

Local Access Forum Meeting - Minutes		Date: 26-11-2015
1. Attendees / introductions: Annie Brown (AB) Andrew Coleman (AC) Dave Brookshaw (DB) John Funnell (JF) Maire McQueeney (MM) Peter Jarman (PJ)	Richard Bradley (RB) Robert Walker (RB) David Larkin (DL) Chantelle Hoppé (CH) Corinna Edwards-Colledge (CEC) Abby Hone (AH) Tim Squire (TS) Geoff Cook (GK)	Apologies: Councillor Maggie Barradell Will Furze (WF)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Actions	Responsibility	Date by
2. Membership update	Voting in of the new Chair was led by RW. Welcome to Maire McQueeney to the role of Chair and thank you for taking on the responsibility. We will endeavour to provide the administrative support necessary to help facilitate the role.			
3. Minutes of last meeting, matters arising & actions	AW wished to update his list of interests in attendance to include 'access to the beach & watersports' Recruitment of new members is an outstanding action from the last meeting. Minutes from the meeting on 27-09-2015 were agreed	Include in membership details Email Healthwalk leaders	CH CEC	04/02/2016 Before next meeting
4. Reports on access projects from Sustainable Transport Team	AH reported on the various path improvement projects. Last meeting the question was raised re usage of Ditchling & Falmer Road new cycle paths. There is no budget for on-going monitoring, however, SDNPA have monitoring equipment. TS reported the electronic sensor on Falmer Road records pedestrian and cycling use and direction of travel. Usage was up by 9 x since the new surface was	Report on usage figures from Falmer Road multi-user path	TS	04/02/2016

	<p>put in. SDNPA plan to put a sensor in on Ditchling Road and may be able to find funding for Drove Rd in the future.</p> <p>AH reported that a new flexi-pave surface has been laid on Drove Road, and pre & post surveys were carried out. Most significant usage on weekdays – shows this is a significant commuter link. Survey figures include: 130 pedestrians up to 185, 75 cyclists up to 100 and 7 equestrians up to 10 (on a Thursday June – Nov)</p> <p>The new flexi-pave surface was put in with funding through SDNPA. Though it is expensive, it is very durable and permeable – helping with the severe drainage issues on this track. Continued monitoring of the TRO¹ enforcement on this BOAT² is on-going as excessive vehicle use will degrade the surface over time.</p> <p>During consultation Hollingbury residents requested more crossing points: Ditchling Road / Coldean Lane. Though this didn't happen through the Ditchling Rd project there is potential to revisit through the Stanmer Plan – creating better access. Possible funding opportunities through Local Enterprise Partnerships.</p> <p>DB has a list of suggested crossings. AH would like a copy so it can be added to the priorities list for the Transport Team</p> <p>AC requested information on the status of cycle paths –</p>	<p>Updates will be provided to the group as appropriate</p> <p>Send a copy of the suggested crossings to AH</p>	<p>AH</p> <p>DB</p>	<p>Ad-hoc</p> <p>Asap</p>
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	<p>should they be bridleways. CH informed that cycle paths occur on the List of Streets rather than the Definitive Map as a Public Rights of Way. TS also stated that the cycle path on Ditchling Road is within the limits of the highway, and as such has higher rights and cannot be subject to status as a PRoW. The Falmer Road cycle path is not part of the highway and this is being pursued as a bridleway claim.</p> <p>AC suggested regular updates on projects going on in the Sustainable Transport Team. AH let us know there is information on the Council website Transport pages: http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/parking-and-travel/travel-transport-and-road-safety/local-projects-and-documents</p>	Circulate link	CH	Contained in notes
<p>5. Currents News & Information Updates</p>	<p>5b) CH provided an update on Mapping projects. Missing Links information has been amalgamated into one spreadsheet and the outstanding routes mapped on GIS. It was suggested a separate working group meeting be set up to go through the information and see what can be progressed.</p> <p>All PRoW from the original 1995 Definitive Map are now on the Council Website Highways Map: http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/highway-search-information-map</p> <p>CH has created a working access map on ArcGIS. Permissive Paths, Open Access Land & traffic free cycle paths have been mapped. Mapping of assets (gates,</p>	<p>Send meeting request for January 2016</p> <p>Circulate link</p>	<p>CH</p> <p>CH</p>	<p>Dec 2015</p> <p>Contained in notes</p>

