

LOCAL ACCESS FORUM: 14 JUNE 2017

LOCAL ACCESS FORUM WORK PROGRAMME

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the forum about the status of projects on the LAF Work Programme 2016/2017.

2. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

(a) Multi-user routes

There are ongoing discussions with the Environment Agency and Bucks County Council regarding opening up part of the jubilee river for horse riding. This is included the LAF monitoring item report.

At present there are no other proposals for multi-user routes currently being investigated.

(b) Fostering closer engagement with Parish Councils

A meeting was held with Peter Thorn, Geoff Priest and Andrew Fletcher to discuss proposed actions to foster closer engagement with Parish Councils. The following actions were agreed:

1. Share minutes of Forum meetings with Parish Councils and ask them to link to it on their website for parish residents to view
2. Ask Parish Councils to share minutes of meetings with the Forum
3. Invite Parish Councils to site visits being organised by the Forum in their area
4. Ask Parish Councils to assist with enforcement issues where they are able

(c) Opportunities and issues with large development sites

As part of the preparation of the RBWM Local Plan areas for proposed future development have been produced which highlights a number of areas around the Borough for development.

Discussions are underway with the RBWM Planning department as to how best the LAF can be consulted and be involved with the planning process for these sites as there are opportunities to improve access in these areas as part of the design of any scheme.

(d) Improvement to Ashley Hill, Hurley

A meeting was held with Alan Keene and Annie Keene on 21st February 2017 to develop a proposal for improved horse riding access in Ashely Hill. A map detailing the proposal is included in Appendix A.

The Forestry Commission was then approached as the main land manager to see if they had any objection to the proposals. They replied stating that horse riding is something they looked at previously and at the time the forestry commission

decided not to pursue it. They added that they do not have the resource to manage any additional trails at the current time, and although the proposal was to upgrade the existing tracks, the Forestry Commission would need to inspect them as riding trails which would increase the resources required at the site.

A proposal has been put to the Forestry Commission for the Council to inspect the paths on the Forestry Commission's behalf. The Forestry Commission has responded that this does happen in other cases but at the present time they are not able to look into this until 2018.