

- Meeting: Leicestershire Local Access Forum
- Date/Time: Monday, 4 July 2016 at 5.30 pm
- Location: Guthlaxton Committee Room, County Hall, Glenfield.
- Contact: Mr. B. Holihead (Tel. 0116 305 6339)
 - Email: ben.holihead@leics.gov.uk

<u>Membership</u>

Mr. Terry Kirby (Chairman)

- Ms. V. Allen Ms. H. Brown Mrs. R. Camamile CC Mr. R. Denney Mr. C. Faircliffe Mr. M. Gamble Mr. A. Hillier-Fry
- Mr. J. Howells Mr. J. Law Mrs. A. Pyper Mr. B. Sutton Mr. P. Tame Mr. S. Warren

AGENDA

Item

- 1. Welcome by Chairperson and apologies received. 2. Minutes of the previous meeting. (Pages 3 - 6) 3. To advise of any items which the Chairperson has agreed to take as urgent. 4. Declarations of interest. 5. Reports from committees and working groups. (Page 7) a) Planning and Travel Committee (Roy Denney). b) Verges Committee (Vicky Allen). c) Network Opportunities Committee (John Law).
- 6. Reports from representatives on outside (Pages 8 9) bodies.
 - a) Heart of the Forest, Access and Connectivity Forum.

- b) Canals and Waterways.
- c) Parks, Open Spaces and the Countryside Group (Vicky Allen).
- d) National Forest Access & Recreation Group (Roy Denney).
- e) EMLAF Chairs meeting (Terry Kirby).
- f) Natural and Historic Environment Partnership (Roy Denney).
- g) Charnwood Forest Regional Park Steering Group (Vicky Allen).
- 7. Public Space Protection Orders and Officer Contact Update (Edwin McWilliam).
- 8. Unrecorded Ways.
- 9. Items of Correspondence.
 - a) Annual Review 2015/16
 - b) LAF Newsletter
 - c) Response to the Rail Strategy Consultation
 - d) Response to Bradgate Park Consultation
 - e) Response to Ashby Neighbourhood Plan Consultation
- 10. Website and Google Group.
- 11. Circulation List.
- 12. Accessing old submissions.
- 13. Orders update (Edwin McWilliam).
- 14. Any other items which the Chairperson has decided to take as urgent.
- 15. Dates of future meetings and diary for 2017. (Page 52)

(Pages 10 - 31)

(Pages 32 - 51)





Minutes of a meeting of the Leicestershire Local Access Forum held at County Hall, Glenfield on Wednesday, 27 April 2016.

PRESENT

Mr. T. Kirby (in the Chair)

Ms. V. Allen	Mr. M. Gamble
Ms. H. Brown	Mr. J. Howells
Mr. R. Denney	Mrs. A. Pyper
Mr. C. Faircliffe	Mr. S. Warren

20. Welcome by Chairperson and apologies received.

The Chairman welcomed those present and welcomed Helena Edwards who would be observing the meeting. Apologies had been received from Mr. J. Law, Mrs. R. Camamile CC, Mr. A. Hillier-Fry, and Mr. B. Sutton.

21. Election of Vice-Chair.

The Chairman invited nominations for the position of Vice-Chairman of the Leicestershire Local Access Forum for the period ending January 2017.

Mr Roy Denney was nominated for the position by Mr Chris Faircliffe and seconded by Mr Terry Kirby. There were no further nominations.

RESOLVED:

That Mr Roy Denney be elected Vice-Chairman of the Leicestershire Local Access Forum for the period ending January 2017.

22. Minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27 April were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

23. <u>To advise of any items which the Chairperson has agreed to take as urgent.</u>

The Chairman agreed to take one item as urgent to be considered elsewhere on the agenda.

24. Declarations of interest.

Members were invited to declare any interests in respect of items on the agenda.

No declarations were made.

25. <u>Walking and Cycling Investment Strategy.</u>

The Forum received an update from Lee Quincy on the recently published Walking and Cycling Investment Strategy. A copy of the Strategy, marked 'Agenda Item 6', is filed with these minutes.

Arising from discussion the following points were raised:-

- The Strategy set out the long-term Government ambition to 2040 to increase walking and cycling across the country with the key objective of making walking or cycling a natural choice for travellers;
- (ii). There would be £50 million for 'Bikeability' schemes across the country. The County Council had already received some of this funding to deliver levels 1-3 in schools. The Forum was advised that the scheme content was set at a national level, however if members felt that it would be useful to include sessions on footpath/shared space behaviour then this would be raised with the trainers;
- (iii). An access fund of £80 million would be allocated based on applications from local authorities, the application process for which would be opened later in 2016. At present £20 million was already available and the County Council had submitted a bid for £500,000 to build on the sustainable transport improvements already made in the Hinckley area. However in real terms the funding represented a significant cut in funding for local authorities;
- (iv). Some funding was available to contribute to walking and cycling from the Local Enterprise Partnerships, one of the key successes in this area being funding for the Hinckley Area Project. The key focus of the LEP at present was on economic growth in Coalville, the Leicestershire Urban Area, Loughborough, and South West Leicestershire. All highways improvements in these areas would include improvements to sustainable transport networks;
- (v). Consultation on the Cycling and Walking Strategy had opened on the 27 March and would close on the 23 May. However it was felt that the Local Access Forum had nothing further to add to its initial consultation response before the Strategy was published. It was intended that a final Strategy would be produced later in 2016;
- (vi). Members of the Forum expressed concern that narrow footpaths in rural areas meant it was difficult to encourage schoolchildren to walk or cycle to school. The Forum was advised that in the current financial climate the County Council could only bid for funding for highways improvements where it would potentially contribute to economic growth.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the draft Cycling and Walking Strategy be noted.

26. <u>Reports from committees and working groups.</u>

The Forum received an update from the committees and working groups. A copy of the updates, marked 'Agenda Item 8', are filed with these minutes.

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The Forum was shown a picture of the Rutland Choice Unlimited event including a stand on Dementia Friendly Walks. The Forum thanked John Law for the work he had put into the project.

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The BHS would be asked to provide training on Unrecorded Ways. This would require access to facilities with IT facilities to show a Powerpoint presentation.

RESOLVED:

That the updates from committees and working groups be noted.

27. Reports from representatives on outside bodies.

The Forum received an update from Forum members sitting on outside bodies. A copy of the updates, marked 'Agenda Item 8', were filed with these minutes.

The Chairman had attended the East Midlands LAF Chair meetings and a number of Forum's were facing similar issues.

RESOLVED:

That the updates from representatives on outside bodies be noted.

28. Open Access Update - Mountsorrel Site Visit

The Forum received an update from the members who had attended the Mountsorrel site visit.

It was felt that there was no clear access to the four open access sites on Mountsorrel, resulting in finding more access points than they were previously aware of. Sections of the paths and bridleways were not ideal for horseriders, and it was not clear whether one of the paths was still usable. It was felt that some signage would be beneficial. Vicky Allen agreed to be the lead on writing the report on the site visit.

There was one more major open access site to review, and members would also reconsider reviewing sites which had already been visited.

29. LLAF National Report.

The Forum received a copy of the Local Access Forum National Report. A copy of the report, marked 'Agenda Item 10', is filed with these minutes.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

30. Feedback from the National Conference (Terry Kirby and Stan Warren).

The Forum received feedback from Terry Kirby and Stan Warren on the LAF National Conference. The Forum was advised that if any members wished to have a PowerPoint presentation from the conference, they should contact Stan Warren.

It was felt that some groups had been confrontational, rather than trying to work together to achieve their aims. Although these groups had the right intentions to begin with, the approach had not been helpful to improving disabled access to rights of way.

It was hoped that the next conference would be held in one location with all Local Access Forum's.

31. Orders update (Edwin McWilliam).

The Forum received an update on the latest public path and modification orders. A copy of the report, marked 'Agenda Item 12', is filed with these minutes. Arising from discussion the following points were raised:-

- The diversions requested at the Staunton Harold Estate had been passed onto the Secretary of State for consideration due to the objections received to the diversions;
- Members expressed concern over bridleway accessibility next to the A453 and a stretch of the bridleway not having any fencing. Officers agreed to pass on these concerns;
- (iii). Network Rail had requested to make a number of changes to footpaths across Leicestershire, and it was likely that there would be changes in the Market Harborough area with the line speed improvements. There were a number of ongoing discussions with Network Rail generally regarding rights of ways affected by rail works and engineering.

RESOLVED:

That the orders update be noted.

32. <u>Correspondence sent and received since the previous meeting.</u>

The Forum received a copy of the correspondence sent and received since the previous meeting. It was noted that the Annual Review Form would need to be taken forward.

RESOLVED:

The Forum noted the correspondence sent and received since the previous meeting.

33. Date of next meeting.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Forum was scheduled to take place on Monday 4 July at 5.30pm at County Hall.

5.30 - 7.35 pm 27 April 2016 **CHAIRMAN**

PLANNING AND TRAVEL COMMITTEE REPORT (Chairman - Roy Denney)

Things are increasingly busy. We have advised the Broadnook Partnership on their plans for a major development near Rothley and have discussed them briefly with Charnwood Officers. The formal application is expected soon and it remains to be seen whether our concerns have been addressed.

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Three of us attended a consultation meeting about the revitalisation of Thurmaston in conjunction with developments of Watermead Park and made numerous suggestions about better access and linkage, promotion, advertising and visitor facilities. This will lead to a new long term local planning policy.

We continue to monitor the Network rail crossings situation and await developments re HS2. We have submitted our views into a new Railways Strategy for Leicestershire. Prospects for the Ivanhoe line are poor following a recent report on cost but we have again made the case for its use for light traffic i.e. trams. The authorities are anticipating working together more closely on such matters. The authorities in the county of Leicestershire are about to send in a formal request to Government for Combined Authority status. If approved one of the areas where they will work together strategically is transport.

We have also responded to a consultation on the Ashby de la Zouch neighbourhood plan and new 'byelaws' for Bradgate Park which it is proposed take the form of a series of Public Spaces Protection Orders.

We have fed our suggestions into North West Leicestershire DC district plan and await the next steps in this process

We have engaged with Blaby DC and the developers on the rights of way and open spaces elements of the Lubbesthorpe development and monitor developments.

On a more strategic front we are intending to circulate an updated planning advice to the planning authorities.

Network Opportunities (John Law)

Following the successful bid for dementia inclusive walk leader training, we are now getting feedback from districts in relation to the programme dates.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

NATIONAL FOREST ACCESS & RECREATION GROUP

The Chairman left the NFC when his term of office ended at the end of March coinciding with a change in status being in hand for the NFC. The company now has a new charitable status enabling them to qualify for new funding arrangements. They will remain under the umbrella of DEFRA and the three year funding agreement will remain, but a period of some uncertainty is unavoidable. Sir William Worsley is the new Chairman.

NFC is now working with Sport England with some new projects in mind and with a view to securing funding from them for a pilot project to encourage more physical activity and walking in particular.

The NFC has also starting a pilot scheme to provide volunteer rangers for the National Forest Way directly organised by the Company. An initial 26 volunteers had come forward. They have received appropriate training and will undertake survey work and possibly carry out small repair works / clearance etc.

The NFC have now formed a partnership with Forest Holidays who build and manage luxury cabins in ten forest locations around Great Britain and that company will encourage charitable donations to NFC with any bookings of cabins within this forest.

Roy Denney Representative

NATURAL & HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP / LOCAL NATURE PARTNERSHIP

It seems the NHEP is defunct as the County and the Districts are discussing different ways of working together. The LNP was one and the same group in a different role and still technically exists but there have been no meetings since our last meeting and it seems unlikely to meet in the near future. A large group of LNPs are engaged with DEFRA discussing the future of these bodies which cannot see a way forward without funding.

The only successful examples appear to be where major companies have sponsored them and taken an active role.

Roy Denney Representative

CHARNWOOD FOREST STEERING GROUP

The steering group agreed changes to the make up of the group with the creation of four working sub groups with the steering group sitting above them as the strategic body and John Howells and I are to attend the first meeting moving the group in that direction. This main group will now probably only meet twice a year and there will still be a stakeholders meeting annually. We hope for a role on the Environment Working Group and the Tourism Working Group which will include sport and recreation and John Howells and I may take one each, covering for each other.

