	To produce 1 new Parish rights of way leaflet	Total 1 :		
	,	White Waltham walks leaflet/poster updated		
WP2	To assist others to produce effective promotional material: minimum of 1 new or updated publication.	Total: 0		

20**32** - 20 - 20

IMPR	OVING 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 as/when opportunities arise.	Total 1:	
	•	Margaret's Bridge:	
		Footpath/cycleway and bridge, Braywick Park to Bray Road (at Oldfield Primary School)	
AC2	To make 10 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.		
Bray F	Footpath 72 (The Causeway)	Surface improvements for buggy use	
Cooki	nam Footpath 29 (off Alleyns Lane)	One stile replaced with Kissing Gate	
Cox G	Green Footpath 11 (Thrift Lane-Thrift Wood)	Kissing Gate removed	
Hurley	y Footpath 1 (Thames Path)	One gate replaced with gap	
Hurley	y Footpath 18 (Berkshire College of Agriculture)	Two kissing gate enclosures widened, One new swing gate put in to avoid ancient narrow kissing gate	
Walth	am St Lawrence Footpath 41 (off Brook Lane)	One stile replaced with gap	
Walth	am St Lawrence Footpath 41 (off Brook Lane)	One stile replaced with Kissing Gate	
Wraysbury Footpath 6 (off Douglas Lane)		One stile replaced with Kissing Gate	
		Total: 10	

33²¹ - 21 -21

<u>Updates on site specific projects in "Rights of Way Management and Improvement Plan 2016-2026 (new updates in bold)</u>

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. (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)
4	(a) New route along the Cut from Bray Wick upstream to Westleymill on the Bracknell Forest boundary
	(<u>March 2019 update</u> : new section of streamside footpath has be included within layout of Ockwells Park/Thriftwood, Cox Green)
	(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:

(March 2007 update: Initial feasibility studies and consultations have indicated that the potential benefits of this project would not justify the cost)

(February 2016 update: reopened consultation with neighbouring landowner. Quotation received for clearance. Discussions ongoing regarding funding from cycleway budget)

34 - 22 -22

	(March 2019 update: work in progress, in conjunction with Highways England)
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 (June 2015 update: proposal not supported by Temple Golf Club)
12	Create a link between Bisham Bridleway 22 and the A404 tunnel at Dungrove Hill Lane (March 2014 update: the landowner has declined a proposal to create this new link: however, if circumstances change this project could be re-opened)
13	Upgrade Bisham Footpath 19 (Michael's Path) to a bridleway and divert the path to adjoin the disused Henley Road. (March 2018 update: the landowner has declined a proposal to upgrade this footpath, however, if circumstances change this project could be re-opened)
14	Improve links between Bisham and Bisham Woods for non-motorised traffic, particularly with regard to crossing the A404 Bisham Roundabout. (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.)
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 (March 2018 update: the landowner has declined a proposal to upgrade this footpath, however, if circumstances change this project could be re-opened)
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 (<u>December 2015 update</u> : consulting with Natural England over works specification) (<u>March 2017 update</u> : surface improvements completed)
20	Route from Mill Lane to Odney Road, Cookham – perhaps across Odney Common (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)
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 (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)
23	Crossings over the Thames:
	(a) from Hythe End to south bank avoiding M25

- 23 -23

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

Maidenhead & Cox Green

- Fill in missing links on the "Millennium Walk" from Hurley to Maidenhead Riverside / Cliveden Reach connecting to the Thames Path by securing a path from:
 - (a) Nightingale Lane to the Green Way, subject to rail crossing provision
 - (b) Lower Cookham Road at Widbrook Common to the Thames Path. (<u>March 2014</u> <u>update):</u> Discussions are being held with the landowners about the proposed new footpath.

(<u>March 2015 update</u>): the landowners have declined to agree the creation of a new footpath across this land; however, if circumstances change this project could be reopened).

