

| Local Access Forum Meeting - Minutes  |  | Date: 06-07-2017   |
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| <b>Attendees</b><br>John Funnell (JF)<br>Luke Burstow (LB)<br>Maire McQueeney (MM)<br>Peter Jarman (PJ)<br>Dave Brookshaw (DB)<br>Ellie Cooper (EC) | Chantelle Hoppé (CH)<br>Stephanie Stammers (SS)<br>Will Furze (WF)<br>Fiona Le Garsmeur (FG) | <b>Apologies:</b><br>Annie Brown (AB)<br>Corinna Edwards Colledge (CEC)<br>Andrew Coleman (AC) |

| Agenda Item                       | Discussion   | Actions                    | Responsibility | Date by  |
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| <b>2. Membership</b>              | <p>Welcome to Ellie Cooper from Ride Horizons. EC attended the meeting to see if it was something that she and her colleague (Georgina Parkes) might be interested in attending as a regular member of the group. Their interests are in equestrian and carriage driving access. Since the meeting EC has said she would like to become a member. She and her colleague may share attendance at meetings to provide equestrian input.</p> <p>A warm welcome back to Dave Brookshaw. DB reminded us that his role has changed – he is no longer on the South Downs LAF. He is a member of the South Downs Society</p> <p>Annie Brown is now representative on the South Downs National Park LAF</p> | Change details of both     | CH             | complete |
| <b>3. Minutes of Last meeting</b> | <p>Outstanding Actions:<br/>           Arranging a Missing Links / Historic Paths meeting.</p> <p>Minutes Agreed</p>   | Set a meeting date in Sept | DB             | Sept     |



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|  | <p>discussion was to look at increasing opportunities for different users in the park – expanding options for walkers, cyclists, equestrians and disabled access.</p> <p>It was agreed that the gradient around the park makes the creation of easy access trails up into the woods difficult – unless you start at Upper Lodges. From Lower Lodges there will be the new Greenway Multi-User path leading through the basin of the park to the house and village. This should be suitable for people with various access needs.</p> <p>The (mostly) Fittleworth trail that circuits the path is currently a mixture of permissive footpath, permissive bridleway, PRow footpath and bridleway. If bridleway access was given for this entire way then there would be a leisure cycle, equestrian and walking circuit of the park (this would need to be agreed with ESCC). There would also need to be a path created from Lower Lodges that linked to the trail near Marquee Brow. The group agreed this was a sensible option – the trail is wide enough to accommodate multi-users</p> <p>FG talked about creating 3 to 4 circular themed trails around the park to appeal to various audiences. These could build on existing trails e.g. the Sarson Walk, B&amp;H Arch Soc. Walking routes. They could also include areas of interest – Heritage trail, Arboretum trail. Ideas and input from the LAF, with their experience and knowledge of the area would be much appreciated</p> <p>There is no authorised provision for adventure cycling in the woods at the moment – though there are prolific MTB single tracks. FG</p> | <p>Arrange site visit of the circuit (esp. Lower Lodges link)</p> <p>Contact LAF members to discuss routes</p> <p>Contact Brighton MTB for the</p> | <p>FG</p> <p>FG</p> <p>FG</p> | <p>Summer</p> <p>Summer</p> <p>Summer</p> |
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|  | <p>interested in creating specific areas for MTB trails e.g. the area up in Millbank Woods.</p> <p>LB – if you try to exclude MTB community from too much of the site without specific reasoning it may create more conflict and not resolve anything. FG – reasons for excluding cycle tracks from specific areas are ecological and archaeological sensitivity and the pressures of increased usage. This is a matter for education, signage as well as provision of specific routes / areas (JF – a monument has been dug into in the past – but this was 10yrs ago)</p> <p>FG – hoping for a collaborative approach, whereby routes are provided and users like Brighton MTB help maintain tracks.</p> <p>LB – this is already happening with the new bike hire facility that is going to be in the village. The owner has said he will donate time of his mechanic towards maintaining tracks.</p> <p>EC – equestrian issues mirror those of cyclists in the park. At the moment access is under the radar. Provision of a circular bridleway route will help immensely. Taking riders out in a guided way is a good way to educate. Problems: parking for horse boxes in the park (needs to be level, without height barriers) and the back road – which is a bridleway – the surface is too slippery for horses.</p> <p>EC also interested in provision of access to people with mobility issues – either carriage driving or being led in hand (Brighton Horse Driving trails used to use the park)</p> <p>DB – parking in the park is a priority as well as provision of toilet facilities and a regular bus service.</p> <p>FG – kiosk at Lower Lodges will provide facilities, including possible bike hub. New car park at Lower Lodges and in the middle of the</p> | <p>mapped routes of Stanmer</p> <p>Suggest site visit with Brighton MTB, Brighton Arch Soc &amp; Dave Larkin – when planning routes / areas</p> <p>Talk to EC about equestrian routes</p> | <p>FG</p> <p>FG</p> | <p>Summer</p> <p>Summer</p> |
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|  | <p>park. There will be a TRO to help enforce on unauthorised vehicles parking. B&amp;H buses are not willing to expand bus services until parking along the road is sorted out in the park – so something for the future. There will also be £25k funding for the first couple of years for a shuttle bus service to encourage users to leave cars in the car park at Lower Lodges.</p> <p>DB – have camping facilities been looked at given proximity to the South Downs Way?</p> <p>FG – only core activities are being looked at right now. However, there is funding for an estate manager and a ranger for the first few years. It is hoped they will be funded through income from the park and will look into various possibilities for income generation.</p> <p>PJ – signage around the park is going to be crucial for all these new trails, as well as information boards and maps (colour coded for different routes / users).</p> <p>LB – this needs to be weighed against keeping the park looking like a ‘natural’ environment and not too cluttered with signs</p> <p>FG – use of information boards and maps will help with the latter<br/><i>( Since the meeting Savills have contacted Cityparks &amp; SDNPA about groups of cyclists leaving gates propped open. Signage needs to state something along the lines: ‘Can the last person through please shut gates – this is a working farm’)</i></p> <p>LB – in terms of the circular route the bit that may need some surfacing works is between Upper Lodges Wood and Piddingworth – grassed surface.</p> <p>FG – SDNPA have said they might be able to provide some funding to improve the surfaces for increased cycle access</p> |  |  |  |
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|                               | <p>FG should have some provisional routes to report back to the group at the next meeting in October</p>   | Report on routes                                       | FG                  | Oct Meeting                  |
| <b>6. Information Updates</b> | <p><u>Maintenance &amp; Management report (CH):</u><br/> The majority of in-house maintenance has concentrated on fixing gates – as these are the most widely reported issues from users. From the survey it is clear that waymarking should also be a priority. Since the report was written 16 waymarks have been replaced around the Ovingdean Grange farm area. A contractor will be used to put in the fingerposts for PRow leading from the highway (statutory minimum for signage).</p> <p>Contractor works: surfacing of the cow crossing point along the easy access trail at Stanmer is complete. This was erroneously done by the contractors completely in concrete (instead of crushed stone). However, SDNPA have signed off on it as it is for agricultural purposes, it will be more hard wearing and over the winter it will get covered in mud and blend in more.</p> <p>Works outstanding:<br/> Stanmer Easy Access trail (FP B53) – surfacing around the vehicle barrier to help access by mobility vehicles<br/> Bevendean (BW B47) – surfacing under the equestrian gate to ease access for horse riders<br/> Whiteways Lane, Rottingdean (BW B8) – surfacing to fill in pot holes to ease access for wheelchair users to scout hut<br/> Bishopstone Drive, Saltdean (BW B5) – grade surface and add road stone to fill in deep gullies. This is an important access point to the Downs from Saltdean. The deep gullies are impeding access.</p> | <p>Installation of Signage</p> <p>Commission works</p> | <p>CH</p> <p>CH</p> | <p>October</p> <p>Summer</p> |