The lead organisation for Tourism and Economy, will be Martin Peters of LeicesterShire Promotions, - Social and Historic, Julie Attard of Charnwood Roots, Environment, Michael Jeeves of LRWT, and Development, Sam Lattaway of the National Forest Company.

The other major issue to be discussed will be the appointment of a coordinator to prepare a new lottery bid.

Roy Denney Representative

Agenbacter Access Forum Annual Review Form April 2015 to March 2016

Name of LAF	Leicestershire Local Access Forum
Name of LAF Chair	Terry Kirby
Name of LAF Secretary	Ben Holihead

Total number of LAF members	14
Number of members representing users of public rights of way or access land	10
Number of members representing owners and occupiers of access land or land over which PROW subsist	4
Number of members representing other interests	

Number of full LAF meetings held	4	Number of sub-group meetings held	12
Number of working groups led by	3	Number of training days provided by	
others	3	the Appointing Authority	
How many km of PROW have been		How much funding did the LAF (or	£0.00
improved due to LAF input?		an associated body) raise?	£0.00
How many extra volunteer hours were committed to public access (not including			
LAF committee meetings)?			

Partners your LAF worked with during 2015/16 (click on a box or type 'x')

Local Nature Partnerships	Local Enterprise Partnerships	
Health and Wellbeing Boards	LEADER funding Local Action Groups	

LAF achievements/making a difference?¹ Please give examples to illustrate how your LAF has improved public access to land for the purpose of open air recreation and the enjoyment of the area. Do you think your LAF has made a difference to public access in your area via its discussions and actions?

What activity did your LAF undertake to help record historical PROW before 2026?

¹ These achievements form an important part of the national annual report that is submitted to Defra/Minister and help to promote the work and good practice of LAFs

Local Access Forum Annual Review Form April 2015 to March 2016

Please add numbers to the following differentiating between formal consultations and general advice given by the LAF on particular subjects. If a consultation covered more than one subject area, please count separately.

	Consultations	Advice	Optional Detail
Green Infrastructure strategies			·
Transport (LTP, traffic management, rail,			
DfT, Highways Agency)			
Water / Coast (slipways, flood defence,			
EA, shoreline)			
Public open space (public space			
protection orders			
Dog control/exclusion/on leads/fouling			
orders			
	1		
Planning applications /Housing	4	20	
development schemes Land use and planning matters (e.g.			
informal advice on land development)			
Local development frameworks and			
planning strategies			
PROW creation, diversion or closure -			
number of each			
Recording lost ways/historical rights - working towards the 2026 cut-off			
Right of Way Improvement Plan review			
Route improvements (to PROW and			
other multi-user/cycling/horse-			
riding/walking routes)			
Promotion of access, open air recreation			
and the enjoyment of the area			
Vehicular access and issues relating to			
motorised use of PROW			
Parish Council or other grant schemes			
Access for people with reduced mobility			
Commons, village greens			
Open Access land restrictions			
Coastal Access/National Trails			
NNR dedication			
Greenspace including Country Parks and			
Local Nature Reserves			
Nature conservation (including SSSIs)			
Agri-environment scheme issues (HLS			
and new Countryside Stewardship) e.g.			
expiring permissive access agreements,			
effects of land management options on public access etc.			
Forestry and woodland			
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Any other LAF activity (please specify):

Local Access Forum Afinual Review Form April 2015 to March 2016

What are your top priorities for the year ahead?

One of our top priorities for the year ahead will be to decide which of these are most likely to lead to a successful claim and justify the probable work needed to collect evidence and then to organise volunteers to work through the list. Ewe are pushing the boundaries of our remit in that we consider the adequate provision of public transport to be an essential part of access and we have engaged with bus companies and Network Rail, made comment in this regard on major planning applications and spoken on rights of ways issues at the National Infrastructure public hearing on the new regional freight interchange. We have also initiated and become heavily involved in walking facilities for the less able and dementia sufferers.

Do you foresee any issues or challenges that may affect your LAFs operation and/or its ability to deliver improvements to public access in the coming year?

The major challenge that will affect our ability to deliver improvements to public access will be finding enough volunteers to put in the leg work for research and the resources to cover the costs involved

We still at time find it hard to get some officers of the District Councils to approach us for input. Some do but we frequently have to initiate any approach and cannot always learn of issues early enough to give the consideration due. Those who we have engaged with have complemented us on our level of knowledge and expertise.

Is there any particular support or training that you need to deliver your priorities or work program for next year?

Summarise any feedback received from section 94(4) bodies²

Comments from the Appointing Authority

Comments from LAF Chair

² The Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000, Section 94(4) specifies that it is the function of a local access forum, as respects to the area for which it is established, to advise the appointing authority; the local highway authority; other bodies exercising functions under CROW Act Part 1 (Natural England, Forestry Commission and English Heritage) and such other bodies as may be prescribed. These other bodies are set out in the LAF Regulations 2007, paragraph 21, and include: any conservation board established by the Secretary of State, any parish or town council in the area covered by the LAF, and Sport England.

Local Access Forum Annual Review Form April 2015 to March 2016

Any other comments



LAF NEWS 2015/16

Welcome

Hello and welcome to issue 9 of the LAF newsletter – the first after the two national conferences in Leeds and Bristol and, I'd like to say straight away, how great it was to see so many LAFs and LAF members at the two events. I hope you found the talks and workshops as interesting and stimulating as I did and the article on the conferences in this edition summarises what went on.

In this edition we also have articles on: the effects of last winter's severe weather on access networks and possible new approaches to a changing climate and how a Heritage Lottery Fund project is helping to revitalise The Teesdale Way - once again highlighting the breadth and depth of interest and knowledge that resides within our forums.

From our side there is an update on the Coastal Access programme and there's also a reminder from Rob about completing your Annual Review Forms which do provide us and Defra with much useful information and help us keep in touch with what's going on throughout the LAF community.

So I hope you enjoy this issue but I'd like to make an early appeal for articles, or suggestions for articles, for the next edition since the more material there is from the forums the more that must reflect what LAFs consider newsworthy and informative. Issue 9

In this issue...

LAF conferences

Time to follow another path

River Tees rediscovered

Annual reporting

England Coast Path

Andy Mackintosh, Natural England

After an introduction by the conference Chairs (Matt Heard in Bristol and Liz Newton in Leeds), both conferences kicked off with a Defra presentation on the Deregulation Act, Rights of Way Reform Package. These presentations

were delivered by

LAF News

National LAF conferences

After consulting LAFs via an online survey, Natural England organised 2 national LAF conferences for 2015/16 in Bristol and Leeds. The Bristol 'South' conference was held on Tuesday 23rd February 2016 at Natural England's Bristol office and the Leeds 'North' conference was held on 1st March 2016 at the Oxford Place Centre. All LAFs were asked to nominate a representative to attend a conference (in addition to members doing talks or running workshops).

In the online consultation we invited LAF members to suggest the topics of most interest to them and this resulted in a programme with a range of speakers and workshop facilitators from the LAFs, Defra and from other organisations with an interest in public access.

Presentations



Jonathan Tweney - Defra presentation, Bristol

Jonathan Tweney in Bristol and Bryony Thorpe in Leeds. The talks included an overview of the progress of the Deregulation Act and information about the changes to the Definitive Map Modification Order process and regulations along with a lively Q&A session at the end.

Again at both conferences the second talk of the day to all delegates was by John Cuthbertson, Vice Chairman & Rambles Organiser for the Disabled Ramblers who spoke about the various barriers on the rights of way network which are encountered by the disabled. The presentation included many photographs and some videos of the use of 'Trampers' which some disabled ramblers are able to use to better get around in the countryside and John kindly brought a 'Tramper' along to both of the conferences for delegates to see in the flesh.

John writes:

"The Disabled Ramblers helps the less mobile regain access to

Links

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Links

LAF News

the countryside. To do this they have had to campaign for the removal of man-made barriers. While they have had some success with this, the disabled now find themselves thwarted by replacements which are just as effective in limiting the paths they can use; often



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John Cuthbertson - Disabled Ramblers presentation, Bristol

due to the perception that the disabled wouldn't be able to or wouldn't want to go there."

After lunch, the first presentation in Bristol was by Nicola Greenwood, Access and Bridleways Officer, Wokingham who spoke about how stakeholders could try and influence their local authorities in order to try and improve their off-road networks, in this case, bridleways. Nicola gave a number of tips and steps to take to try and deliver new and improve existing rights of way.

The post-lunchtime presentation in Leeds was by Anthony Francis-Jones, British Horse Society Access Officer for Telford and Wrekin, and Telford and Wrekin Local Access Forum's Chairman who focused on what can be achieved in an urban/semi urban area.

Anthony writes:

"My talk was a brief overview of what came to be achieved in an urban area by working closely with the local (highway) authority. The presentation explained successful methods to create multiuser routes and bridleways as well as how to reduce the backlog of Definitive Map Modification Orders. A case study in Telford, Shropshire was used as an example."

In Leeds this was followed by a talk from Sue Taylor-Green from the British Horse Society and Ulnes Walton Bridleways Association on creating new peri-urban multi-user routes/bridleways. The presentation gave guidance and good practice on how the association managed to develop the bridleway network in their area.

Sue writes:

"The presentation was about the development of Ulnes Walton Bridleways Association (UWBA) and its work with the local council and various funding bodies, both to overcome an initial 'horse

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hostility' attitude and to gain alternative finance to create new routes."

At both conferences, the final main presentation of the day was delivered by John Dennis who gave examples to try and inspire LAFs to investigate potentially alternative sources of funding for their access projects including active living and other sports related examples.

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Workshops

John Richardson and Alan Kind from LARA (Land Access and Recreation Association) delivered a workshop on the use of



John Richardson and Phil Wadey, Bristol

recreational vehicles on the rights of way network at both conferences. The workshop focussed on the rapidly evolving influence of social media, and its impact on communication and behaviours, with relation to recreational vehicle use.

Also at both conferences, Phil Wadey and Sarah Bucks from the Open Spaces Society ran a workshop regarding the need to get paths recorded accurately on the definitive map of rights of way by 2026.

Dementia Adventure delivered a workshop at both conferences (Rachel Niblock in Bristol and Kath Pyke in Leeds) looking at the benefits of dementia inclusive walks.

Kath writes:

"The workshops looked at the benefits and discussed how to take the fear out of supporting people living with dementia to go for a walk; drawing on the success of dementia inclusive walk programmes from around the country including a LAF project in Lincolnshire".

The final workshop held at both conferences was from Peter McKay from Herefordshire LAF which discussed the topic of registering white roads to help increase the awareness of the legislation. **Dementia Adventure**

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LAF@naturalengland.org.uk

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At the Bristol conference, Bekki Redshaw and Keeley Rolfe from respectively Dartmoor and Exmoor National Parks ran a workshop on Devon's Naturally Healthy Project.

Also just at the Bristol conference, Seamus Elliott and Martin Sullivan from Norfolk LAF ran a workshop on setting up a Charitable Incorporated Organisation which have the potential to raise funding for Rights of Way Improvement Plan projects and other outdoor access.

The final Bristol only workshop was delivered by Richard Holmes from Gloucestershire LAF looking at the subject of disability access and the experiences of the Gloucestershire Disability Access sub-group.



Jane Beech and Richard Holmes, Bristol

Richard writes:

"The workshop aimed to build on the LAF Toolkit (Disability Access) and to share achievable and practical ideas to enable LAFs to improve access for people with disabilities."

For the workshops only held in Leeds, Audrey Christie, Durham County Council; Geoff Hughes, Durham LAF and Jim Philips from Ethos Enviro Planning ran one looking at access prioritisation, a strategic approach to managing local paths in County Durham.

Also just at the Leeds conference, Ted Liddle from Northumberland LAF lead a workshop on how the mountain biking route the Sandstone Way was created and developed

Another Leeds only workshop was ran by John Sugden from Redcar & Cleveland LAF on the subject of whether it's really trespass to ride or cycle on a footpath.

Mary Mills and Brian Cluff from Nottinghamshire LAF also ran a workshop in Leeds on Nottinghamshire Guided Walks Partnership and their programme of walks.