(March 2019 update: new footpath to be created across "Battlemead Common" to complete missing link)

- Create the following paths from the 1999 Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Local Plan:
 - (a) a path from Lower Cookham Road at Widbrook Common to the Thames Path (March 2019 update: new footpath to be created across "Battlemead Common" to

36 - 24 - 24

	complete missing link)
	(b) a route from the Causeway at Braywick Park to Old Mill Lane via Bray Bridge
	(c) make the Green Way accessible to mobility restricted users
	(<u>March 2014 update:</u> upgrades to footbridges on Cookham FP 48 to enable disabled access: works ordered)
	(<u>March 2015 update</u> : improvements to gates at National Trust land, and stepped footbridge replaced with step-free accessible bridge)
	(<u>March 2015 update</u> : steps south of Chapel Arches being replaced with a ramp, in association with redevelopment at former cinema site)
26	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 (March 2010 update: the footpath opposite the Thames Hotel was extended in 2007, however a gap of approximately 30m remains in order to complete the link to Bridge Gardens) (March 2011 update: funding options for completing the remaining section of missing link are being explored in discussion with the Ramblers) (March 2015 update: Path Creation Agreement secured and new roadside footpath opened north of Bridge Gardens)
27	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 (March 2013 update: a new footbridge across the Thames at Boulters Lock is included in a Draft Development Brief for the Mill Lane, Taplow site produced by South Bucks District Council) (March 2015 update: new footbridge design agreed, subject to redevelopment proposal on east side of the river being approved by South Bucks District Council) (March 2019 update: new footbridge opened from Ray Mill Island/Boulters Lock to Taplow Riverside")
28	Create a new foot/cycle bridge across the Cut and new footpath-cycleway linking Braywick Park to Bray Road adjacent to Oldfield Primary School (March 2019 update: new bridge and footpath-cycle way opened September 2018, named "Margaret's Bridge" in memory of Margaret Bowdery MBE)
29	(a) Upgrade Kinghorn Lane (Maidenhead Footpath 30) to a cycle route
	(b) <u>March 2009 addition</u> : Reinstate the definitive width of Kinghorn Lane (Maidenhead FP 30) to provide segregated route for cyclists
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

37 - 25 -25

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 (<u>March 2012 update</u>): 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.
38	Expand the multi-user routes in Eton to surrounding areas and link with other bridleway routes. (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)
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
	I .

Datchet, Horton, Old Windsor & Wraysbury

42	Access around the Queen Mother reservoir, Datchet
	(<u>March 2011 update</u>): 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
42	
43	Improve and ensure long term accessibility (including possible bank repair / diversion)
	Datchet Footpath 8
	(March 2009 update: handrails installed by landowner in 2008)
	(<u>March 2015 update</u> : discussion with landowner about potential for widening the footpath)
	(<u>March 2016 update</u> : landowner has declined to widen the path, bank repair improvements
	completed to secure the river bank)
44	Thames side paths:
	(a) along the banks of Ham Island
	(b) south bank of Thames from Home Park
	(c) along the charge of the hig islands downstroom of Cookham
	(c) along the shores of the big islands downstream of Cookham
	(d) south bank between Bisham and Temple
	(a) south serveen sistain and remple
45	Create the following paths from the 1981 Horton, Datchet and Wraysbury Local Plan,

38 - 26 - 26

depending on the working arrangements with the landowner: (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 railway line to Datchet Footpath 6 (c) footpath along northern side of the Thames from Albert Bridge linking with Datchet Footpath 6 (d) footpath from Welley Road, Wraysbury along southern side of the railway line to Wraysbury Footpath 6 (e) footpath from Park Avenue, Wraysbury to Kingswood Creek (f) footpath from northern end of Douglas Lane (at termination of Wraysbury Footpath 6) to The Green (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 (h) footpath running from Horton Footpath 3 around northern part of lakes to Stanwell Road (i) footpath from Station Road, Wraysbury, to Stanwell Road running along the western bank of the Colne Brook. (j) footpath from Hythe End Lane to southern end of Ferry Lane (Wraysbury Footpath 3) (k) bridleway from Embankment to Magna Carta Lane in Wraysbury (I) bridleway from Horton Road, alongside the Queen Mother Reservoir to Majors Farm Road (B370) (m) Footpath from Kingswood Creek to Old Ferry Drive

Ascot, Sunninghill & Sunningdale

46

Colne Brook.