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|  | <p>Sheepcote Valley (BW B32) – drainage works to the bridleway to run water off into nature reserve</p> <p><u>Legal Update:</u></p> <p><b>DMMOs:</b><br/>Roedean application – has now gone to the planning inspectorate. PJ voiced concerns over the mis-information that was given at a LAF meeting in 2012 by the then Acting Ranger Manager (Garry Meyer), that the Council did not own that piece of land. SS was unaware of where this information would have come from as the land has been owned by the council for more than 80 years. CH apologised for the confusion, at the time there was no Rights of Way Officer. Now that post is filled it is hoped that mistakes like that would be minimised.</p> <p><b>The Twittens:</b><br/>The 500 urban footpaths have now been added to the Definitive Map</p> <p><b>Diversion Orders:</b><br/>There is an order in progress to divert five PRow that were clearly diverted on the ground when the condition survey of 2016 was carried out. Approval has been received by SDNPA, so the diversion order can go ahead</p> <p><b>New Defintive Map:</b><br/>A new definitive map for 2017 can now be printed up and kept at Stanmer and Hove Town Hall. Some work needs to be carried out to correctly label the urban footpaths due to scaling issues (the paths are small!)</p> <p><b>Mile Oak RB:</b><br/>Since the farmer rectified the gating issue on RB B16, another complaint has been received about FP P17. The farmer locks the</p> | <p>Awaiting PINs decision</p> <p>Progress order</p> <p>Label and print map</p> <p>Commision works by contractors</p> | <p>SS</p> <p>CH</p> <p>CH</p> | <p>Oct meeting</p> <p>Oct meeting</p> <p>Summer</p> |
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|        | <p>gate at night (as it provides vehicle access to the farm yard and buildings). There is a 2m gap to the side – however, the surface is uneven, and not wheel chair friendly in the way the track is. The surface will be made good around the side of the gate to ease access and allow for a secure farmyard at night.</p> <p><b>Coastal Path:</b><br/>Natural England are currently consulting with landowners, tenants and occupiers of premises along the coastal strip of the proposed route. Site visits to plan signage have been carried out. This section is planned to be opened 2018/19</p> <p><u>Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP):</u><br/>The ROWIP needs to be revised every 10 years. Currently at the stage of writing a first draft – that will go out for consultation internally.<br/>DB – important to link with LTP (Local Transport Plan) and ROWIP integration<br/>First draft for consultation with the LAF at the October meeting<br/>DB sits on B&amp;H Transport Partnership. Local cycling and walking infrastructure plan (Andy Renault) has been submitted to Dept for Transport. Its early days – requesting allocation of resources. The LAF will be consulted when any plans get fleshed out. Possible budget implications for PRow</p> | Write first draft of ROWIP to circulate                                     | CH           | Oct meeting       |
| 7. AOB | <p>JF – stile at Ovingdean Grange needs repairing – stone come loose</p> <p>PJ – TROs – would like the Ramblers to be consulted when minor roads get upgraded to major routes through development (as well as when restrictions get put on). Sometimes these quiet roads are important links in the PRow network</p>   | Scheduled in repair<br><br>Ask to have Ramblers added to list of consultees | CH<br><br>SS | 14/07<br><br>ASAP |



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|                                 | DB – for information: cliff top path at Telscombe Cliffs, through southern water site, is now open |                                     |    |      |
| <b>8. Date of next meetings</b> | 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2017, 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2018  | Update notes on the Council website | CH | ASAP |