

**Bradford Local Access Forum**  
**Minutes of meeting**  
**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025 - 6:30 pm**  
**Teams Meeting**

**Meeting Organiser:** Danny Jackson      Countryside and Rights of Way Manager  
**Notes:** Linda Stafford                      Area Rights of Way Officer (administrating the LAF)

**Present:**

**Pam Allen (Chair):**                              Equestrian, Regional LAF representative  
**Didy Metcalf:**                                    Equestrian, landowner, Regional LAF Secretary

**Marilyn Banister:**                              Menston Parish Council representative  
**Emma Young:**                                    Bradford Council - Cycle and Active Travel Champion  
**Nick Dybeck:**                                    Walker, Ramblers Association representative, Friends of Ilkley Moor representative

**Mark Corrigan:**                                Regional British Horse Society representative  
**Dr Mike Willison**                                Chair, Leeds Local Access Forum  
**James Luckman**                                 Bradford Council Project Manager  
**Niall Bourke**                                     Arup  
**Aamir Shaikh**                                    Arup  
**Gregory Courtney**                              Arup  
**Dan Warburton**                                 SWECO  
**Colm McCann**                                    Chairman, Friends of Wharfedale Greenway

**Apologies:**

**Andrew Beck:**                                 Trail Riders Fellowship representative  
**Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw:**              Bradford Council Executive Member, Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning & Transport – with responsibility for Countryside and Rights of Way Service and Transport Planning

**Steve Parkes**                                    Walking - access from those with limited walking ability to those who need wheelchairs

**Jenny Tully**                                      Counter Context  
**Brandon Henderson**                            Counter Context  
**James Forrest**                                 Arup  
**David Overend**                                 Wilsden Parish Council

Item	Discussion	Action	Person(s) Responsible
1	Members present – introductions	Members present and introductions.	
2	Apologies	Apologies.	
3	Steeton/Silsden bypass bridge update	<b>James Luckman</b> (Project Manager - Steeton and Silsden cycling and walking Improvements Project) provided slides - LS circulated. Link to consultation. <a href="https://www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/steeton-silsden-bridge">https://www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/steeton-silsden-bridge</a> GC gave brief overview of the project. Owing to time constraints JL, advised that questions be sent to him after the meeting.	All

		<p>PA: will the bridge accommodate equestrians?  NB: not providing provision for equestrian over the bridge owing to the requirements, aesthetics and safety implications, the link on the existing bridleway will be retained.  MB: will there be provision for cyclists at the station?  JL: not within the scope of the project.  NB: noted that there is limited provision for cycles at the station, there will be further link up with Northern Rail to ask if they have any plans to extend provision, but this is not part of the scheme.  MC: noted a design of a bridge that is currently being used by equestrians and feels that this could be used at this location and invited the project team to contact him to discuss.  JL to send a formal response for equestrians within the scheme.</p>	JL
4	Kings Road Sustainable Transport Corridor	<p><b>James Luckman</b> (Project Manager - Project Manager – Kings Road Sustainable Transport Corridor) gave a brief overview.  LS circulated slides. Link to consultation.  <a href="http://www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/kings-road-connect">http://www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/kings-road-connect</a></p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> consultation 13<sup>th</sup> February at Highfield Hotel 4pm to 8pm  26<sup>th</sup> February Zoom webinar 6.00pm to 7.00pm.  2<sup>nd</sup> consultation at Goals, Kings Road 5<sup>th</sup> March, 11am to 3.00pm.  Starting construction Spring 2026 to complete Spring 2027.  ND: Business case decision - is there any doubt that it will meet the criteria of funding?  JL: discussed governance and is positive about the ability to deliver a quality scheme on time and within budget.  MC: Will the new cycleways be within the width of the existing highway?  DW: will be within the existing highway but completely segregated.  MC: noted that horses will be allowed to use the cycleway as they are allowed on highways and asked whether appropriate signage would be erected to make it clear that horses are allowed to use the route.  JL to send a formal response for equestrians within the scheme.</p>	JL
	7.00pm	<i>Dr Mike Willison, Chair, Leeds Local Access Forum joined the meeting.</i>	
	7.15pm	<i>James Luckman, Bradford Council; Niall Bourke, Arup; Aamir Shaikh, Arup; Dan Warburton, Sweco; Gregory Courtney; left the meeting..</i>	
5	Wharfedale Green Way consultation results	<p>Colm McCann– Friends of Wharfedale Greenway gave a presentation.  Discussion about progress of developing the route and links to wider area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colm suggested attending Leeds LAF, North Yorkshire and Regional LAF to give presentation.</li> <li>• LAF members agreed that linking with other Authorities was a good idea.</li> <li>• DM: welcomed the suggestion for Regional LAF, next meeting in March. DM to invite Colm if space on the agenda.</li> <li>• PA: noted that we don't have a cycling representative at present, trying to recruit.</li> <li>• PA: Can we do anything to push the scheme forward.</li> <li>• EY: The Wharfedale Greenway scheme is on the Active Travel list and will be prioritised against other schemes, will need to follow the process.</li> </ul>	
	7.55pm	<i>Dr Mike Willison, Chair, Leeds Local Access Forum left the meeting.</i>	

