Bradford Local Access Forum Minutes of meeting Wednesday 28th February 2024 - 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 representativeDidy Metcalf:Equestrian, landowner, Regional LAF Secretary

Nick Dybeck: Walker, Ramblers Association representative, Friends of Ilkley Moor representative

David Sturge: Walker, cyclist, Friends of Baildon Moor representative

Andrew Beck: Trail Riders Fellowship representative

Marilyn Banister: Menston Parish Council 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.

Emma Young: Bradford Council - Cycle and Active Travel Champion

Apologies:

Mark Corrigan: Regional British Horse Society representative (NB: Mark attempted to join the

meeting but the link wasn't functioning)

Tim Sellors: Cyclist

Ite m	Discussion	Action	Person(s) Respons ible
1	Members present – introductions	DJ gave a brief introduction of Authority staff supporting the LAF. Members introduced themselves, giving a brief description of their interest in the LAF. DM and PA are representatives at the regional LAF.	
2	Apologies	None given	
3	LAF membership renewal	DJ outlined the requirement to renew LAF membership every 2/3 years. DJ and LS will send renewal forms with explanatory notes so can be completed before next meeting. What level of representation are we expecting from parish councils, do we invite a representative from every parish council – how do we select? PA – concerned of lack of awareness within parish councils. General agreements that it would be beneficial to invite parish councils to raise awareness and opportunity to bring issues. DJ to contact coordinator for parish councils within the Council and send out invites to next meeting.	DJ/LS
4	Council budget and CROW Service	DJ outlined financial situation with the local authority and the impact on the CROW team. Financial year 2023/24 shortfall of around £73 million. Report available online.	DJ

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5	Current DMMO	ROW team not currently identified for any budget cuts but affected by overall budget constraints. ROW have some funding available and external funding from West Yorkshire Combined Authority. Strict restrictions on recruiting. Definitive Map Officer has retired, request has been submitted for replacement. Assistant Director is taking the request to the vacancy approval panel tomorrow but no guarantees that it will be approved. DMO to review and keep up to date the definitive map, Authority do	
	picture and resource	this proactively and by responding to applications for definitive map modifications. DJ shared presentation giving overview of applications. Register of applications available on website – DJ to circulate link with minutes. Here: https://onlineforms.bradford.gov.uk/ufs/SECTION53.eb?ebd=0&ebp=10&ebz=1">10&ebz=1">1714055646800 ND asked about the Bradford routes that are not recorded on the definitive map. - DJ: definitive map for Bradford has now been created. A lot of work to add all routes, - In relation to the re-imposed cut-off date for "lost ways" - need clarification in secondary legislation to see if urban routes are being exempted and what is meant by "urban routes". Discussion on right to roam campaign: - DM commented: some open access land with no way to them, less keen on roaming over green land, more difficult to farm and manage the land in a sustainable way. - DS noted the environmental aspect is important.	DJ
6	Milner Fields DMMO update	DJ gave an overview of the application to claim footpath routes through Milner Fields, former estate of Sir Titus Salt. As Susan (DMO) has now left, Fiona has picked it up and is currently going through the documentary and user evidence to establish what level of rights might exist. PA asked if there is any way the format of the form for user evidence can be completed electronically, lots of forms to collect, very time consuming. DJ to look enquire and report back.	DJ
7	National Nature Reserve (NNR) designation	DJ gave overview of the NNR – NE (Natural England) launched six national nature recovery areas, Bradford and South Pennines identified. Approached Council to offer council owned sites. Consultation with Biodiversity partnership. (Link on agenda if anyone wants to comment, feedback to NE. Agreed that DJ and LS would draft a response on behalf of the LAF, to circulate for comments and agreement before submitting.) More than one site under one designation – looking at moorland sites. Possible name could be something like Bradford Moorlands Nature Reserve. If designation is given, higher profile for the district and possible opportunities for funding and joint projects. DS noted the benefit for protection of birds given that levels during lockdown increased but have suffered since dogs have returned to the moorland. ND noted the benefit of being designated, gives more control as well as providing greater access.	DJ/LS

		DM commented that the maintain land the maintain at the second land.	1
		DM commented that the primary land use must be conservation. NNR management standards (link not working on Bradford site) states that you must make rules within 1 year, doesn't really say what they are. Concerned about current access being curtailed, balance between access and conservation but not enough information, not clear what signing up for. DJ expressed concern about what the management standard is and what resource we might need to deliver it. Golf courses (Baildon and St Ives) discussed and their impact with removal of reed beds, verges and widening of fairways, DJ advised that they might be excluded from the designated area.	
8	Update on Keighley Road TRO	DJ gave overview. Road from East Morton to Ilkley, over Ilkley Moor. Full status highway – unsurfaced, would need off road car. Don't want to upgrade as want to protect Ilkley Moor, SSSI area (Sites of Special Scientific Interest). Issues with fly tipping, drivers going off road onto the moor and getting stuck, increased wildfires from people picnicking. TRO to stop vehicles using the road, objections received. Abandoned the TRO, looking at making the road more difficult to leave protecting the moor either side of the road. Steerside (Police) have been supportive. DS: Is there a possibility of closer working with police's Operation Steerside? DJ has a contact and can suggest that when appropriate.	
9	City of Culture W	PA – Bradford built on wool trade and surrounded by packhorse trails, to Piece Halls and moors and outlying areas. Could we use this to create a route around the city and linking to the outer areas as part of the City of Bradford 2025. ND to look at a route and bring to the next meeting.	ND
10	Other updates/consul tations	DJ gave a brief overview on current consultations and provided links – see below. DS asked if there was any update on dog licensing scheme. DJ: consulting with legal. Possibility to use dog control public space protection order, could have a specific one where dogs are required to be on a lead in certain areas at certain times of the year – could be useful in areas where there are bird nesting birds. PA: who is going to Police it? the scheme should be self-funding, revenue raised to fund an officer.	
	Dates for next meetings	David Sturge: this is likely to be my last meeting as moving. PA gave thanks to DS for his input and work in LAF. All gave thanks and best wishes to DS. Agreed meeting online Wednesday 1st May – DJ to extend invitation to Parish Councils and Walkers are Welcome.	
		Site meeting to be arranged in summer months.	DJ

Other updates/consultations:

a. PPO at Chapel Works, Haworth is in the process of being referred to PINS as we've been unable to resolve the objections (x2) made to the Order.

- b. Proposed Diversion of Part of Public Footpath No. 16 (Silsden) at Bolton Road, Cringles, Silsden (07/03/24)
 - https://bradford.moderngov.co.uk/mgConsultationDisplay.aspx?ID=664
- c. NNR designation (29/02/24)
 - https://bradford.moderngov.co.uk/mgConsultationDisplay.aspx?ID=641
- d. Dog Control Orders (PSPO) renewal (10/03/24): https://bradford.moderngov.co.uk/mgConsultationDisplay.aspx?ID=671
- e. Public Footpath No 672, Bradford South proposed modification order at Huddersfield Road, Woodside Road, Wyke, Bradford (23/03/24)
 - https://bradford.moderngov.co.uk/mgConsultationDisplay.aspx?ID=661
- f. Bradford City Centre Cycling and Walking Improvements Scheme Experimental Traffic Regulation Order 2023 (14/03/24)
 - https://bradford.moderngov.co.uk/mgConsultationDisplay.aspx?ID=602