New route along the Colne Brook

47	Disabled friendly routes should be investigated at Eton, Sunninghill and Ascot, Sunningdale, Knowl Hill, White Waltham and Hurley Lock (<u>December 2015 update:</u> replacement of stepped footbridge west of Hurley Lock completed) (<u>March 2015 update</u> : surface improvements at St Georges Lane and Wells Lane)
48	Extend Sunningdale Footpath 13 through to Sunninghill
	(March 2009 update: feasibility studies have indicated that this project is not viable, however

(n) Footpath from Stanwell Road, northeast along Mill Lane, running east along the

39 - 27 -27

	if circumstances change this project could be re-opened)						
49	Create a path from Ascot Station westwards parallel to the railway line to Kings Ride (March 2007 update: Network Rail are unwilling to consider this proposed footpath creation)						
50	New footpath between Ascot High Street and Ascot Rail Station. (March 2017 update: Path Creation Order confirmed and path opened 1st February 2017)						
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 HIII to South Ascot via the A330 viaduct						
61	New cycle route alongside Winkfield Road from the entarnce 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						
	I .						

- 28 - 28

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 96	Record the existing footpath round woodland off Coombe Lane Record the existing path from St George's Lane to Coombe Lane							
	necord the existing path from St George's Lane to Coombe Lane							

- 29 - 29

97	Record the existing path from Coombe Lane to Victory Field through Tom Green's Field
98	Record the existing path from Coombe Lane to Victory Field through Form Green's Field
70	Record the existing path around the woods on Alien'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 dale 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 (March 2016 update: Sunningdale Parish Council to arrange surfacing works and footpath to be dedicated as a public right of way)
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

- 30 - 30

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

- 31 - 31

APPENDIX 8

Planning Position Statements

Guiding Principles for Planning to improve local access

- 1. All new proposed development should refer and comply with the *Policy IF5 of Rights of Way and Access to the countryside* while designing new access routes and paths.
- 2. All access should be consistent with the Borough's *Public Rights of Way Management and Improvement Plan 2016-2026*.
- 3. All access improvements, routes, locks and POS should be dedicated as highway or protected legally in some way.
- 4. Access new developments should aim to provide accessibility to all and improve accessibility for disabled or elderly people and families with pushchairs.
- 5. All new access structures should comply with BS5709:2006 for gaps, gates & stiles, and all new routs comply with *Environment Agency Access for All design guide* and RWBM ROWMIP.
- 6. On sites prone to flooding, paths need to be constructed with suitable permeable surface to ensure it can withstand and recover from a flood event.
- 7. If the path is a designated escape route it needs to be usable in the event of flooding and remain open at all times with suitable lighting for night time use.
- 8. When considering fencing a path /route it should allow visual permeability and open views to create safe access route. The fencing should suitably blend into the character of the space without being detrimental to the aesthetics.
- 9. Boundaries should not be designed to deliberately curtail any views.
- 10. Paths should be wide enough with green verges so that they do not become narrow alleys. Footpaths should be wide enough to allow the use as cycle paths.
- 11. Enhancements should be sought through CIL contributions

Specific Advice – Allocated Sites Policies Maps

1. Map Reference HA6

- a. Access to Braywick Leisure Centre and town centre used by walkers, cyclists and should be min 3m wide.
- b. Improve ways across Braywick road not just through the site and provide a dedicated pedestrian route to cross the road safely for school and residents on the other side of Braywick Leisure Centre.

- 32 - 32

2. Map Reference HA7 & HA 8

- a. Improve/ enhance existing PROW to offer residents at HA7 &, HA6 HA8 Cox Green etc access to Ockwells Park.
- b. Create a network of 'green ways' within these sites; this green network can be an activity network connecting Ockwells Park and Greenway.

3. Map Reference HA11

a. Potential for permitted path to be dedicated ROW

4. Map Reference HA19

a. Missing link added from lower Cookham Road to the Thames path.

5. Map Reference HA20

- a. Area is bounded by PORW. Development should aim to increased use as well as connectivity to Ockwells Park.
- b. PROW should be enhanced by the development.