In addition to the talks and workshops there was a final session in the conference main rooms led by the conference Chairs: in Bristol this comprised of a workshop roundup where all the workshop leads gave a brief overview of what was covered at their Links

Naturally Healthy

Sandstone Way

Nottinghamshire Guided Walks

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workshops; in Leeds there was a Q&A session where delegates were able to ask questions of the various speakers and Natural England.

Many thanks to all of the speakers and workshop leads who kindly gave their time and brought their expertise and enthusiasm to both of the LAF conferences.

Feedback

130 delegates in total attended the conferences with representatives from 72% of the LAFs.

Feedback forms were produced and circulated to the delegates of both conferences and from them 96% reported that the content did meet their expectations (4% reported neither yes or no).

Additionally 96% reported on the feedback forms that they were either very satisfied or satisfied with the conference organisation with 4% saying they were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied

The lively discussions within the workshops and informally in the margins of the conferences, along with positive feedback from delegates, clearly demonstrated that the events were worthwhile and appreciated.

For more information about both of the conferences including all of the presentations used, notes collected, statistics, feedback and audio recordings, please follow the link to the right:

Time to follow another path?

By Ian Jackson, geologist and member of the Northumberland Joint Local Access Forum

The consequences of this winter's flooding for people of northern England have been devastating. Water and debris from overflowing rivers and streams have wrecked homes and businesses. Major road and rail transport links have been severed and will take months and millions to repair. But in this largely rural landscape there is another casualty.

For sure it's not one with such an awful personal cost, but as spring and summer follow winter, it is one that will affect many of us who take our time-out in the countryside. Across all the northern counties paths and bridges have been swept away by water and landslides.

In Northumberland the storms of December have caused

LAF Conferences

Links

Article originally published on the Northumberland National Park website

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significant damage; over 34 rights of way are at best interrupted and at worst impassable.

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Allen banks bridge damaged in the flooding

The cost of repair of this winter's destruction is estimated to be almost half a million pounds, far exceeding budgets the Council and the National Park set aside for dealing with their existing (and long) list of paths needing maintenance. The loss of local amenity is bad enough but the economies of these northern rural counties depend on tourism, and access to the countryside is, fundamentally, why the tourists come.



Access interupted due to a damaged bridge in the Northumberland National Park

As with the response to damage to buildings and transport in northern England, there has been no crying over spilt milk. A shortlived period of shock has quickly been followed by stoic, down to earth and practical action. Paths have been walked, damage has been surveyed, repairs are being costed and bids for emergency funding made to central government. In the months ahead Council and Park personnel, reinforced by volunteers, will start to prioritise and mend the damage. It will however take a long time and in some cases decisions may be taken that maintaining a particular

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route is no longer tenable.

This begs a more fundamental question, one which is taxing the minds of Rights of Way professionals and those who advise them in local and national bodies. That guestion is: if these extreme weather events are, as predicted, likely to become more common, then do we need to recognise that some of the paths we have come to know and love may no longer be sustainable?

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It is obvious that the nation cannot afford to waste money on restoration schemes that may be washed away in the next storm. The bottom line is that our future strategies for access to the countryside must now also consider alternative routes as well as protection and repair. Our Rights of Way may be much less high profile than disappearing ice caps and glaciers but this winter shows that they are no less vulnerable to a climate which is changing.

River Tees Rediscovered

By Beryl Bird, Tees Valley Local Access Forum Development Officer



River Tees in Darlington Borough

The Teesdale Way is a 92 mile walking trail, rising in Cumbria to the west and from Cow Green Reservoir in Upper Teesdale through County Durham and Teesside to the North Sea coast at Warrenby in Redcar. For much of the trail it follows the River Tees.

The development and promotion of the Teesdale

Way is a key component of River Tees Rediscovered; a £3.7m programme supported under the Heritage Lottery Fund's Landscape Partnership Programme. The programme is managed by Groundwork North East in conjunction with the Local Authorities of Darlington, Stockton on Tees, Middlesbrough, Hartlepool and Redcar & Cleveland, and several other project partners. The Tees Valley Local Access Forum is also contributing to this work which began in earnest in 2014.

The Teesdale Way and Heritage Trails Project will deliver improved signage, surfacing and path furniture on the Teesdale Way and along a series of linked countryside and urban trails. The project will also help to interpret and celebrate the fascinating local industrial and natural heritage of the area, and promote the Teesdale Way to local residents and visitors.

The vision for the wider River Tees Rediscovered programme is impressive:



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Northumberland Joint Local Access Forum

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Re-surfacing work in Darlington Borough on the Teesdale Way

and interpret the area's heritage, and provide opportunities for people to get actively involved.

Graham Clingan, Greenspace Strategy & Partnership Manager at Stockton on Tees Borough Council brought the TVLAF AGM in March 2016 up-to-date with improvements along each section of the route as it passes through each Local Authority area; from the open scenic views through Darlington through to industrialised Permissive footpath near Middlesbrough and Redcar.

to alter how the hundreds of thousands of people who live by the Tees from rural Piercebridge, near Darlington to the steelworks at Redcar, interact with the river.

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The River Tees Rediscovered programme runs over 5 years. A diverse range of projects is being delivered, including schemes which will conserve and enhance natural environment and heritage features, improve public access to nature and heritage, celebrate



Middlesbrough FC training ground

In Darlington a new permissive footpath has been created at the Middlesbrough Football Club's training ground at Rockcliffe, linking



Princess Diana Bridge at Stockton on Tees

the riverside path to the existing RoW network; in addition some 550 metres of footpath have been re-surfaced at Carlbury and Broken Scar. Future plans include new finger posts with the agreed livery of a Teesdale Way Dipper, 25 new gates or kissing gates and three sections of new boardwalk.

At Stockton on Tees new kissing gates, signage and boardwalks have been installed on sections of the Teesdale Way near Yarm and

Aislaby, and the route taken from the Princess Diana Bridge to the Tees Barrage now boasts LED lighting. Planned works include new boardwalks at Newsham Wood and Newsham Park.

Two major projects have been completed within Redcar and Cleveland Borough; the steel footbridge at the Wilton Steel Works (costing £100K) crossing the main east coast railway line safely, and could not have been achieved without considerable financial assistance from the Coastal Communities Fund and Tata Steel. This is an example



Wilton Steel Works – new Tata Steel Bridge on Teesdale Way in Redcar and Cleveland Borough

Links

Contact us

of the joined up thinking that has that has led to the enormous improvements in public access to and beside the river.

The regular flooding that has taken place at Dabholm Beck in



Redcar has also been addressed with the dredging of the beck at this point by the Environment Agency.

In total more than 20 Heritage Trails are to be developed linking into the Teesdale Way. The route also links onto the England Coast Path at the Newport Bridge on the Stockton/ Middlesbrough boundary. Plans are also being developed to extend the Coast Path northwards from Newport Bridge and the Transporter Bridge towards Hartlepool, again with support through the River Tees Rediscovered

New stepped path down to the River Tees

s programme.

At Middlesbrough re-surfacing works have taken place between the riverside Teesauraus Park and the iconic Newport Bridge, and more than 20 new Teesdale Way Dipper signposts/waymarks will be installed, as the route passes through Middlesbrough, in the next few weeks.

Naturally the Forum members were delighted with progress, some having actively played a part in the initial bid, and others having help devise the most appropriate route for the walks already underway. But the project is a long way from completion and much good work will continue, to share the story of the River Tees with the people of Tees Valley.



Teesdale Way Dipper Sign

LAF Annual reporting for 2015-16

The new annual reporting process and Annual Review Form (ARF) to cover the financial year April 2015 to March 2016 was circulated to all of the LAF Secretaries on the 26th April and was also uploaded to the LAF Huddle workspace on the same day. This year's deadline for submitting either a completed ARF, annual report, or both to Natural England is 31st July.

Please encourage your LAF to submit an Annual Review Form as the more LAFs do this, the stronger the resulting national report will be that is submitted to Defra and the Minister in order to help demonstrate the value of LAFs and their work.

England Coast Path update

By Sue Shipston, Natural England

Natural England is currently establishing a 2,700 mile continuous path around the entire English coastline by 2020. Work is already under way on more than half the path.

In March some of Somerset's most spectacular coastline opened to the public for the first time – 58 miles of new and improved coast

Huddle specific links

Links

Annual Review Form 2015 - 16

Previous National LAF Annual Reports

Contact us

LAF@naturalengland.org.uk

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path from Brean Down to Minehead. The longest section to be added to the national route so far was opened by Natural England's Chairman, Andrew Sells, at a ceremony in Doniford.

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A further 134 miles of new routes are due to open in Kent and North Yorkshire this summer.

Neil Constable ECP Programme Manager said:

"The 'Somerset' stretch of the England Coast Path has been challenging and satisfying in almost equal measure. As the first 'long' stretch to be taken on, it presented a host of interesting features: the 9 km of Brean Sands, the realignment at Steart to create more than 400 hectares of new wetland habitat, preparation and planning for Hinkley C, and even a steam railway to name but a few - all topped off with the second highest tidal range in the world.

The satisfaction comes from literally plotting a way through a remarkable and varied length of coast so that it does not impact on business, privacy or wildlife but does establish a genuine coastal footpath. Needless to say this takes time. We worked with nearly 300 owners and occupiers to draw up the proposals which come to fruition today and which will see a true coast path from Brean Down near Weston all the way to Minehead, including some five miles of new route where existing paths have historically turned inland."

In Doniford, as part of the new route, a 15-metre footbridge has been built over the river Swill. For the first time, this provides an easy-access walking route between the two sides of the village, allowing those staying at several nearby caravan sites to walk safely to Doniford Farm shop and café, the nearby halt for the West Somerset Railway or onwards down the coast. It is also the first time such a major piece of infrastructure has been built for the England Coast Path.



Burnham-on-Sea Low lighthouse © Sarah Littler

Walkers can enjoy several new sections of path between Watchet and East Quantoxhead, which opens up spectacular new views over the Bristol Channel. Somerset Wildlife Trust has also provided seven new interpretation boards along the stretch, to reveal more about the stunning wildlife and landscape features that walkers will be able to see and enjoy along 'Somerset's brilliant coast.'

This new access joins existing coastal footpaths to create a stretch of high-quality, well-signposted coastal National Trail. Natural England consulted local landowners, businesses and local people, working closely with Somerset County Council to plan and create the route.

Find out more about the England Coast Path

The eight Natural England delivery teams around the country work closely with local authorities, land owners and occupiers, communities, interest groups and others to ensure the best and most appropriate alignment for the new coast path.

Contact us

LAF@naturalengland.org.uk

Links

You can see what our teams are working on and check the latest progress in your area on $\underline{\text{GOV.UK}}$

Or contact your local delivery hub:

North West

<u>West</u>

South West

South

South East

Essex

East

North East

Links

Contact us

LAF@naturalengland.org.uk

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To LandLRailStrategy@leics.gov.uk

Members of the Leicestershire Local Access Forum remain to be convinced of the benefits or economic viability of the proposed high speed routes. HS2 will be of little use to most of Leicestershire when travelling south and we must press that accommodating HS2 does not extend journey times between Leicestershire and London. The business case for HS2 included over £8 billion in savings from existing services, which implies substantial deteriorations in services to London. There is a need for more capacity and better connectivity and whilst HS2 does add to rail capacity, it would appear that there are much less costly and environmentally damaging ways of doing so. Lower speed and more integrated new routes would be cheaper as such routes could go round sensitive and expensive barriers.

If we accept that the decision is made and it is to go ahead this strategy must include improvements to reduce the adverse impacts of HS2

With talk of a Northern Power House we need to be able to travel direct to Manchester if Leicestershire businesses are not to lose out. If we are to gain from HS2 going north we should have a local rail link to Toton. There was a direct route to Manchester via the Hope Valley route during the improvements to the West Coast Route and it worked fine. There were other east west routes used in the past which could be reconsidered and re-activated / upgraded e.g. the Loughborough – Liverpool direct route. This latter route may well have originated in Leicester and could probably also provide a route through to Manchester.

We feel the principal aim should be he aim should be for the residents of the three East Midlands cities to be able to reach Birmingham in 30 minutes or less and London, Manchester and Liverpool in an hour. Freight should be a high priority if only to get such movements off the roads and major developments of freight depots should link into the stated government strategy of preferring development on old railway land, or adjacent to railway stations.

