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www.wslaf.org

West Sussex Local Access Forum



1 February 2016

Sent by email to: adurplanningpolicy@adur-worthing.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

Proposed Amendments to Allocation at New Monks Farm - consultation 9th December 2015 - 4th January 2016.

At the recent West Sussex Local Access Forum (WSLAF) meeting, held on Wednesday 27th January, Members were made aware of the above consultation, and the implications for non-motorised user (NMU) access across the A27 to the South Downs National Park at this location were discussed at length.

WSLAF considers this matter to be of great importance, and is concerned that the additional traffic generated by the development, and the proposal for a new roundabout at the Sussex Pad junction, will make the situation for walkers, cyclists and equestrians crossing the A27 even more problematic.

The present signalized junction across the busy Shoreham by-Pass is hazardous enough for NMUs (especially equestrians) trying to link from the Old Shoreham Toll Bridge (Bridleway 2048/1) to the National Park (using bridleway 2065), though this at least stops the traffic and allows them to cross. A roundabout where there is no such control would effectively sever the link, and would be contrary to the aims and aspirations of the West Sussex Rights of Way Improvement Plan (www.westsussex.gov.uk/rowip), incorporated in the present West Sussex Transport Plan.

Highways England (HE) has been aware for many years of the aspiration for a grade separated NMU (walker, cyclist, equestrian) bridge crossing at this location, which WSLAF fully supports. Unless this can be provided by HE and other partners, or an alternative improved crossing for NMUs designed and implemented, the present signalized Sussex Pad junction must remain.

Members would welcome the opportunity to offer further advice and assistance on this matter, and request that the Forum is kept informed of future plans for NMU access at this location.

The West Sussex Local Access Forum (WSLAF) is an independent advisory body, established under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to give access advice to local authorities, statutory organisations and non-government organisations. In giving that advice, the Forum's main objective is to ensure the existing network of public rights of way (prows), as well as the wider access network, is protected and where possible enhanced. The Forum has a balanced membership of knowledgeable and experienced

users (walkers, cyclists, horse riders and carriage drivers), landowners and other interests (including conservation, disabled access, landscape). For further information about the Forum please visit www.wslaf.org.

This letter constitutes formal advice from the West Sussex Local Access Forum. Adur District Council is required, in accordance with section 94(5) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to have regard to relevant advice from this Local Access Forum in carrying out its functions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane Noble', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jane Noble, Forum Officer
West Sussex Local Access Forum

Copy for information to: All WSLAF members