

Local Access Forum Meeting - Minutes		Date: 12-04-2018
Attendees Maire McQueeney (MM) <i>Chair</i> Andrew Coleman (AC) Peter Jarman (PJ) Dave Brookshaw (DB) Becky Walton (BW)	Chantelle Hoppé (CH) Stephanie Stammers (SS) Jonathan Dall (JD)	Apologies: Annie Brown (AB) Ellie Cooper (EC) John Funnell (JF) Luke Burstow (LB) David Larkin (DL)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Actions	Responsibility	Date by
2. Membership	Welcome to Becky Walton from HealthWalks as our newest member of the Brighton & Hove LAF			
3. Minutes of Last meeting	The minutes of the last meeting were agreed. Action points to be covered in the agenda items for this meeting.			
4. Stanmer Project	Jonathan Dall, who is leading on the implementation of the Stanmer Restoration Project, attended the meeting to provide an update. (JD) is on a two year contract to deliver the project. There were two HLF bids – for restoration of the landscape and the buildings. The buildings one was rejected, but the council is progressing this side of the project. The project area covers a corridor from the Lower Lodges at the entrance to Stanmer up to Stanmer House (with a detour to			

	<p>Franklin Monument on the edge of the woods) to the pond and the walled garden / Stanmer Nursery and current City Parks depot area. This is about 20 hectares out of the whole estate but it is the historical heart of the area – the aim being to restore the 18th century landscape (plus deal with car park issues: remove cars from many areas and build bigger and better maintained car parks).</p> <p>At Lower Lodges there will be an improved entrance area. Currently the footway ends and you have to walk on the road or muddy verges. There will be a new metalled footway at Lower Lodges, with wooden gates. This will link (via a raised crossing point) to the new greenway. There will also be larger car park areas at the Lower Lodges. There will be a new kiosk at Lower Lodges with a private cycle hire company and toilet facilities.</p> <p>The greenway will be multi-user path (for pedestrians and cyclists). This will be an off road path from Lower Lodges up to Stanmer House, parallel to the entrance track. This is funded by the grant (67%) and match funded by SDNPA and will be constructed out of bonded gravel. (JC) enquired about the width of the path. (CH) suggested it should be 3m if it is to be multi-user. (PJ) suggested there should be signage encouraging walkers and cyclists to use the new greenway.</p> <p>Between Lower Lodges and Stanmer House the incidental car parks will be removed.</p> <p>The Franklin Monument is to be repaired.</p> <p>In terms of tree works there has been some controversy about tree felling. The original aim was to restore the landscape to 18th century views of the Stanmer House, the church etc. Now there will</p>	<p>Find out the width of the new greenway</p> <p>Answer: 2.5m wide (JD)</p>	<p>JD</p>	<p>ASAP</p>
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	<p>still be some felling – of poorer tree specimens, but less than originally planned and some trees will be moved (retaining donated trees).</p> <p>Around the walled garden area there are currently temporary buildings, industrial use areas, green waste site and storage areas. The Cityparks depot is to be moved out of Stanmer – removing a lot of the heavier traffic through the park. There will be a new car park north of the walled garden, part paved and part grass for overspill – called the Patchway. This will serve the walled garden and Stanmer House. (DB) enquired about car park capacity for this area.</p> <p>(PJ) enquired if the car park opposite the church will remain. (JD) this is not part of the current project – but it may be affected by future plans for the Long Barn.</p> <p>Most building works are to be carried out in the walled garden area. The cityparks offices will move out – to become a Plumpton College teaching facility. Most of the glass houses were built in 1940s/50s and have little historic value. They will be removed, leaving only the large triple span glass house. There will be an ornamental garden planted at the entrance, there will be a large café and shop (stocking Plumpton farm produce), toilets, a lawn area and further classroom facilities. Plumpton are hoping to attract more students from the Brighton area as well as more adult classes.</p> <p>As Plumpton have put more money into the project, the plans for the walled garden have changed which has meant a re-design – this has pushed back the timeframe. The architect has nearly finished the design now and procurement of the main contractor is</p>	<p>Find out car park capacity</p> <p>Answer: 133 spaces plus an overflow of 124 more (JD)</p>	<p>JD</p>	<p>ASAP</p>
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	<p>starting. This must follow public procurement rules (a 6 month process), so work is due to start in Nov / Dec. The works should take 15 months and should be finished early 2020. However, Plumpton will move in before (Sept 2019), so that their current area can be worked on.</p> <p>(DB) enquired about what is being done to tackle inconsiderate parking in the Park. (JD) parking enforcement has already been introduced in the park as an interim measure due to the pressure from university vehicles. Enforcement is carried out at the weekends as well as during the week as the enforcement company makes its revenue from the notices. (The council will make income from the new parking levies).</p> <p>(DB) enquired about the village toilets. (JD) there are no plans to close the village toilets.</p> <p>(MM) enquired about the current use of the Lower Lodges houses. (JD) they are both in habitation – one privately owned and one rented. There will be some improvements / fencing carried out in exchange for taking a small portion of garden for the new footway.</p> <p>(AC) asked if there was any way a separate entrance could be created for pedestrians and cyclists – to avoid traffic. (JD) they want all people coming into the park to use the main entrance. Pedestrians will have a new footway, cyclists will use the road and raised table crossing point over to the greenway – at which point they will be off-road.</p> <p>(AC) asked about the provision of cycle parking. (JD) there will</p>	Find out exact	JD	ASAP