Local services going west are poor. Ashby is a busy and sizeable community and its Ashby Park and Ivanhoe Business Park commercial complexes have been expanding. Coalville is also a large community and it seems essential that they should be linked to Leicester by a rail or light tram system. We should press for the introduction of passenger traffic on the Ivanhoe / National Forest Line, running from the Midland Main Line just south of Leicester to Burton via Coalville and Ashby. It has been estimated that to upgrade the track to full passenger service standards might cost £175M but it would cost comparatively little to upgrade signalling and points for light passenger traffic by tram. There are speed restrictions for heavy freight movements due to subsidence, but light tram type traffic should be able to travel at speeds making them a viable alternative to road use. In addition better transport links out into the developing National Forest Area would encourage more people from the urban areas to visit the recreational sites improving their health and general well being and boosting local rural economies. There is likely to be a need for subsidy in the early years but the history of the Robin Hood line suggests that the line would cover its operational costs within a few years and when you take into account the cost to the economy of the road traffic delays and bear in mind road maintenance costs, the subsidy required in the first few years to make this sustainable are justified. The reintroduction of passenger services would make an important contribution to a reduction in motor vehicle usage. Halts could be put in at several points with ticket purchase machines and a service very like the Manchester tram network could take thousands of commuters and shoppers of the roads. It might even be possible to have this service terminate at Knighton and have some London bound trains stop there to give connectivity going south although this would add considerably to the cost. Knighton in its present configuration does not lend itself to a halt and station but the costs could well prove a good investment in the long term.

The link going east needs improvement. When the Midland Main Line is electrified, the Birmingham - Stansted route will be a line linking with electrified lines at Birmingham, Nuneaton, Leicester, Peterborough, Ely and Stansted Airport, so should itself be electrified. It could perhaps be an EM Airport-Stansted link for passengers and possibly freight and might also provide a way into the west end of the Northern Powerhouse. Some time ago a plan was discussed to develop it as a freight alternative to road between Harwich/Felixstowe and the NW ports for Ireland. At the same time the passenger service could be doubled to hourly and line speeds significantly increased. This more ambitious plan should not be discounted as it would provide a SE-NW line to balance the Newcastle-Bristol NE-SW route.

Certainly with any upgrade of existing lines the strategy should include the possible re-opening of closed stations and / or the provision of new stations where substantial development has taken place in the vicinity.

Alterations to public rights of way are inevitable but the integrity of the network of such routes must be maintained by bridges, underpasses or realistic re-routing

Terry Kirby, Chairman, Leicestershire Local Access Forum, c/o Room 700, County Hall, Leicester, LE3 8RJ (www.leics.gov.uk/laf) Telephone - County Hall 0116 305 7086

The Leicestershire Local Access Forum (LAF) is an independent statutory body, set up as a result of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW) 2000, and exists to represent the interests of everyone concerned with access to the countryside and the public rights of way network including footpaths, bridleways and byways, cycleways and areas of open access.

Section 94 of the CROW act makes it a statutory function of the forum to give advice to a range of bodies, including local authorities, on access issues in respect of land use planning matters. The Secretary of State advised that in particular forums were to focus on the impact and options for minimising possible adverse effects of planning policies and development proposals, in respect of future public access to land. Forums are tasked with identifying and expressing support for opportunities to improve public access, or associated infrastructure, which might be delivered through planning policies or new developments.



The LLAF is an independent statutory body, set up as a result of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW) 2000, and exists to represent the interests of everyone concerned with access to the countryside and the public rights of way network including footpaths, bridleways and byways, cycleways and areas of open access. As such we have studied the proposals and will make some general observations and cover each of the orders as requested.

One thing which is not entirely clear is whether these will replace the byelaws or support them. If the latter there are elements of the byelaws which do not appear to be covered i.e. in the first order, the removal of water from the river.

In general terms are Swithland Woods and Bradgate Park as biologically diverse and vibrant as they should be and could the PSPO be framed to address the causes of the apparent decline. Also do the PSPOs as worded, adequately make it clear the wide range of activities that are not wanted on the Estate, whilst retaining latitude to go after activities not yet considered. A list of specifics would make it easier for the rangers to act against at least the most common forms of bad behaviour.

DODO4 No visites their activity on activity devided disturb	
PSPO1 - No visitor, their activity or pet should disturb,	
remove, dig out, cause injury to any wildlife (including the	
introduction of wildlife species to sites without express	
permission of the appropriate authorities), Bradgate Park	
deer or damage to any heritage or landscape feature. It	
expressively forbidden for any unauthorised person to feed	
or induce, or attempt to induce any deer to consume any	
article	
PSPO2 - No visitor shall engage in activities which are likely	
to cause nuisance, annoyance, harassment, damage, alarm	
or distress to other Estate users, visitors and staff. Including,	
but not limited to use of firearms, fireworks, barbecues or	
fires, verbal abuse, disorderly/offensive behaviour, damage	
to property and features including graffiti or vandalism,	
trespass to non-public areas and buildings, nuisance from	
motorised toys (including drones and model aircraft), drug	
(including legal highs) or alcohol related activity, violence or	
threat of violence / intimidation.	
PSPO3 - Traversing and riding with horses (or similar	
animals), any cycle or mechanically propelled vehicle in an	
unlawful and/or an anti social manner is not permitted. Every	
consideration should be given to all visitors and be	
undertaken safely considering other users, so as to not to	
cause annoyance or risk of injury. All activities, where	
permitted, must be on designated routes only and not occur	
across the wider open spaces. No unauthorised person	
should enter any area where the public is specifically	
excluded.	
PSPO4 - All litter should be disposed of in the general waste	
bins. All dog waste bags should be disposed of in the	
general waste bins. It is an offence to litter. No fly-tipping or	
fly-posting is permitted across any of the Estate.	
PSPO5 - Obligations on persons with dogs:	Whole concept of Lead Zones looks too complex - we
(Part i) Fouling If a dog defecates at any time on land to	would have thought a blanket 'dogs on leads at all times
which this order applies across the entire Estate a person	would be simpler and more enforceable. We do not believe
who is in charge of the dog at the time must remove the	a dog will respond to call from its owner under all
faeces from the land forthwith unless (a) they have a	circumstances, especially where livestock and other dogs
reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or (b) the owner,	are the counter-attraction.
occupier or other person or authority having control of the	
land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to	A lot of people dog walk early in the morning. It would be simpler
do so.	to have this operating throughout the 24hrs. Possibly consider
(Part ii) Leads by order A person in charge of a dog on	having a rule that dogs must be on leads on Sats, Suns and
land to which this order applies must comply with a direction	Bank Holidays
given to him by an authorised officer of the Trust to put and	

keep the dog on a lead across the entire Estate unless (a) they have a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so. An authorised officer may only give a direction under this order if such restraint is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog that is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, or to a bird or another animal. (Part iii)Leads Required Seasonal Zone A person in charge of a dog on land detailed in Schedule 1 below must keep the dog on a lead unless (a) they have a reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so. This seasonal zone will be enforced from Good Friday or April 1st (which ever is sooner) and run until October 31st between the hours of 9am and Dusk. (Part iv) Exclusion A person in charge of a dog must not take it into the protected Deer Sanctuary areas and wildlife protection zones which are signed at entrance(s) as a "dog exclusion area" (whether the sign uses those particular words or words and/or symbols having like effect) unless (a) he has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or (b) the owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so.	
PSPO6 - No unauthorised person should enter any area where the public is specifically excluded. Specifically no person should enter any water body to swim.	These must be clearly but unobtrusively marked which will be a challenge.
	We think that the word 'swim' is too prescriptive - the old term 'bathing' would seem more appropriate, or just prohibit any entry to water. Presumably you are referring to people swimming in the ponds, if you impose no entry into the water, you will also spoil any recreation for children who paddle or look for water creatures in the river/stream which should cause no harm to the park or deer
PSPO7 - No person shall camp, or stay upon any area of the Estate overnight.	
PSPO8 - No show, event or exhibition, or activity for	
commercial gain can be undertaken across the Estate without prior consent of the Trust.	

Terry Kirby, Chairman, Leicestershire Local Access Forum, c/o Room 700, County Hall, Leicester, LE3 8RJ (<u>www.leics.gov.uk/laf</u>) Telephone - County Hall 0116 305 7086 Ashby de la Zouch Town Council, Legion House, South Street, Ashby de la Zouch, LE65 1BQ

Neighbourhood Plan

The Leicestershire Local Access Forum has advised numerous authorities on their plans and members have studied the draft plan you are consulting on at present. The LLAF is an independent statutory body, set up as a result of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW) 2000, and exists to represent the interests of everyone concerned with access to the countryside and the public rights of way network including footpaths, bridleways and byways, cycleways and areas of open access.

Section 94 of the CROW act makes it a statutory function of the forum to give advice to a range of bodies, including local authorities, on access issues in respect of land use planning matters. The Secretary of State advised that in particular forums were to focus on the impact and options for minimising possible adverse effects of planning policies and development proposals, in respect of future public access to land. Forums are tasked with identifying and expressing support for opportunities to improve public access, or associated infrastructure, which might be delivered through planning policies or new developments.

We would first make some general observations.

When looking at open spaces, grass pitches for Rugby, Hockey, Soccer, and Cricket etc. can often provide green space which can be enjoyed for general recreation when not in use for their primary function. Allotments, golf courses and school playing fields can offer wildlife oases and improve the visual aspect from nearby paths or indeed paths crossing them. Similarly cemeteries and graveyards can provide pleasant environments for taking quiet relaxation and as such open space as such needs to be viewed in all its entireties.

From our experience informal natural and semi natural green spaces serve the needs of more of the population than organised parks and of course cost far less to maintain. To enjoy these there must be an adequate network of paths and cycleways and many paths themselves provide linear open access land especially when fringed by natural growth. Some of the routes within Ashby should be considered accessible public open space in their own right. Green spaces of whatever designation also help to provide wildlife corridors improving the general biodiversity in the area.

Improving the rights of way network to ensure that there are appropriate linkages between key open space sites and settlements in the district would improve access and promote more sustainable forms of transport. You cannot create new land and the only privately owned land which might become available as amenity land invariably only happens as part of a large development which itself usually means a loss of farmland. The best way to get more benefit from what is already there is to improve access and links and to an extent, public transport.

By and large we find your plan as regards the matters within our remit excellent but we would make a few small specific observations.

On page 52, e) Promoting Walking and Cycling

We feel the clause "There is some evidence that more people are increasingly taking up cycling and walking for leisure and other purposes" undersells the situation and would offer you an alternate wording for this piece.

Cycling and walking provide great potential to reduce reliance on the car for trips. The Plan area is relatively compact and has a reasonable network of footpaths, footways and cycle ways and consultations have shown these are highly prized and cherished by residents, who wish to see them protected and, wherever possible, enhanced. People are increasingly taking up walking and riding cycles and horses for leisure and other purposes. The bridleway network is disjointed and wherever possible and there are suitable surfaces we would suggest that cycleways should be made available for horse use.

Similarly and on the same page under COMMUNITY ACTION T1 we would suggest an expanded form of words.

In line with the County council's ROWIP (rights of way improvement plan) the Town Council will actively seek to work with the County Council, District Council and other relevant agencies to encourage opportunities to secure improvements in the present network of footpaths and cycleways, including through developer contributions

On page 54 under g) Public Transport we are pleased to see the acknowledgement of the inadequacy of present arrangements and wonder whether this section could be beefed up. Regarding bus services, the provision is largely confined to the Burton, Swadlincote, Ashby, Coalville, Leicester direction, plus town services. The link to the south-west has just been cut by terminating Service 7 at Measham, where it was previously at least a link to Atherstone and Nuneaton. The service to Loughborough just survives, but must be under threat. In the past Ashby was on a Birmingham - Tamworth - Ashby - Nottingham regular service, but this routing is now totally impossible. With the increase in use of EMA and the associated business parks, and the expansion of Tamworth, we would have thought there would be commercial potential in this link.

Other than these minor suggestions we consider your plan a commendable piece of work and are happy to support its adoption.

Terry Kirby, Chairman, Leicestershire Local Access Forum, c/o Room 700, County Hall, Leicester, LE3 8RJ (www.leics.gov.uk/laf) Telephone - County Hall 0116 305 7086

Agenda Item 13



LEICESTERSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM – JULY 2016

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT ON PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY LEGAL ORDERS AND OTHER ONGOING CASES

Purpose of Report

To update Forum members on the current position with regard to various Public Path and Modification Orders.