6	Minutes of last meeting and matters arising	<p>PA accepted minutes from August meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Baildon riverside path Buck Lane area to Esholt EY fed back re concerns about safety with anti-social use by quad bikes as well as cycles and horses over the narrow bridge with users on foot. Oliver waiting a decision from Cllr RS and Assistant Director on how to take the scheme forward as there is differing opinions on the what the scheme should look like. EY to update at next meeting.</li> <li>Mass Transit – no further updates since the presentation at the last meeting.</li> <li>Roads for All Forum – PA, EY and MC attended the meeting. National Highways presentation to all councils and user groups across the North to highlight the schemes that are coming and open dialogue with user groups. Survey forms have been sent out to users and further meetings to be held. PA: generally useful meeting. Good ambitions for transport for whole of the area.</li> <li>Occupation Lane, Menston – gates on PROW DM to put in application for a bridleway at this location. DM to forward information on the history of the gate to DJ. DM: still progressing with the information and report. Will send to DJ as soon as possible.</li> </ul> <p>DJ: Notice has been served on the Landowner to remove the gates. DJ to check if this was for all three gates or just two. There is now a step over stile, some evidence that this should be a gap. The notice date has now passed, gates not removed, need to confirm. Enforcement action being looked at. Discussing with legal with a view to taking it to court.</p> <p>PA: Noted planning issues at this location. DJ: Planning dealing with planning enforcement as a separate issue.</p>	<p>EY</p> <p>DM</p> <p>DJ</p> <p>DJ</p>
7	LAF Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Council representation on LAF Jonathan Hayes (liaison officer for town and parish councils) has invited DJ to their meeting in March to give an overview of the LAF to the parish and town councils.</li> <li>Potential new members – no new applications.</li> </ul>	DJ
8	Bradford South 80	<p>Request received to close the path. DJ gave overview of the situation and the position of the Council in relation to rights of way closure requests for crime. The request does not meet the criteria for a crime closure. LAF supported the approach and decision not to close the footpath. LS to write to the complainant on behalf of the LAF.</p>	LS
9	BDMC ROWIP (2017)	<p>PA requested a discussion to address the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>its intent and construction which would enable it to become a more proactive document.</li> <li>It would benefit from a major review, and this seems like a great opportunity moving forward.</li> </ul>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Several local authorities' country wide use this document in a more strategic way to streamline the claims system, identify not only "lost" but potential links and point up where there are possibilities for development.</li></ul> <p>DJ: Improvement plan is out of date. Owing to resource issues this action has not been done.</p> <p>There has been a light touch review of policies. The Action Plan is a moving plan, we do interact with other schemes within the council.</p> <p>ROWIP requests are recorded on the map but not available for the public to see.</p> <p>ND: how does the Action Plan tie in with the Active Travel Plan and other schemes within the Authority? Individual schemes are valuable in their own right, but is there a way of looking at it more strategically? Could this be built into the ROWIP?</p> <p>DJ: A formal process for ROWIP action plan combining with other council strategies is something that we could build into the action plan.</p> <p>DJ and EY to take to the next Active Travel forum to look at how this can be done.</p>	DJ       DJ/EY
10	Countryside and Rights of Way Team	DJ gave an overview of the changes within the teams. <b>Countryside Team:</b> RH retired. MK has moved into RH's post. Opportunity to fill MK post, to advertise internally. <b>ROW Team:</b> DH retired. We are about to recruit for a replacement. <b>Definitive Map Officer:</b> FP to be seconded into DMO for 18 months. Permission given for 1 full-time ROW Officer and 1 full-time secondment ROW officer.	
11	Stanbury Moor - review of direction restricting crow access (dogs on leads)	DJ – no objections received. DJ has responded to NE.	
12	Other Updates/consultations	LS to circulate Consultation Update sheet. CROW Update – LS circulated DJ report.	LS
13	Any Other Business	National Nature Reserve Bradford. DJ gave update. Meeting next month. All indications are positive to have delegated nature reserve in Bradford.	
14	Dates of Next Meetings	Agreed quarterly meetings, three online and one outside. These have been set up to November 2025. Next meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Online: 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025</li><li>• Outside meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025 (venue to be agreed)</li><li>• Online: 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025</li><li>• 2026 meeting dates to be agreed.</li></ul>	