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	<p>be new cycle parking areas at the Lower Lodges kiosk and in the walled garden.</p> <p>(BW) asked about the current orchard area. (JD) they are working with Bryn from Brighton Permaculture and there will be more planting in this area.</p> <p>(MM) asked about the status of the entrance road. (JD) it is a bridleway. (CH) it is a bridleway up to the junction point, then the bridleway branches off to the north side (not in front of the house). (JD) there is some money in the budget for road improvements. However, there is a limit to how much of the HLF grant they can use for this purpose.</p> <p>Parking – the interim parking measures introduced by Paul Campbell have been very successful (using the existing contractor who covers housing estates etc).</p> <p>The October 2016 report to Committee on the parking proposals was approved. Some people wanted more parking and others wanted less – so it is somewhere in the middle. There will be parking for villagers on the road in the village. Charges will be for parking in all car parks in Stanmer. (PJ) how will the charges be rendered? There will be some machines and some by phone App. (PJ) wanted to register concern with regards the App method as not everyone has access to a smart phone.</p> <p>(JD) income raised will go towards the up keep of the estate. Many of the problems in the park are due to lack of investment and neglect. Parking revenue and revenue from events held in the park will redress this issue. HLF are very interested in the sustainability of projects they invest in i.e. how will they be</p>	<p>location and capacity of cycle parking</p> <p>Answer: 5 cycle hoops at Lower Lodges & 5 in the walled garden (JD)</p>		
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	<p>sustained financially once the funding comes to an end. There will be public consultation on the parking charges – which will go through the democratic process. Charges are likely to be levied before the works are completed – possibly this calendar year. However, as this is a contentious issue it may get delayed.</p> <p>(DB) voiced concerns over parking capacity in the summer. (JD) it is hoped that monitoring of the car parks might be carried out by volunteers. There will be spill-over car parking on the grass for events.</p> <p>(BW) asked about promoting of bus routes to the park. (JD) there is a travel plan that goes with the project – promoting sustainable transport options.</p> <p>A full time Estate Manager and Estate Ranger will be employed – funded by the HLF grant for 2.5 years. It is hoped that, if the funding model works, these posts will be sustained from income generated. There will, therefore, be two dedicated members of staff to look after the Estate.</p> <p>In terms of voluntary support there is currently the Stanmer Preservation Society and Stakeholders Forum, However, these groups are made up of people who live or work in Stanmer itself. It is hoped to start a ‘Friends of Group’ drawn from residents in surrounding neighbourhoods – Coldean, Moulsecoomb, Bevendean, Falmer, Hollingbury. People will be invited to join from 2019.</p> <p>In addition Plumpton will appoint an outreach officer partly funded by the grant. This post will encourage volunteering in the walled garden</p>			
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	<p>and promote training for adults and the local community.</p> <p>The Activity Plan (required by the HLF) includes a plan of voluntary activities, walking activities (e.g. Nordic Walking), training (partly subsidised by the grant) and events e.g. Apple Day in Stanmer.</p> <p>HLF also requires us to look at the long term management of the Estate. At the moment there are lots of disparate departments within the council who have varied responsibilities for the management of the Park. Part of the project will involve identifying how the estate will be run – long term governance plans.</p> <p>(DB) how do we keep up to date with what’s going on with the project. (JD) Stanmer Park Project has a web page: https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/leisure-and-libraries/parks-and-green-spaces/stanmer-park-restoration-project-news-and You can sign up to get a regular email update for the project by emailing: stanmerproject@brighton-hove.gov.uk If you have any queries between update bulletins you can email your questions to the above email address</p>			
<p>5. Information Updates (CH & SS)</p>	<p>RoW Maintenance & Management Report:</p> <p>A number of maintenance projects have now been completed to improve rights of way:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Steps at Hollingdean Woods have been replace on a popular route to school (FP B93) - Surface improvements have been made to a very badly drained bridleway in Ovingdean (BW B27) 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Surface improvements and a mobility kissing gate have been fitted at the Hangleton underpass footpath – to stop poaching up of the path by unauthorised users (FP P26) - Drainage works have been carried out on the cycle path from the A23 into Waterhall – Sweet Hill - A new soak away and surfacing improvements have been made at an important gateway site to the Downs from Saltdean (BW B4) <p>Request for LAF members to make any suggestions for network improvements now we are in the new financial year</p> <p>Legal & Mapping:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roedean Paddock – is now complete and has been waymarked. - Diversion order at Standean (BW B72) – this involves East and West Sussex County Councils – awaiting on paperwork from these highways authorities - Fishersgate Station – network rail are moving the bridge so that part of the footpath in W. Sussex will be diverted into Brighton & Hove. We are working with WSCC / Adur on the diversion and creation orders. Consultation will have to be made with local residents. - For information – the farmers at Ovingdean have closed off access to a field edge for conservation reasons. This has caused a lot of complaints from local walkers who used to use it as a path. There may be a DMMO application from local residents. 	Suggestions for network improvements	ALL	Before next meeting
6. Rights of Way Improvement Plan (CH)	<p>The public consultation for the ROWIP is now live. It is running until 18th May 2018. It is being advertised in two local papers. It</p>			