Public Footpath Orders which have been confirmed since the last report

1. The following Public Path Orders have recently been confirmed:-

Order Number

2264 – **Diversion of Footpath S48 (Part) near Spinney Grange, Barton Road, Carlton.** The above order was recently confirmed. It was requested in order to resolve a long standing issue of garden boundary obstructions. (See Appendix 1)

2398 – **Extinguishment of Footpath R17 (Part) at Markfield.** This section of public footpath was originally recorded running along a narrow strip of land immediately in front of the old Wesleyan Methodist Chapel at The Green, Markfield, separated from the carriageway/general highway by iron railings. The building has not been a chapel for a generation and the railings disappeared decades ago. The footpath was therefore considered unnecessary and has been extinguished. (See Appendix 2).

2399 – **Diversion of Footpath N48 at Beverage Lane (Interlink Park), Ellistown.** This diversion was made and subsequently confirmed by North West Leicestershire District Council, under the provisions of the Town & Country Planning Act (1990) to enable the development of a warehouse and associated lorry parking. (See Appendix 3).

2400 – **Diversion of Footpath Y89 by the Grey Goose Inn, Gilmorton**. This diversion was recently confirmed and brought into operation by Harborough District Council, under the provisions of the Town & Country Planning Act (1990) to enable development of a part of the field/garden of the Grey Goose Inn for housing. (See Appendix 4). 2405 – **Diversion of Footpath G29A (Part) at Hose.** This diversion order was recently made and confirmed by the County Council under the provisions of the Highways Act 1980, in order to resolve a legal anomaly which was affecting the private transfer of land between two neighbours. The Definitive Line for this footpath was shown incorrectly as a consequence of the mapping not plotting the alignment of adjacent houses, garden fences and driveways accurately in relationship to their actual positions on the ground. (See Appendix 5).

2407 – **Diversion of Public Footpath V30 and Extinguishment of Public Footpath V109 at Sharnford.** Public Footpath V109 has recently been extinguished on the basis that it was not needed and that its existence was incompatible with the use of the surrounding land as a busy trucking business. At the same time Public Footpath V30 has been diverted in order to resolve some long standing obstructions on neighbouring farm land. (See Appendix 6).

2420 – **Diversion of Footpath Q21 at Appleby Magna.** This diversion has recently been confirmed by North West Leicestershire District Council, under the provisions of the Town & Country Planning Act (1990) to enable development to take place associated with a domestic dwelling (See Appendix 7).

Public Path Order Applications

2. The following applications for public path orders have recently been received:-

2423 - **Proposed Diversion of Bridleway J67 and Footpaths J62 and J66 at Cropston.** Members will recall a Definitive Map Modification Order that resolved a dispute concerning the alignment of Footpath J62 at Station Road, Cropston. This Modification Order had the secondary effect of moving Footpath J62 away from the field edge into the field. The Swithland Estate has now applied for this footpath to be diverted back to the headland and at the same time has taken the opportunity to apply to have Bridleway J67 and Footpath J66 also diverted to headlands in the interests of better management of the land. (See Appendix 8).

2424 – **Proposed Diversion of Footpath I46 (Underhill Bridge) Sileby.** Network Rail has applied to the County Council for the diversion of this footpath under the provisions of the Highways Act (1980) so that it will run on the correct alignment of a new railway footbridge built last year. The company had previously sought to divert the footpath by means of a Town and Country Planning Act (1990) Order but as the structure was substantially complete the application could not be processed. (See Appendix 9).

2425 – **(M988) Proposed Diversion of Footpath (Y106) The White Lion, North Kilworth.** There is an outstanding application to have a path added to the Definitive Map at the White Lion, North Kilworth (Y106). If the application were to prove successful it would put the footpath through the curtilage of a house built since the application was first lodged. The developers have provided a 2 metre wide tarmacadamed path on a suitable alternative alignment and therefore it seems reasonable and expedient to make a diversion order to run contiguously with the Modification Order to resolve the matter. (See Appendix 10).

2427 – **Proposed Diversion of Public Footpath N16 at Henson's Lane, Thringstone.** North West Leicestershire District Council has received an application from Thringstone Miners Welfare F.C. for the diversion of Footpath N16 which is considered necessary to enable the permitted development of a grass training area. (See Appendix 11).

2428 – **Proposed diversion of Bridleway G67 at Lilac Farm, Grimston.** An application has been received from the landowners at Lilac Farm for the diversion of the bridleway around a series of new horse paddocks in order to facilitate safe and convenient horse grazing and thus allow more efficient use of the land. (See Appendix 12).

2429 - **Proposed Deed of Dedication – Footpath E16b at Sainsburys, Nottingham Road, Melton Mowbray.** In order to discharge the conditions of a Section 106 Agreement relating to the development of a new superstore on the old site of the District Council Offices, Melton Borough Council and Leicestershire County Council propose to enter into a Deed of Dedication Agreement to create a new footpath (E16b) at Sainsburys, Melton Mowbray. (See Appendix 13).

2430 – **Proposed Diversion of Public Footpath I110 off Charles Street, Sileby.** Charnwood Borough Council has received an application under the provisions of the Town & Country Planning Act (1990) for the diversion of Footpath I110 on the basis that it is deemed necessary to enable a small housing development to proceed. (See Appendix 14).

Confirmed Modification Orders (Evidential)

3. There have been no evidence based Definitive Map Modification orders confirmed in the last quarter.

New Applications for Modification Orders (Evidential)

4. The following applications have recently been received:-

M1069 – **Proposed Addition of Public Footpaths off Churchill Way, Fleckney.** An application has recently been received from local residents for the addition of several paths to the Definitive Map at the above location. (See Appendix 15).

Forthcoming Referrals to the Planning Inspectorate, Public Hearings & Inquiries

5. There have been no recent cases referred to the Secretary of State for determination:-

Decisions Received

6. The following cases have recently received decisions issued by the Planning Inspectorate:-

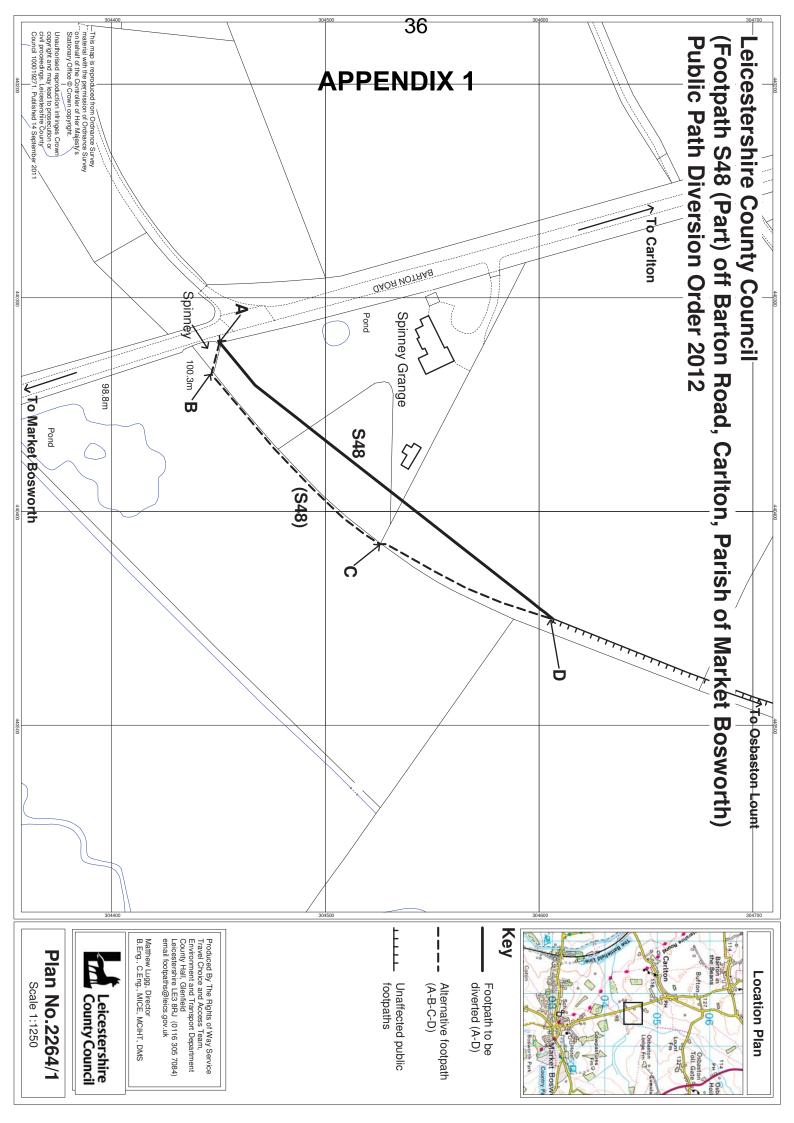
2347- **Diversion of Bridleway A32 (Part) Holiday Cabins, North Lane, Foxton.** After an accompanied site visit in March, Martin Elliot, an Inspector from the Planning Inspectorate, confirmed the order in April. The Inspector set aside objections from a local resident; whose main concern being the loss of unique landscape views. Mr. Elliot did not consider the loss of amenity to be significant and confirmed the order. (See Appendix 16).