6. Map Reference HA21

- a. Potential missing link millennium walks and link across Railway Bridge.
- b. Improve access to Furze Platt School

7. Map Reference HA22

a. This is open access land and development here would lead to loss to accessible countryside and compensatory land would be required. However this is not being accessed and used at the moment.

8. Map Reference HA23

- a. Protect and enhance bridleway.
- b. Access to river PROW over Summerleaze bridge
- c. Access to river at The Cut.

9. Map Reference HA25

a. Access through the site to library, post office & park to help create better access to public amenities.

10. Map Reference HA26

a. Crossing point across Vale Road to School & Deadworth Manor Open Space

11. Map Reference HA28

- a. Improve /Enhance safe access to New Thames Path
- b. Footbridge to Lock Island to create a unique circular walk for the residents of the development and public.

c.

12. Map Reference HA29

a. Access pedestrian/ cycle path to Ballet School.

13. Map Reference HA30

a. Improvement to pedestrian path along Station Hill will create significant improvement to pedestrian access site.

- 33 - 33

b. Full access from Sunninghill footpath 36 creating a gateway into Ascot Link, Station Hill & Sunninghill.

c.

14. Map Reference HA31/32

a. Improve access to school & cycle access to and into Ascot

15. Map Reference HA33

- a. Upgrading /Improving existing paths, new bridleway from Buckhurst Road to Sunninghill 5, potentially upgrading Sunninghill 5, thereby taking horses off London Road A 329
- b. Scheme would link the great park from Ascot to Sunningdale.

16. Map Reference HA35

- a. Improve access to public amenity.
- b. Pedestrian and Cycle access through the site.

17. Map Reference HA38

a. Pedestrian and cycle access from the site in to Windmill Road to improve access into the town centre and local facilities thereby easing pedestrian /cycle influx on Whyteladyes Lane.

18. Map Reference HA42

a. Long term objective should be to provide access to reservoirs

19. Map Reference HA46

a. Pedestrian /Cycle route through the site.

20. Map Reference HA48

a. Retain & enhance entrance footpath.

- 34 - 34

APPENDIX 9

	Outstanding at 1 st Sep 2019	Reported 1st	Closed 1st	Total Outstanding at 15 th Feb	Issues outstanding over 5 years
	2010	September 2018 to 15 th Feb 2019	September 2018 to 15 th Feb 19	2019	over o years
ENFORCEMENT					
Ploughing and lack of marking	0	5	5	0	0
Obstruction by crops	0	7	7	0	0
Fence encroachment	2	1	2	1	0
Fence obstruction	0	2	0	2	0
Building obstruction	0	0	0	0	0
Other obstructions	1	4	4	1	0
Stiles	0	1	1	0	0
Gates	0	8	7	0	0
Bulls/ other animal problems	0	0	0	0	0
Unauthorised use by horses	0	0	0	0	0
Unauthorised vehicular use	0	0	0	0	0
Electric fencing	0	2	2	0	0
Misleading notices	0	0	0	0	0
Intimidation	0	0	0	0	0
Overhanging vegetation	0	2	2	0	0
Other Enforcement Problems	2	2	2	2	0
TOTAL ENFORCEMENT:	5	30	33	6	0
MAINTENANCE					
Vegetation	0	2	2	0	0
Rutting	2	14	15	1	0
Drainage	2	1	1	2	0
Fallen trees	0	2	2	0	0
Erosion	1	5	6	0	1
Tree problems	0	0	0	0	0
Bridges	0	8	8	0	0
Safety barriers	0	0	0	0	0
Steps	0	0	0	0	0
Roadside signposting		10	10	0	0
Signposting at path junctions	0	0	0	0	0
Waymarking	0	1	1	0	0
Rubbish/ waste	0	0	0	0	0
Other Maintenance Problems	0	1	1	0	0
TOTAL MAINTENANCE:	5	43	46	2	1
TOTALS OF MAINTENANCE					
AND ENFORCEMENT	10	78	76	8	1

