

Local Access Forum - Subgroup Meeting

Weds 20th September 2023 at 2pm

Braywick Nature Centre

Those present: Geoff Priest, Lisa Hughes, Trisha Mentzel, Martin Richardson, Susy Shearer, Cllr Gurch Singh, Cllr Jack Douglas, Jacqui Wheeler (RBWM)

Notes of meeting

LAF Subgroups came together to discuss the way forward.

[NB: The LAF Guidance 2009 (pub. By Defra) section 4.1 recommends that a forum prepare a forward work programme which sets out priorities and areas of special interest. This does not need to be over-detailed or time-consuming to produce. It can be made available for public inspection and can play an important role in helping to: -

- *ensure that the forum focuses on issues which are the most relevant for the area.*
- *clarify the issues on which the appointing authority(ies) or other section 94(4) bodies would benefit from receiving advice.*
- *timetable when specific matters are likely to be discussed by the forum, enabling the secretary to commission reports or speakers, etc.*
- *inform the public about the work of the forum and assist the appointing authority in recruiting suitable new members.*
- *identify training or other requirements; and*
- *review effectiveness when preparing the forum's annual report.]*

Update on current subgroup projects and any roadblocks.

Accessibility Working group – LH reported work on the Walks for All project has stalled.

There are resource issues; lack of time and knowledge of the **RBWM Together** website. IT support is needed as to how to use the mapping symbols and build the webpages. Most of the content has been produced.

Horse Riding/Multi-user Subgroup – Recognising that opportunities for new provision in the borough are limited, TM reported the following as possible projects to be explored/pursued for multi-use provision.

- Carpenters Wood part of Bisham Wood
- Cannon Lane at Maidenhead Thicket - possible highway verge or National Trust land
- Forty Acres/Wokingham - working with neighbouring LAF's

Cycling groups – MR suggested building on the idea of multi-user routes in conjunction with the LCWIP and asking the WCH and WAMACT for suggestions.

SS thought that the Windsor Neighbourhood Plan mentioned a possible off road cycle path – Winkfield Road – Crown Estate land. MR would share the mapping and LH suggested she could include the suggestion for this route at the Visit Windsor Accessible Tourism Group.

Action – MR share mapping.

Action - JW will request update from RBWM Transport team regarding LCWIP implementation.

Windsor Great Park Event – educational event for all users (cyclists, walkers and horse-riders) to promote considerate behaviour.

Willow Path – existing dual status route (adopted highway and bridleway) adjacent to green belt land up for development under outline planning – site code AL21 & 22. Offers an opportunity for improvements to this multi-use route through planning contributions.

Questions raised as to the quantity, quality and implementation speed of cycling infrastructure and what the new administration’s direction will be on funding for improvements of the active travel network.

Resource Issues

Agreed to request support from the RBWM Communities team for the Walks For All project.

Action: JW to make request.

Action: Agreed TM would contact the local landowner in Bisham to ask for support.

Local Access Forum Forward Work Plan – November 2023 Timeline

This draft forward work plan aims to set out the Forum’s priorities and special areas of interest going forward.

<i>Time Period</i>	<i>Priorities/Areas of Interest/Projects</i>
2023 – Summer 2024	Review effectiveness and prepare LAF Annual REPORT (2022 -2023) - to be approved at 2024 LAF
2023 -	Biodiversity Net Gain/ Green Infrastructure – possible need for training? Volunteer activity/tasks to improve biodiversity on PRow network and POS. LAF funding bids in partnership with local groups?
2024 - 2025	Specific projects – accessibility, multi-user Walks For All project Multi – Use Sub group projects
2024	Engagement with Regional LAF’s and joint working on shared issues (e.g., cross boundary)
2024 – 2025	Engagement with NE and Defra through LAF SharePoint to develop communication links nationwide to further LAF agenda
2024	Review of the LAF Planning Position Statement to ensure it is fit for purpose and updated for the forthcoming development sites. Arrange sub meeting
2024 - 2025	DMS Consolidation engagement exercise. Relevant date is 1 st Jan 2015.
2024 - 2026	Review of Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2016 – 2026 – involving review of the Site-Specific Improvements Appx 7 of the Milestones Statement