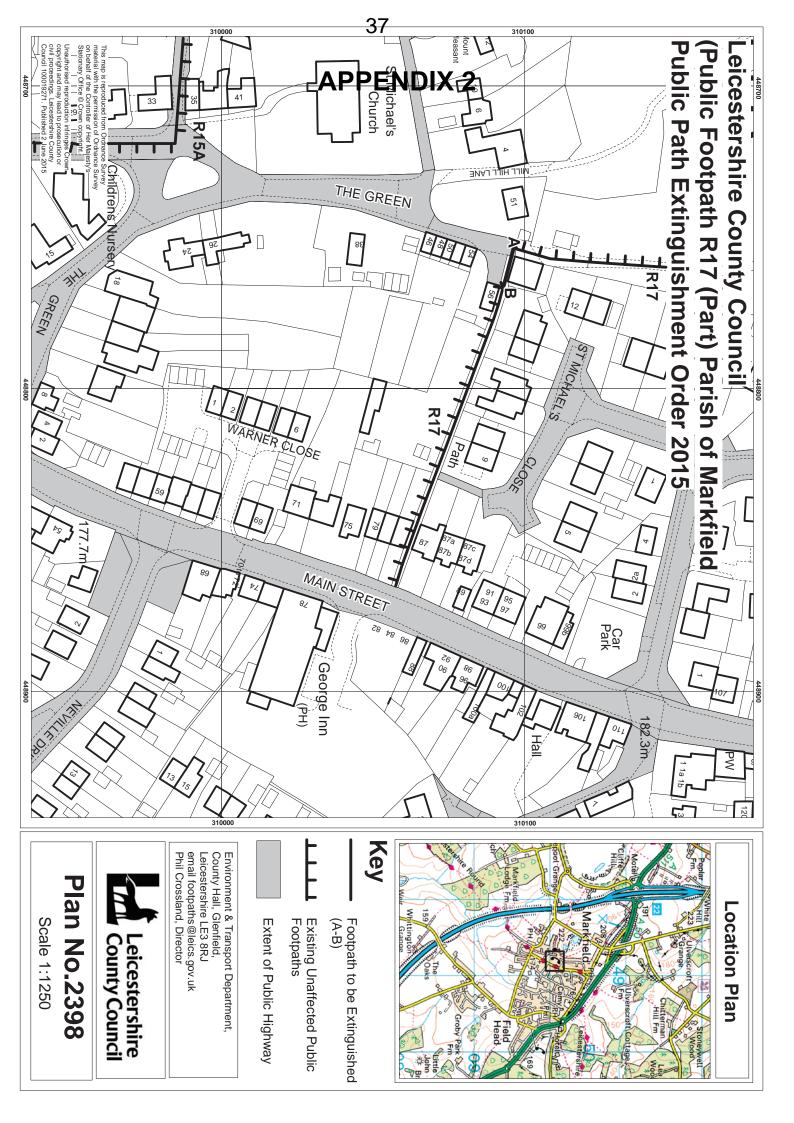
Appendices

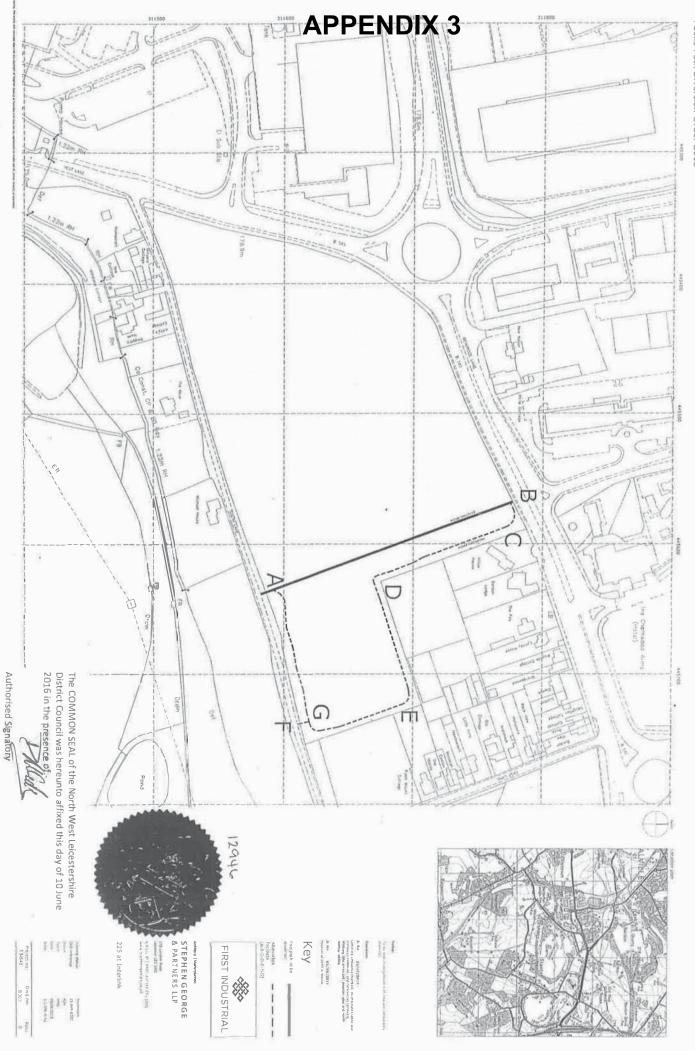
- Appendix 1 Plan No 2264/1
- Appendix 2 Plan No 2398
- Appendix 3 Diversion Plan N48
- Appendix 4 Plan No 2400
- Appendix 5 Plan No 2405
- Appendix 6 Plan No 2407/B
- Appendix 7 Order Plan Q21 Appleby Magna
- Appendix 8 Proposal Plan J62/J66/J67
- Appendix 9 Proposal Plan I46 Sileby
- Appendix 10 Plan No 2425
- Appendix 11 Proposal Plan N16-Thringstone
- Appendix 12 Application Plan G67 Grimston
- Appendix 13 Plan No 2429
- Appendix 14 Proposal Plan I110 Sileby
- Appendix 15 Claimed Paths Fleckney
- Appendix 16 Plan No 2347

Officers To Contact

Edwin McWilliam, Access Manager Piers Lindley, Senior Access & Development Officer E-mail: <u>footpaths@leics.gov.uk</u>

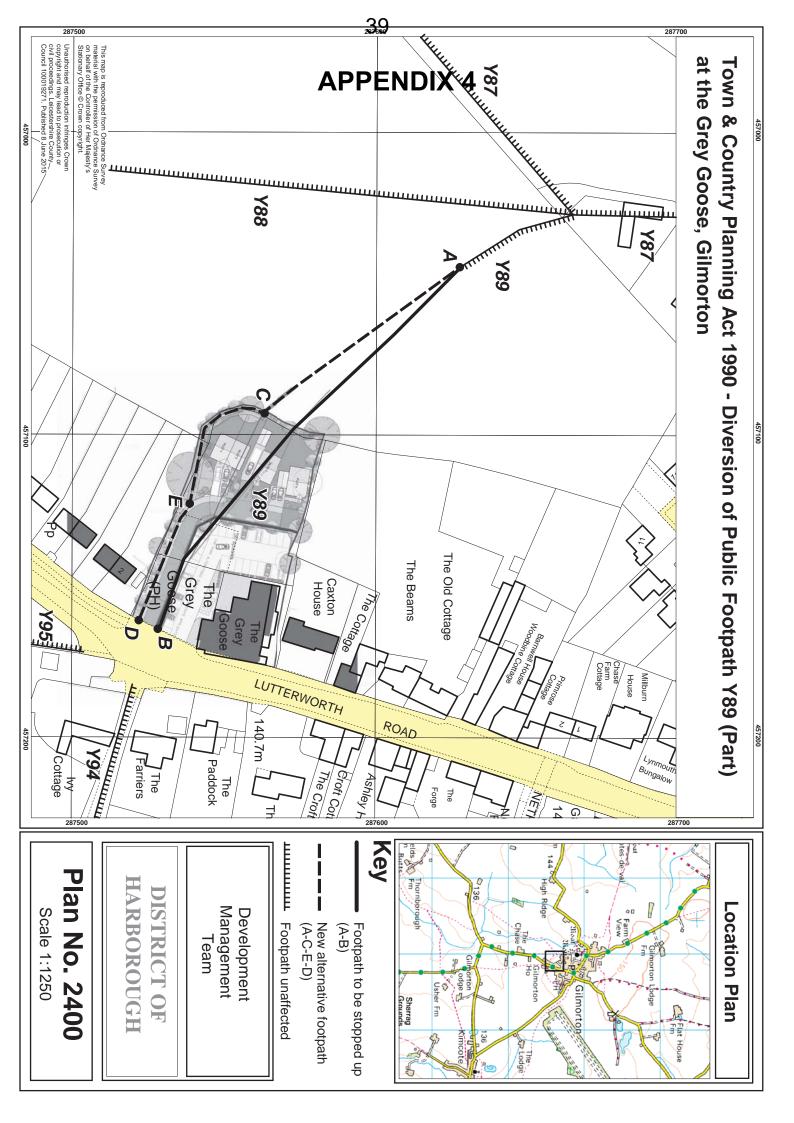


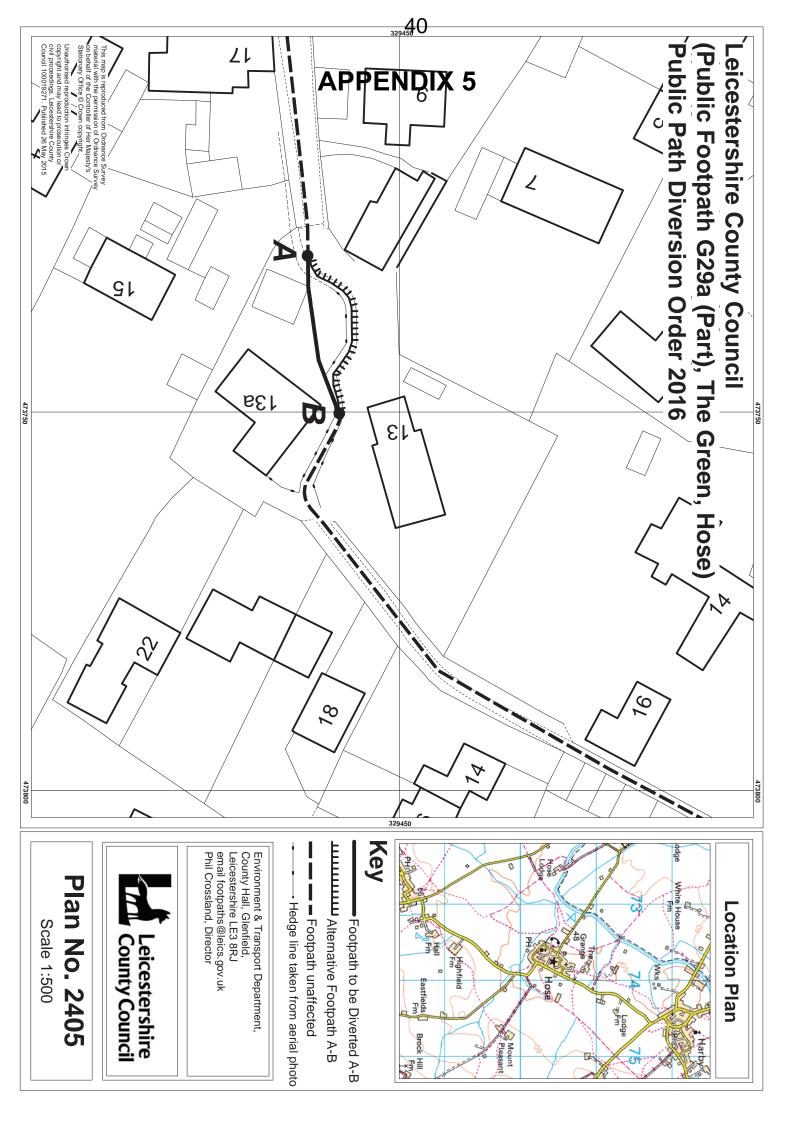


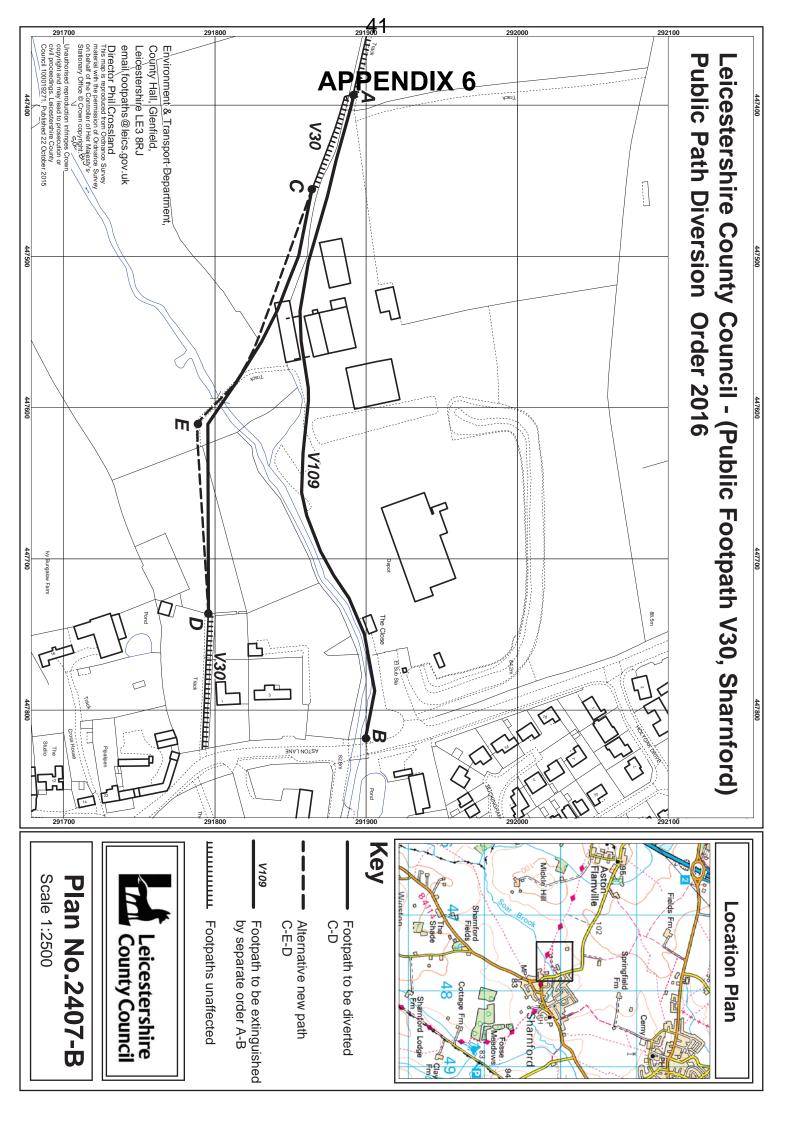


District of North West Leicestershire Footpath Diversion N48 (part) off Beveridge Lane, Coalville Public Path Diversion Order 2015