- 35 - 35

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 Communities Directorate Communities and Highways Parks and Countryside Team Town Hall, St Ives Road Maidenhead Berks SL6 1RF

If you require information in an alternative format please contact the Parks and Countryside Team on 01628-683800

48 - 36 - 36

Agenda Item 5

Report Title:	PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: 6-MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information?	NO
Officer reporting:	Anthony Hurst, Parks and Countryside Manager
Meeting and Date:	Rights of Way and Highway Licensing Panel 4 th March 2019
Responsible Officer(s):	Ben Smith, Head of Commissioning- Communities
Wards affected:	All



REPORT SUMMARY

This report updates the Panel on progress made with Public Rights of Way issues during the period from August 2018 to February 2019. 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	n/a	March 2019	n/a	n/a	March 2019

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**

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, where feasible.

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

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 2018 to February 2019.

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.

12. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held	Date sent	Commented & returned
Cllr Maureen Hunt	Panel Chairman	08/02/19 (for briefing 13/02/19)	13/02/19
Ben Smith	Head of Commissioning- Communities	08/02/19	

REPORT HISTORY

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

ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY: 6- MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT 1st SEPTEMBER 2018 - 31st JANUARY 2019

The total number of outstanding reported problems on Public Rights of Way has risen from 9 to 8 during the reporting period, (see table at Annex A for list of outstanding issues).

1. ENFORCEMENT

Path

Farm)

Problems reported and problems closed

	Outstanding on	Reported 1 st Sept '18 -	Closed 1 st Sept	Outstanding on
	1 st Sept 2018	31 st Jan 2019	'18 - 31 st Jan 2019	31 st Jan 2019
Enforcement problems	6	32	32	6

Examples of enforcement cases that have been resolved:

Problem

Bray FP 7 (Creswell's Farm)	Barbed wire attached to gate: removed by landowner
Bray FP 5 (Creswell's Farm)	Baled straw obstructing footpath: removed by landowner
Bisham FP 9 and 32 (Town	Maize crop over footpaths: crops cleared by landowner

Eton BR 18 (South Field)

Path not marked out following ploughing: marked out by landowner

2. MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT

Problems reported and problems closed

	Outstanding on	Reported 1 st Sept '18	Closed 1 st Sept	Outstanding on
	1 st Sept 2018	- 31 st Jan 2019	'18 - 31 st Jan 2019	31 st Jan 2019
Maintenance problems	3	18	19	2

Examples of maintenance and improvement projects completed:

Maidenhead FP 46 (Newlands Drive)	Surface improvement (phase 2)
Maidenhead FP 78 (Boulters Lock car park)	Surface improvements
Eton FP 3 (off Common Road)	Bridge repair and gate installation
Bray FP 72 (The Causeway)	Tarmac surface improvement
Maidenhead BW 70 (Malders Lane)	Surface improvements

3. CHANGES TO THE PATH NETWORK

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 a Local Public Inquiry was held from 1st to 4th May 2018.

The Inspector who conducted the Inquiry published his decision on 19th July 2018: thirteen of the fourteen Orders were confirmed as made, and one Order was not confirmed.

Public footpath signs have been installed at the entrances to the footpaths from the surrounding road network, and all thirteen footpaths are now open and in use.

In total, these thirteen footpaths have added approximately 2.9 km (1.8 miles) to the public rights of way network in the borough.

3.2 <u>Margaret's Bridge</u>

A new bridge across "The Cut", linking Maidenhead Road to the Green Way at Braywick Park, was opened on 17th September 2018. The bridge is named in memory of Margaret Bowdery, former President of the East Berkshire Ramblers, in recognition of her tireless efforts and achievements in improving and protecting public rights of way and access to the countryside in the borough.

The new bridge and connecting paths are now in regular use a safe off-road route for walkers and cyclists, including access to the Oldfield Primary School, as well as a valuable new link to Braywick Park and the Green Way.

3.3 Millennium Walk

Following the purchase of an area of farmland off Lower Cookham Road/Sutton Road, to be named "Battlemead Common", a new footpath is to be opened in March 2019, to complete a missing link in the Millennium Walk, which runs from the Thames at Hurley to the Thames north of Boulters Lock.

