

Local Access Forum Meeting - Minutes		Date: 18-10-2018
<b>Attendees</b> Maire McQueeney (MM) <i>Chair</i> Peter Jarman (PJ) Luke Burstow (LB) John Funnell (JF) Melissa LaRoque (ML) Sue LaRoque (SL)	Chantelle Hoppé (CH) Stephanie Stammers (SS)	<b>Apologies:</b> Becky Walton (BW) Andrew Coleman (AC) Annie Brown (AB) Dave Brookshaw (DB) Andy Renaut (AR)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Actions	Responsibility	Date by
<b>2. Membership</b>	Welcome to Melissa and Sue, representing equestrian interests and Melissa is Volunteer Path Warden for FP B39 at Hog Platt. They have a stable in Rottingdean. Main local riding concerns: signage for horse riders on Beacon Hill when the sheep are grazing and the overhanging vegetation on Whiteways lane. There is a gate issue at Bazehill Road. (CH) We are working with the farmer to repair / replace gates in that area.			
<b>3. Guest Speaker</b>	Andy Renaut (Head of Transport Policy & Strategy) was going to present on the Highways England project to improve crossing points across the A27. However, Andy has had no response from Highways England on progress with the project so asked to defer his presentation to the next meeting in January (when hopefully he			

	will have more to report).			
<b>4. Minutes of Last meeting</b>	The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.			
<b>5. Information Updates (CH &amp; SS)</b>	<p>RoW Maintenance &amp; Management Report:</p> <p>We are running a rolling program of gate replacement (much of the infrastructure on rights of way were put in about 20 years ago and are consequently rotting out at the same time). 9 gates have been replaced at the Chattri, Ovingdean and Balsdean. Another 9 gates are ear marked for replacement in the Stanmer area. A number of 'nuisance' issues were reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Waterhall Golf – staff driving golf carts too fast on rights of way (reported to golf company and leisure services)</li> <li>- Three Cornered Copse – diggers being driven on the bridleway (Enforcement Team dealing with this) and a development that has 'land grabbed' a section of council land (Estates are dealing with this)</li> <li>- Benfield Golf – to be discussed</li> <li>- Rochester street – to be discussed</li> </ul> <p>Contractor works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surfacing improvements on the bridleway between Woodingdean and Ovingdean (Parish Lane) to make it more 'easy access' – grading to get rid of the side camber and surfacing with stone. This work is nearly complete</li> <li>• Drainage and surfacing works at the Coldean Woods / Stanmer park bridge as this gets severely flooded in winter and as an important pedestrian access to the park. This work is complete (Need to keep an eye on this to see if the works have made any improvement).</li> <li>• Surfacing works at the gate at Piddingworth woods, Stanmer 'Easy Access' trail. It gets terribly poached in the winter and impassable. Funding for this project through SDNPA. This</li> </ul>	Path Warden survey to keep an eye on bridge works	JF	Over winter

	<p>work is complete.</p> <p>Volunteer Path Warden Scheme – about 30 volunteers so far, covering 24% of the total countryside network. Scheme not properly launched until next spring / summer</p> <p>Stanmer Restoration Project: Funding going in to EADR for a permissive bridleway circuit around the edge of Stanmer. General support for this – although slight confusion from (LB) about the route at Piddingworth</p> <p>Legal &amp; Mapping:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DMMO application at Ovingdean Grange farm – a strong application has come in – just waiting for the last evidence forms to be sent in to complete the report (SS)</li> <li>- There is a possible DMMO application coming from Benfield Valley, where the Footgolf tenant has blocked off a ‘desire line; between the Restricted Byway and the Footpath. Local residents may be putting in a claim for this path.</li> <li>- Diversion order at Standean (BW B72) – this involves East and West Sussex County Councils – awaiting on paperwork from these highways authorities</li> <li>- Fishersgate Station – network rail are moving the bridge so that part of the footpath in W. Sussex will be diverted into Brighton &amp; Hove. We are working with WSCC / Adur on the diversion and creation orders. The process is nearing completion and works may commence soon.</li> <li>- Historical paths / Lost Ways. When going through the files an old DMMO application was found – plugging the gaps in BW B21 (Woodingdean), BW B7, BOAT B9 (Whiteways</li> </ul>	<p>Send Path Warden info</p>	<p>CH</p>	<p>ASAP</p>
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	<p>Lane). The order was not completed on a technicality. (SS) and (CH) visited the Keep and found old map evidence for these paths. This will be pursued.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rochester Street FP B43. Some residents of Rochester Street have expressed concern about this path due to anti-social behaviour / drug use in this locality. They have been advised that a PSPO would be the avenue to go down. Another resident in the area is concerned that the path remain open and free from obstruction.</li> </ul> <p>Actions taken so far: an illegal gate has been removed, path clearance works by CityParks and volunteers, maintenance on the steps (the resident was concerned that the steps were put in by a third party. However, the Council is satisfied that the steps are adequate for the environment and will not be taking action to remove them). The LAF members were in agreement with this course of action. (PJ) inspected the path from the Ramblers perspective and found it not suitable as an easy access trail due to the steepness at the eastern end.</p> <p>The resident was also concerned about items like planters placed along the path by residents. Under inspection these were found to be 'de minimis' (fractional) and not causing major obstruction to users.</p>			
<p><b>6. Rights of Way Improvement Plan (CH)</b></p>	<p>The ROWIP is to be taken to ETS Committee for final approval on 27<sup>th</sup> November. The outcome will be reported to the LAF via email.</p>	<p>Report on the outcome of ETS Committee</p>	<p>CH</p>	<p>End of November</p>
<p><b>7. Missing Links (DB)</b></p>	<p>(DB) was unable to attend the meeting, but sent an email update on the DMMO application for the Marina path. (DB) is currently collecting user evidence forms and hopes to submit the application</p>	<p>Submit DMMO application</p>	<p>DB</p>	<p>Nov / Dec</p>

	soon. (PJ) suggested putting a notice up on the path asking for people to fill out user evidence forms			
<b>8. Farming &amp; Access Issues (AB &amp; DL)</b>	This item to be deferred to the next meeting as Annie and Dave were unable to attend			
<b>9. AOB</b>	<p>(PJ) concerned that the path behind Roedean was mis-represented on the 2010 OS map. On closer inspection it seems a printing quirk due the footpath having the orange hash line of a permissive bridleway overlaid on it.</p> <p>(CH) a good source of online OS mapping is the DEFRA Magic Maps: <a href="https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx">https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx</a></p> <p>(MM) This meeting is the normal one to vote in the Chair. As no one has volunteered Maire has kindly offered to stand again for one final year and then feels that she should step down. Proposer (JF) and seconder (PJ)</p> <p>(AC) Emailed concerns over the gullying out and erosion on the Ditchling Rd cycle path – what lessons have been learnt? (CH) Also concerned about similar issues on the Falmer Road path – worse as there’s no edging and that path is narrowing due to vegetation encroachment. It is difficult as the SDNPA have specific standards about the type of surface used – stone finish rather than a sealed surface. The new bridleway being put in at Hove Golf is being constructed out of similar material, however, more drainage control measures are being implemented – gullies and soak away. It will be interesting to see if this gives the path more longevity. Highways are looking for funding to upgrade the surface of the Falmer Road path – this will be a good time to talk to SDNPA about the types of surfaces we could use that would be more hard wearing.</p>			

**10. Date of next meetings**

6pm at Hollingdean Depot:  
17<sup>th</sup> January 2019

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