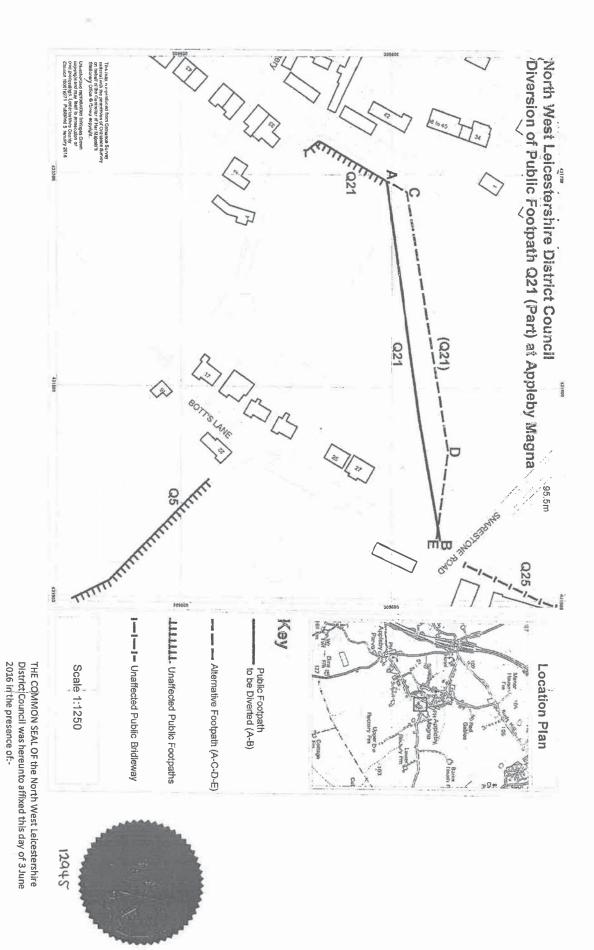
38





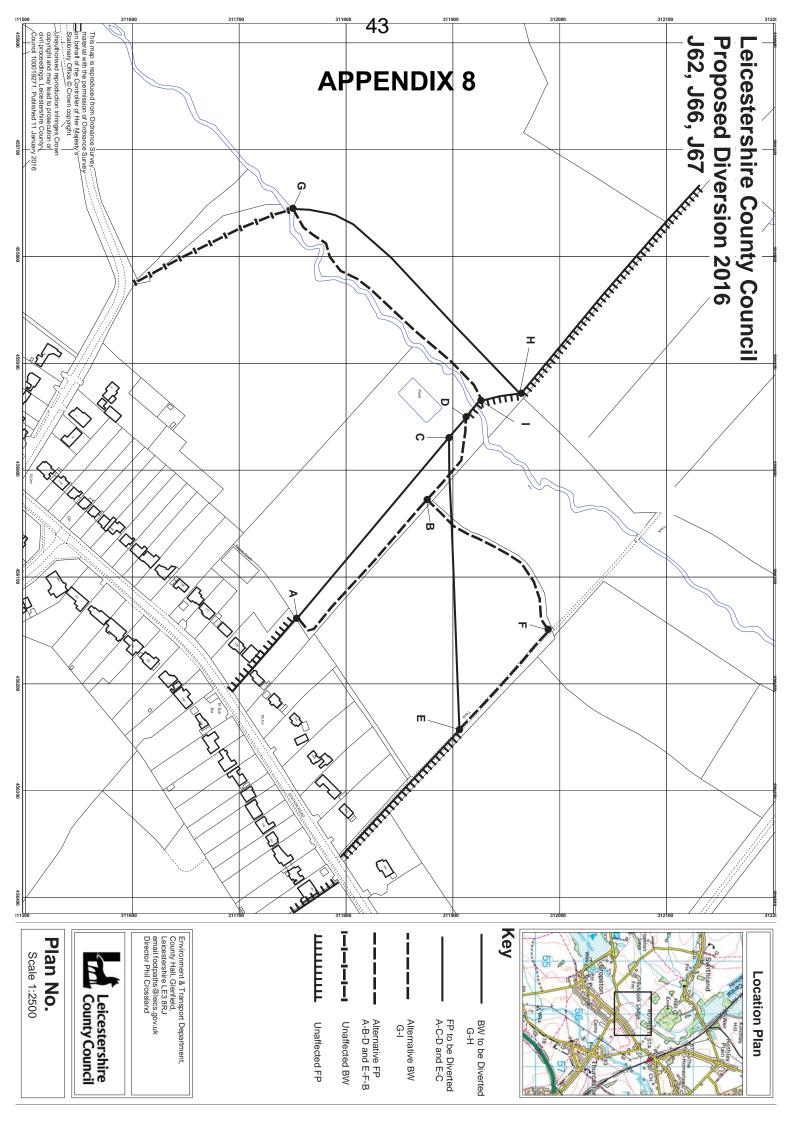


APPENDIX 7

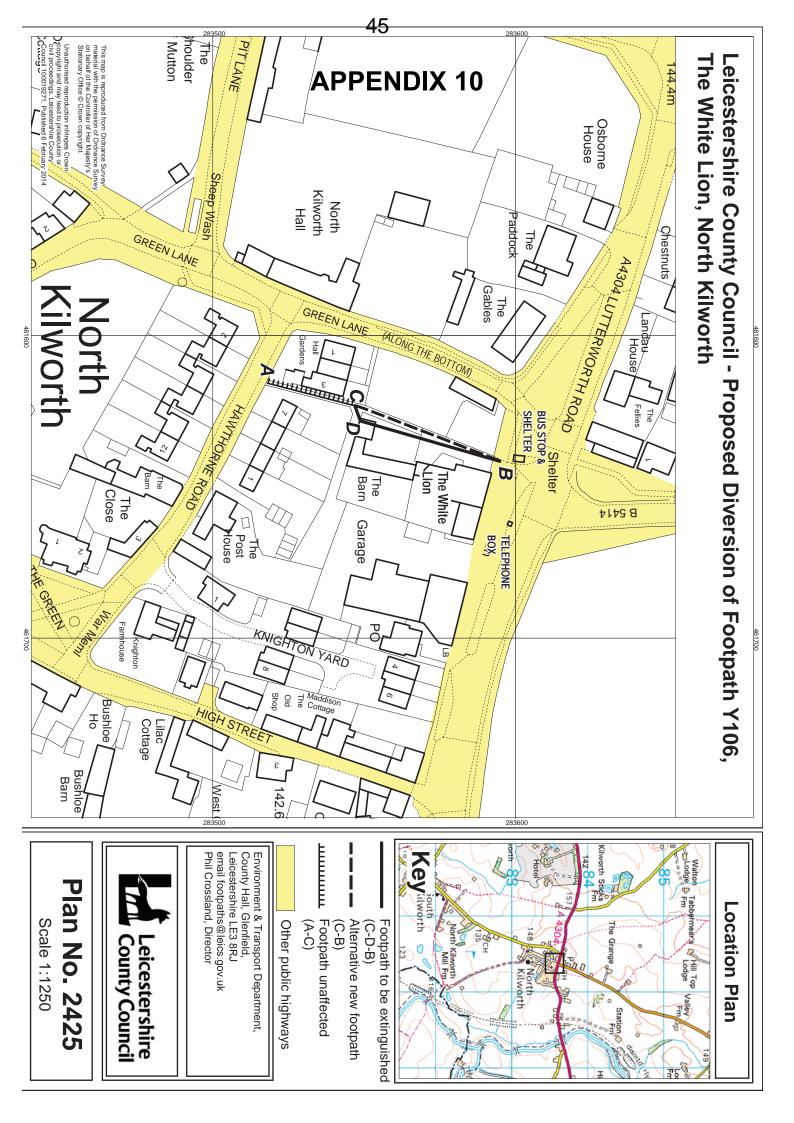


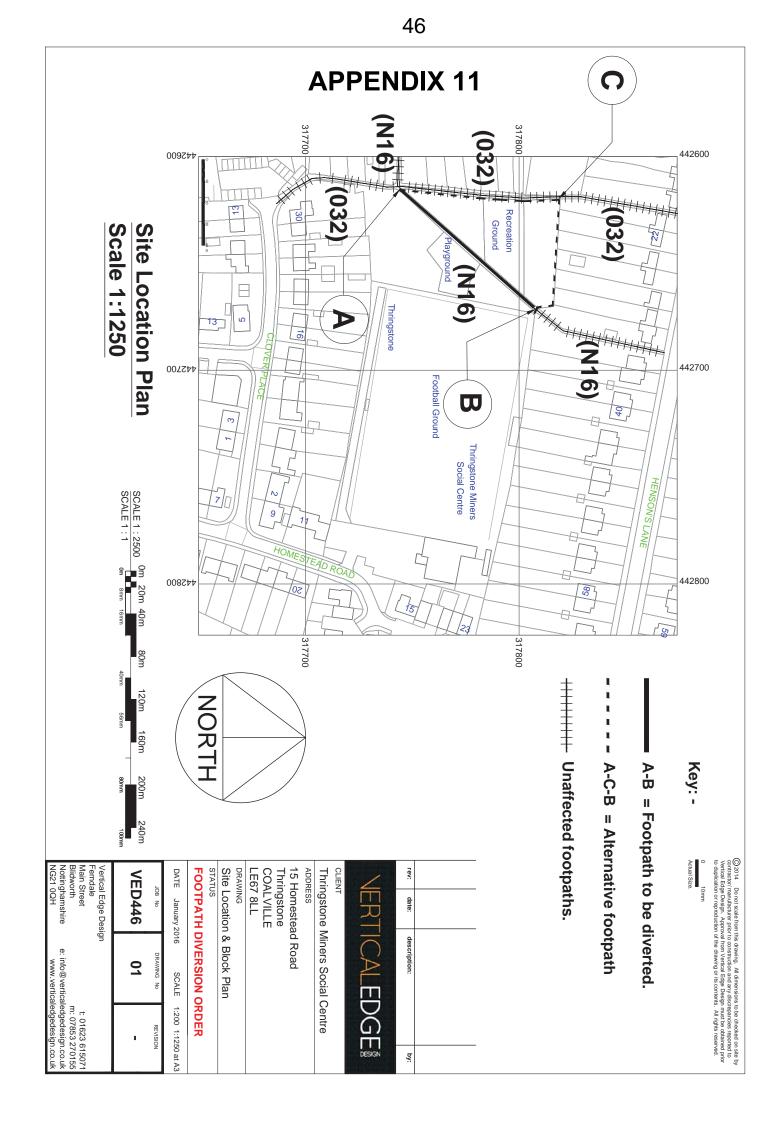
Authorised Signatory

A S 42

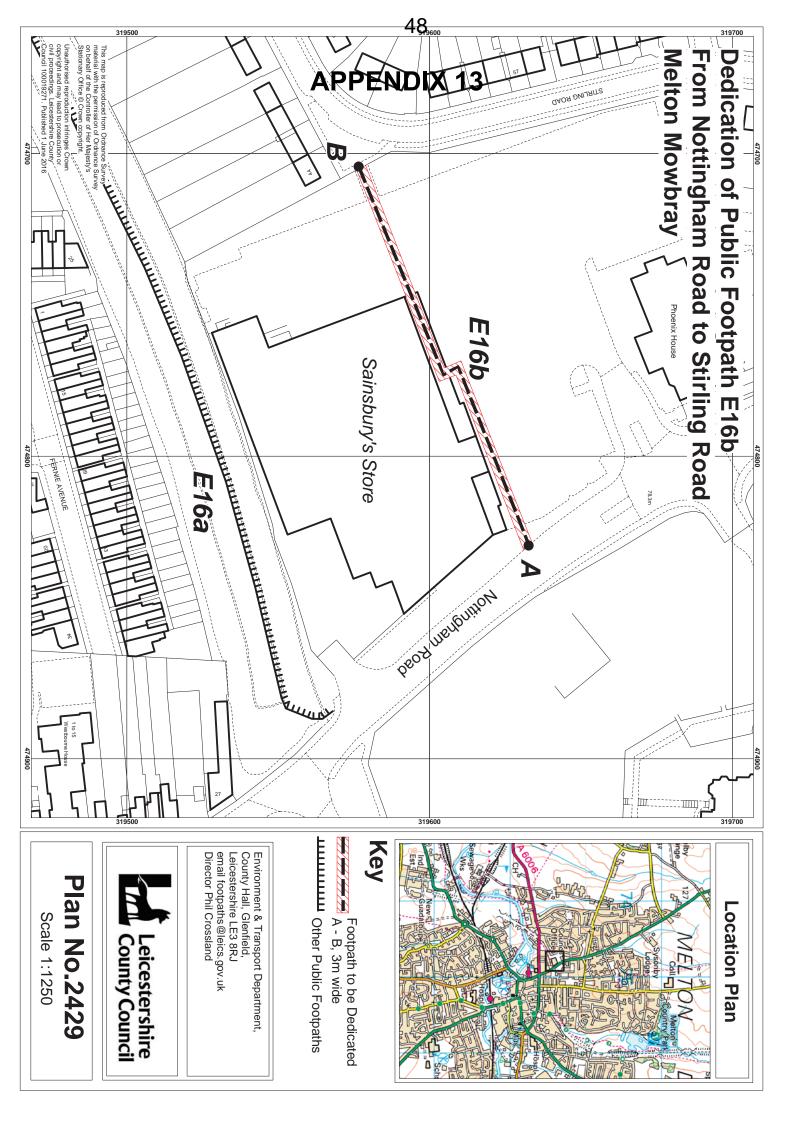


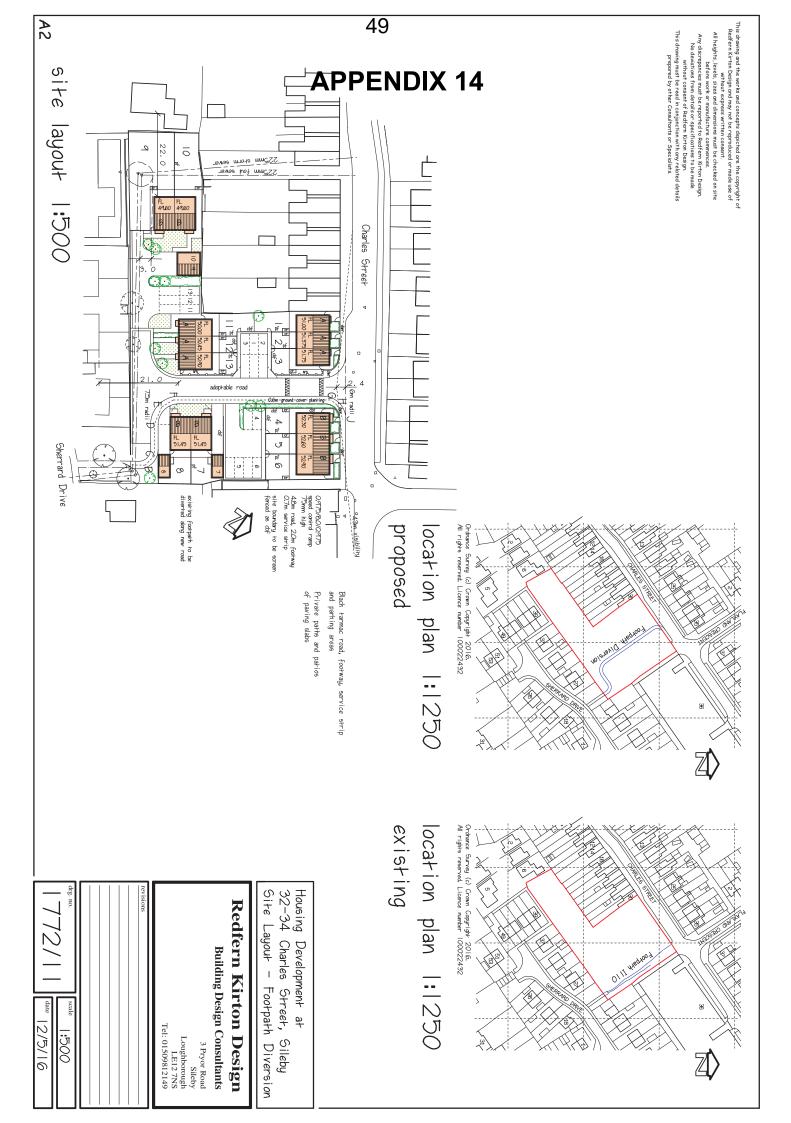


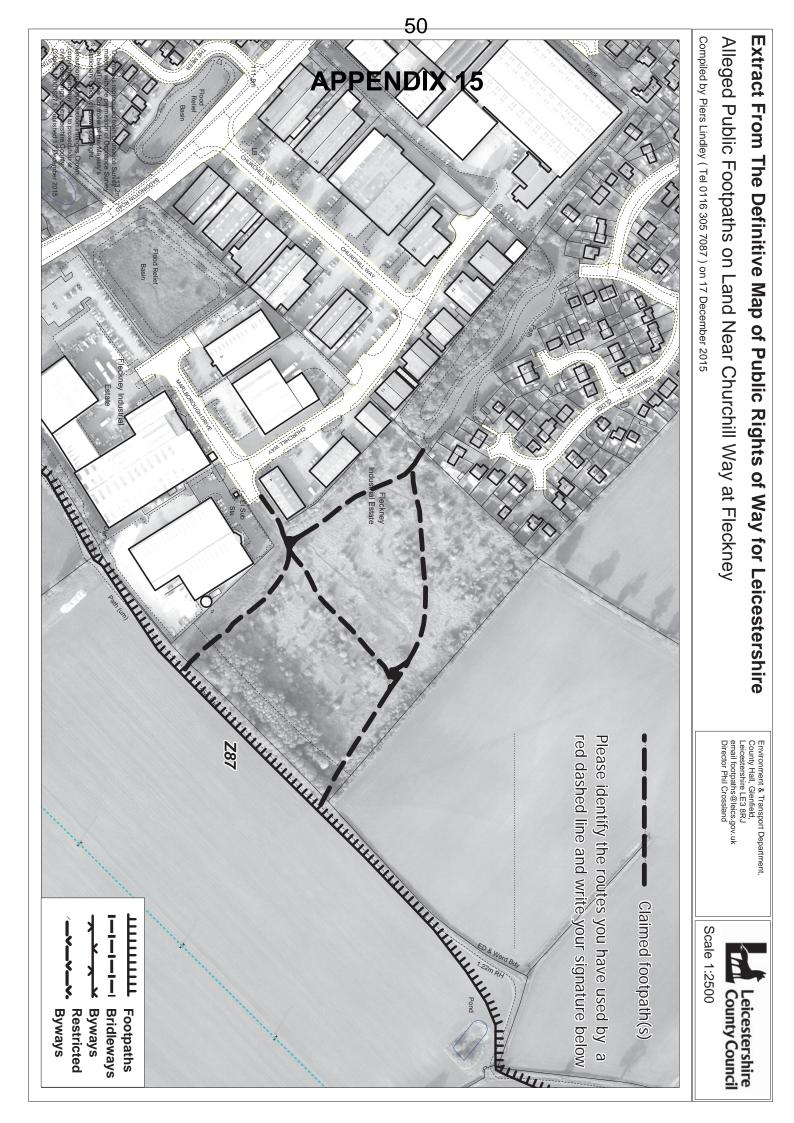


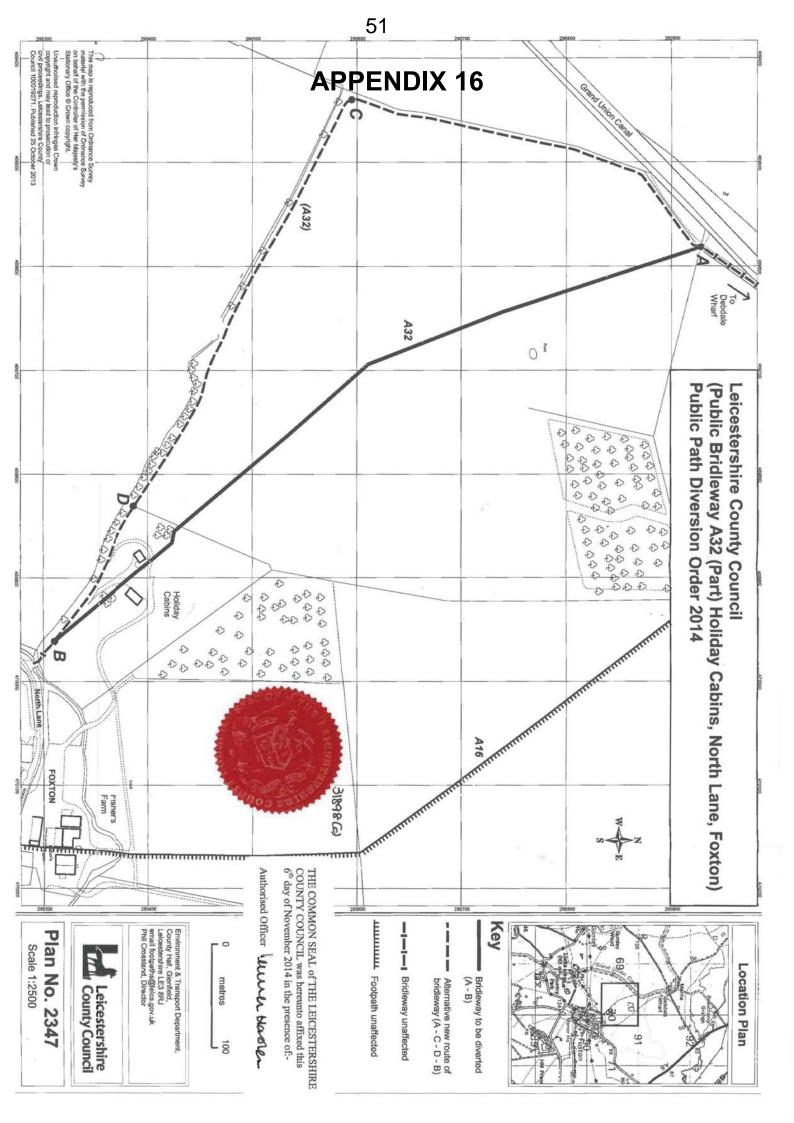












habe	Monday 4 th	Forum 5.00 for 5.20 County Holl, Droooded by
July	Monday 4	Forum 5.00 for 5.30, County Hall - Preceded by
•		workshop 3.00
August	Wednesday 24th	Working meeting 2.30 - 4.30 (Network
	Ab	Opportunities, unrecorded ways)
September	Tuesday 27 th or	Working meeting 2.30 – 4.30 (Network
	Thurs 29 th	Opportunities, unrecorded ways)
October	Tuesday 25th	Forum 5.00 for 5.30, County Hall - Preceded by
		workshop 3.00
November	Wednesday	Working meeting 2.30 – 4.30 (Network
	23rd	Opportunities, unrecorded ways)
Jan 2017	Wednesday 18th	Forum 5.00 for 5.30, County Hall - Preceded by
