

**Bradford Local Access Forum**  
**Minutes of meeting**  
**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025 - 6:30 pm**  
**Teams Meeting**

**Meeting Organiser:** Danny Jackson

Countryside and Rights of Way Manager

**Notes:** Linda Stafford

Area Rights of Way Officer (administering the LAF)

**Present:**

**Pam Allen** (Chair):

Equestrian, Regional LAF representative

**Didy Metcalf:**

Equestrian, landowner, Regional LAF Secretary

**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

**Steve Parkes**

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

**Andrew Beck:**

Trail Riders Fellowship representative

**Apologies:**

**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

**David Overend**

Wilsden Parish Council

Item	Discussion	Action	Person(s) Responsible
1	Members present – introductions	Members present and introductions.	
2	Apologies	Apologies.	
3	Minutes of last meeting and matters arising	<p>PA accepted minutes from February meeting.</p> <p><b>Consultation with WYCA</b> (West Yorkshire Combined Authority)  PA: Could you please explore how the LAF is to be notified of proposals for projects that emanate from the combined authority please?  DM: Noted that the consultation programme for Steeton/Silsden bridge was too late in including user groups – scheme had progressed too far before groups were able to give their input.</p> <p>EY: Email to WYCA - to include Local Access Forum as consultee on WYCA schemes in the future (to be included at an early enough stage of the scheme).</p> <p><b>Steeton/ Silsden bypass bridge</b> (update presentation by James Luckman at February meeting)  PA: Still in communication with JL, not happy with reasoning for excluding equestrians, progressing.</p>	

		<p>ND: JL gave a balanced response to the items raised. Access should be for everybody, on the surface exclusion of equestrians is discriminatory, but the cost involved or practical may affect the inclusion for a small/limited number of users.</p> <p>MC: No evidence to support the reasons for excluding equestrians. Funding from the Government is to include all users but the scheme has excluded a group.</p> <p>DJ: WYCC weren't aware of the LAF but should be as the LAF is a statutory body.</p> <p><b>Wharfedale Greenway</b> PA: results taken to RAF. The route crosses borders and involves NYCLAF and LLA.</p> <p><b>Occupation Lane, Menston</b> DJ confirmed application for a bridleway has been received from DM. DM: DM has discussed with FP, and it is progressing. It's a big project and there may be some value in getting Open Spaces involved. PA: Open Spaces are interested in being involved in Bradford district.</p> <p><b>Bradford South 80</b> DJ: Request to close the footpath, applicant advised that the Authority are unable to close the path as it does not meet the criteria for a crime closure and that the LAF supported the approach and decision not to close the footpath. Applicant has submitted a petition to the Council. Going to Bradford South area committee.</p>	
4	LAF	Parish Council representation on LAF – DJ attending meeting 13 <sup>th</sup> May. To feed back at next LAF meeting. PA offered to attend, and suggested MB might attend to give information from a parish council member perspective.	
5	CROW Team update recruitment and structure	<p>PA: requested an overview of the team structure, roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>DJ: gave overview of Countryside and ROW team and where the teams sit within the department and the wider Authority.</p> <p>DJ shared Venn Diagram illustrating the teams and the work that is interlinked. DJ to send a structure diagram.</p> <p>DJ gave overview of current team information</p> <p>Countryside Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- RH retired, MK promoted up to RH post</li> </ul> <p>ROW Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DH retired – recruiting to fill post</li> <li>- FP seconded to DMO, need for another ROW officer</li> </ul> <p>2 candidates appointed to ROW from recent interviews.</p> <p>DJ retiring at end May after 42 years at the Authority.</p> <p>PA: thanked DJ for long years of service.</p>	DJ
6	<a href="#">Renewal</a> of Public Space Protection Order prohibiting use of BBQ's etc. on moorland	<p>DJ: Requested support from the LAF as it goes out to consultation. On council's consultation webpage. Responses by 15.5.25. DJ to send link to PA.</p> <p>(<a href="https://www.bradford.gov.uk/consultations/current-consultations/consultation-and-engagement/">https://www.bradford.gov.uk/consultations/current-consultations/consultation-and-engagement/</a>)</p> <p>DM: Aren't bylaws in place to deal with the issues?</p> <p>DJ: Bylaws for some places, e.g. Ilkley Moor, written a long time ago and no longer effective.</p>	DJ

		<p>PA: fire brigade has said 'if you see a fire or someone using a BBQ on the moorland - call 999 and ask for FIRE' and they will respond.</p> <p>DJ: confirmed that the information is publicised on posters that the Authority put out.</p> <p>PSPO covers all publicly accessible moorland (Open Access).</p>	
7	BDMC ROWIP (2017)	<p>ND circulated government information about the ROWIP (2007). ROWIP's should be updated every 10 years but feels it would benefit from a more strategic approach.</p> <p>Strategic background from 2007 is now out of date and needs updating.</p> <p>PA requested a copy of the ROWIP – DJ to send.</p> <p>DJ: feels most policies are fit for purpose, but a review would be beneficial.</p> <p>Action Plan is a moving plan, there is interaction with other schemes within the council. There are opportunities through development sites, if there is a ROWIP request alongside, then we do use this, but we do need to collaborate with other teams more effectively, e.g. Active Travel.</p> <p>ND: Other ROWIPs – found that they look at ROW as a network rather than individual routes.</p> <p>PA: perhaps PC's can assist with surveying. LS to send an example of a PPS sheet.</p> <p>PA noted that she had been invited to celebration of 60 years of Pennine Way as Chair of LAF at the Yorkshire Dales. Exhibition is moving to Hebden Bridge, PA asked why not Bradford and why the LAF weren't informed by the Authority, someone at the exhibition advised her that an invite had been sent to Bradford and no response had been received.</p> <p>Authority not aware of any information or invite being sent prior the PNTP in February, exhibition was already organised.</p> <p>PA to find out who the invitation went to and feedback.</p>	<p>DJ</p> <p>LS</p> <p>PA</p>
8	Other Consultations	<p>NYC LAF Questionnaire</p> <p>DM: received questionnaire but feels it would be best to respond with answers from the entire LAF. To circulate questionnaire to LAF.</p> <p>LS to note responses and send out with minutes and send to Will Scarlett/DM. (Circulated by DM)</p> <p>DM: read out the questions and completed the questionnaire on behalf of the LAF.</p>	<p>DM</p> <p>LS</p>
9	National Nature Reserve	<p>DJ gave update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Nature Reserve approved. Launch next Tuesday for several sites within the rural parts of the district.</li> <li>Working on local nature reserves that will bring in sites in the urban areas.</li> </ul>	
10.	Dates of Next Meetings	<p>Agreed quarterly meetings, three online and one outside. These have been set until November 2025.</p> <p>Next meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online: 7th May 2025</li> </ul>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Outside meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025 (venue to be agreed) SP to think about a route within the urban area</li><li>• Online: 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025</li></ul> 2026 meeting dates to be agreed.	
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