The route will also be used as part of the annual 'Maidenhead Boundary Walk' which takes place each October.

4. **VOLUNTEERS**

4.1 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 Councils who organise routine path clearance works in their parishes. A number of successful projects have been completed this year including installation of a warning sign on a steep path in Bisham, surfacing improvements in Maidenhead, and gate replacements and refurbishments in Bray. Promotional materials are also being designed in partnership with two parishes. The partnership continues to deliver benefits to all involved.

4.2 Volunteering

The Public Rights of Way team have worked with The Conservation Volunteers (TCV), Berkshire College of Agriculture (BCA), Ways into Work (WiW), and Centrica to carry out practical work on public rights of way in the borough over the past 6 months.

The following projects were completed between September 2018-January 2019

Date	Group	Path	Task	No. of participants
5 September 2018	WiW	Maidenhead FP 24	50:50 litter picking: vegetation clearance	8
6 September 2018	BCA	Hurley BR 2	Himalayan Balsam clearance	6
12 September	WiW	Maidenhead FP 22 (Garretts Lane)	Vegetation clearance	6
13 September	BCA	Hurley BR 2	Himalayan Balsam clearance	6
19 September	WiW	Maidenhead FP 46 (Muddy Lane)	Vegetation clearance	8
20 September	BCA	Bray BW 65 (Hog Oak Lane)	Vegetation clearance	6
20 September	TCV	Sunninghill FP 5	Boardwalk extension	8
26 September	WiW	Maidenhead FP 48 (Dead Man's Alley)	Litter pick at Altwood Road and Bath Road. Vegetation clearance	8
27 September	BCA	Bray BW 65 (Hog Oak Lane)	Vegetation clearance	6
3 October	WiW	Eton FP 1	Vegetation clearance	6
4 October	BCA	Bray BR 64 (Cruch Lane)	Vegetation clearance	6
10 October	WiW	Eton FP 1 and Home Park	Litter pick	7
11 October	BCA	Bray BR 64 (Cruch Lane)	Vegetation clearance	6
17 October	WiW		Vegetation clearance	8
18 October	BCA	Green Lane Hurley	Vegetation clearance	6
24 October	WiW		Vegetation clearance	7
25 October	Centrica	Eton FP 1 (Thames Path)	Litter picking	15
1 November	BCA	Green Lane Hurley	Vegetation clearance	7
10 January	BCA	Permitted path Hurley	Open up and vegetation clearance	6
24 January	BCA	Waltham St Lawrence RB 30 (Downfield Lane)	Vegetation clearance	6
Total work tasks		21		
Total volunteer day	/s	142		

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

Berkshire College of Agriculture: £2013

Ways into Work: £2392.50

TVA: £330

Centrica: £618.75

Additionally, volunteers from the East Berks Ramblers carried out 165 hours of condition survey work during the six-month period September 2018 - January 2019. This equates to £1361.25 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: £6,715.50

4.3 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 from the autumn 2018 survey was 95%. Combined with the Spring Survey (87%) this brings the percentage of public rights of way that are easy to use for 2018 to 91%.

5. 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 meets twice a year, with additional informal meetings or site visits as required.

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, Jacqui Wheeler (01628 796289)

Public Rights of Way: issues outstanding, February 2019

Parish/Path number	Issue	Date reported
Bray FP 1	Potential fence	16/07/18
(off Ascot Road)	encroachment	
Horton BR 4	Bridleway obstructed by	28/08/18
(off Foundry Lane)	vehicles	
Old Windsor FP 3	Path verges enclosed by	27/06/18
(Thames Path)	boat owners	
Sunninghill FP 5	Path flooded by adjacent	09/02/18
(off Cheapside Road)	land	
Sunninghill FP 18	Potential fence	30/04/18
(Marston Way)	encroachment	
Sunninghill FP 36	Water flowing across path	01/05/18
(off High Street)		
Wraysbury FP 6	Path obstructed by gate	16/07/18
(Douglas Lane)		
Eton FP 19	Path cropped and not	24/10/18
(South Field)	reinstated	