		workshop 3.00
February	Tues 7 th or	Working meeting 2.30 – 4.30 (Network
-	Thurs 9 th	Opportunities, unrecorded ways)
March	Monday 6th	Working meeting 2.30 – 4.30 (Network
	-	Opportunities, unrecorded ways)
April	Thursday 6th	Forum 5.00 for 5.30, County Hall - Preceded by
	-	workshop 3.00
Мау	Wed 3rd	Working meeting 2.30 – 4.30 (Network
•		Opportunities, unrecorded ways)
June	Monday 5th	Working meeting 2.30 – 4.30 (Network
	•	Opportunities, unrecorded ways)
July	Tuesday 4th	Forum 5.00 for 5.30, County Hall - Preceded by
-	-	workshop 3.00
Aug	Wed 2nd	Working meeting 2.30 – 4.30 (Network
U		Opportunities, unrecorded ways)
Sept	Thurs 7th	Working meeting 2.30 – 4.30 (Network
•		Opportunities, unrecorded ways)
Oct	Wed 4th	Forum 5.00 for 5.30, County Hall - Preceded by
		workshop 3.00
Nov	Thur 9th	Working meeting 2.30 – 4.30 (Network
		Opportunities, unrecorded ways)
Jan 2018	Tues 9th	Forum 5.00 for 5.30, County Hall - Preceded by
		workshop 3.00
	1	

DIARY OF FUTURE MEETINGS