	5a) CH went through the rights of way maintenance work since the last LAF meeting in August. 13 issues resolved.	Update on maintenance tasks at next meeting	WF	04/02/2016
6. Intro to Natural England's Coastal Path Project	<p>GC from the Rambler's Association introduced Natural England's (NE) project to create one continuous coastal path around the country. It will have National Trail status (Acorn Symbols). The Rambler's are providing the on-ground surveying and liaising with Natural England, hoping to get the E. Sussex – Brighton & Hove section complete by Christmas 2015 (report to NE January 2016). The undercliff path was raised – will the path be on the cliff top or on the undercliff. Normally cliff top is preferred. However, the trail is actually a strip of open access land stretching from a boundary such as fence line to the low water mark. Therefore, if the cliff top path is chosen, the undercliff path will be encompassed in the 'spreading route'.</p> <p>Work on the E. Sussex and Brighton & Hove Section is due to start April 2016.</p> <p>GC contact details: geoffacook@gmail.com mob: 07891 928450</p>	<p>Updates to be provided</p> <p>Provide contact details in notes</p>	<p>GC to CH</p> <p>CH</p>	<p>Jan 2016 (end of survey period)</p> <p>Contained in notes</p>
7. AOB	<p>PJ (as Chair of Friends of Hollingbury & Burstead Woods) talked about the recent submission of one of four DMMO applications to the Council. This is largely to help protect the land, as proposals have been put forward to develop the area around the reservoir for urban fringe housing. AC suggested that the LAF consult on the Local Plan. TS let the group know that the consultation on the draft Local Plan for SDNPA has just come to a close. The document will not be finalised for a while.</p>	<p>Ask Planning Dept for an update on the Local Plan and circulate</p> <p>Keep updated on SDNPA Local Plan status</p>	<p>CH</p> <p>TS</p>	<p>Asap</p> <p>When it becomes available</p>

	<p>CEC talked about the proposed budget cuts in City Parks, in particular the suggested cut to 60% of the Ranger Team – reducing to 3 Rangers. RB explained that £68m has to be cut by 2020 and the cuts are happening across the Council. CEC pointed out the health benefits of our green spaces, the importance of keeping access open.</p> <p>A discussion about other ways income could be generated included approaching the NHS (as green spaces help reduce pressure on their service), parking fees from within parks.</p> <p>DB pointed out that cuts have already been made to this service as there used to be a Rights of Way Manager and a Rights of Way Officer. Good progress has been made on rights of way work over the last year, this momentum needs to not be lost.</p> <p>RB let the group know that a consultation is underway on the Council website – asking residents how they think the Council should spend the budget. https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/council-and-democracy/council-finance/current-council-budget</p> <p>CEC suggested the LAF writes a letter from the Chair to the Council, as a statutory advisory body. LAF needs to be active in lobbying locally, if not nationally (there is no national co-ordinating body for LAFs). However, the letter can be shared with other LAFs through Huddle.</p>	<p>Send information / data to MM</p> <p>Set up meeting to discuss letter content</p>	<p>CEC</p> <p>MM/CEC</p>	<p>asap</p>
<p>8. Date of next meeting</p>	<p>4th February 6pm, Hollingbury Depot</p>	<p>Make room arrangements</p>	<p>WF</p>	<p>Jan 2016</p>

Footnotes:

¹TRO = Traffic Regulation Order (in this case restricting vehicular access to this BOAT, except by permitted vehicles. Where permitted vehicles pass the surface has been made more durable)

²BOAT = Byway Open To All Traffic

³DMMO = Definitive Map Modification Order