	<p>has been sent out to many local and national groups / stakeholders as well as through social media. It is about to be pushed again.</p> <p>CH and DB attended the Local Transport Partnership meeting on 27th February (DB is a member and attends regularly). This forum includes the bus companies, taxi firms, cycling groups, transport campaigners etc. It was a good forum to increase the profile of the ROWIP. (DB) keeps reminding the group that PROW are Highways and currently receive less than 1% of the total Highways budget.</p> <p>Request for members to think of any other groups that the ROWIP consultation could be sent out to.</p>	<p>Send CH any ideas for other organisations to send the ROWIP to</p>	<p>ALL</p>	<p>ASAP</p>
<p>7. Missing Links (DB)</p>	<p>(DB) Discovering Lost ways group are busy – mostly with paths in ESCC.</p> <p>Request for help with researching the path from the Marina Volks train station, through the underpass and into the Marina (next to the car wash). (DB) thinks there may be a sign saying ‘this is not a footpath’. (SS) suggested DB send a photograph of the sign.</p> <p>(CH) suggested looking at OldMaps OS website: https://www.old-maps.co.uk/#/</p> <p>(CH) will do some research from original Highways survey maps</p> <p>(PJ) asked if we are doing anything about the gaps that appear on the Def Map – such as Sweet Hill.</p> <p>(CH) there are a number of gaps: Sweet Hill (Waterhall), Norton Drive (Woodingdean), Whiteways Lane (Rottingdean). Old failed</p>	<p>Look at Old Maps website</p> <p>Look at 1940s and 50s survey maps of Highways</p> <p>Send a photograph of the sign to SS</p> <p>Look through failed DMMO applications</p>	<p>DB</p> <p>CH</p> <p>DB</p> <p>CH & SS</p>	<p>Before next meeting</p>

	<p>DMMO applications for these were found when going through the filing cabinet of ROW files. CH and SS will look through the files to see why they failed.</p> <p>(PJ) will advertise on Ramblers website to see if can get evidence of Sweet Hill use (CH) will check if it's a permissive BW or not</p>	<p>Advertise of Ramblers Website for Sweet Hill users</p> <p>Check if Sweet Hill is a permissive BW</p>	<p>PJ</p> <p>CH</p>	
<p>8. Farming & Access Issues (AB & DL)</p>	<p>CH informed the group that a meeting was held with Estates and Savills as we have been asked to produce a Whole Estate Plan by SDNPA.</p> <p>We are at early stages – putting together an Asset List for the whole estate (covering all land owned by BHCC in the SDNPA area).</p> <p>CH to keep the group informed</p>	<p>Keep the group informed on progress with the WEP</p>	<p>CH</p>	<p>As and when</p>
<p>9. AOB</p>	<p>(AC) asked if there could be an update on any works to improve crossing points over the A27. (CH) Highways department have been talking to Highways England about this. There are plans to improve the Dyke Road crossing through the Toads Hole Valley development. This would include a new ramp from the roundabout to join the permissive BW on 19 Acres</p> <p>(MM) has been contacted by Denise Taylor at B&H Green Spaces forum to see if we can advertise the LAF meetings on their website – for public attendance. (CH) the meetings are already advertised</p>	<p>See if we can get an update on A27 crossing points at next meeting</p>	<p>CH</p>	<p>Before next meeting</p>

	<p>on the council website – the Green Spaces forum could put a link from their website to the BHAF page if they want to publicise the meetings. (MM) they also suggested Cliff Munn (Chair of Green Spaces Forum) might want to come and speak at a LAF meeting. (CH) will invite him either to the next meeting or the one after (depending on if we get a Highways update)</p>	<p>Invite Cliff Munn to speak at a LAF meeting</p>	<p>CH</p>	
<p>10. Date of next meetings</p>	<p>6pm at Hollingdean Depot: 12th July 2018 11th October 2018 17th January 2019</p>			