

1. WSCC Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group - Update

- 1.1 Andy Ekinsmyth, WSCC Head of Transport and Countryside Services, has provided the following update on the work of the Walking and Cycling Task and Finish Group:
- The Select Committee has established a scrutiny Task and Finish Group (TFG) to assist in the production of the cycling and walking strategy. The TFG has met three times.
 - Staffing and consultancy arrangements are being put in place to support drafting of the cycling and walking plan, the production of a prioritised investment list and facilitate collaboration with community groups/stakeholders.
 - Sustrans (consultants) GIS based web application has allowed key interest groups to draw routes and register interest for cycling and walking improvements across West Sussex. This list will be prioritised to create an investment programme.
 - Work on a draft Cycling and Walking Strategy is ongoing and will be presented to the next Cycling and Walking TFG at the end of April.
 - The government has issued a national Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy for consultation. WSCC will respond by the 23rd May deadline.
- 1.2 WSLAF has submitted four schemes, and some others on WSLAF's RoWIP lists have been submitted by other organisations.

2. Agenda Item 7ai - Draft cycling and walking investment strategy consultation – Department for Transport

- 2.1 The government's ambition is to create a walking and cycling nation. To further this goal a draft cycling and walking strategy for consultation has been published. The government is seeking:
- suggestions and evidence of innovative projects and programmes which could be developed to further our goals of:
 - increasing cycling activity
 - reversing the decline in walking activity
 - reducing the rate of cyclists killed or seriously injured
 - views on how to increase cycling and walking in typically under-represented groups
 - views on the approach and actions set out in the strategy to meet our key objectives
 - views on the potential roles of government and non-government bodies in delivering the strategy, plus how they work together
 - views on the assistance local authorities and local enterprise partnerships would find beneficial to support development of infrastructure plans
 - views on our proposed activities for meeting our objectives of better:
 - safety
 - mobility
 - streets
- 2.2 Consultation papers can be found on the government's consultation portal: www.gov.uk/government/consultations/draft-cycling-and-walking-investment-strategy. The closing date for the consultation is 23 May 2016.

2.3 Eight roadshows are being held in six locations (nearest to West Sussex is London). Details of these events will be on the website above from mid-April.

3. Agenda Item 7a ii - Draft West Sussex Joint Minerals Local Plan Consultation – West Sussex County Council

3.1 West Sussex County Council and the South Downs National Park Authority have produced a draft Joint Minerals Local Plan. The plan outlines how the special character of West Sussex will be protected while making sure there are enough minerals to support economic growth. Activities such as quarrying, storage, processing and transportation have all been carefully considered. The draft plan allocates two new sites to help meet future mineral needs in West Sussex:

- Ham Farm, near Steyning (soft sand); and
- Extending West Hoathly Brickworks, West Hoathly (brick clay).

3.2 The draft Plan, associated documents and a response form can be found at: www.westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/strategies-plans-and-policies/environment-planning-and-waste-plans-and-policies/minerals-and-waste-policy/new-minerals-local-plan/consultation-and-engagement. Hard copies of all documents can be viewed at libraries, WSCC County Hall and SDNPA Midhurst offices; and the main office for District and Borough Councils.

3.3 The closing date for the consultation is Friday 17 June 2016.

4. Agenda Item 8bi - Rampion – Rights of Way mitigation works

4.1 Following consultation with WSLAF and SDLAF, WSCC is drawing up details for three surfacing projects to mitigate part of the Rampion works:

- Footpath 3135, Worthing
- Restricted Bridleway 2059, Sompting
- Bridleway 4T, Twineham

The remaining funds will be held for matters arising.

5. Southwater: Proposed diversion of part of Public Bridleway 1642, extinguishment of part of Public Footpath 1650 and creation of public bridleway over part of Public Footpath 1650 and Public Footpath 1651

5.1 The order for the above is being considered under sections 118B, 118C, 119B and 119C of the Highways Act 1980 in respect of extinguishment and diversion for school security purposes. The County Council's Rights of Way Committee considered this in October and resolved to authorise the making of the orders. The legal tests, which do not extend to include consideration of path users' convenience and enjoyment, were considered to have been met. It was noted that an objection has been recently received from Horsham District Cycling Forum. Details can be found in the [WSCC Rights of Way Committee Papers for October](#) - item 5 on the agenda, para 23 in the minutes. In the event the order is confirmed, the school has agreed to provide a route that can be used year round.

5.2 The only other time these sections of the Highways Act have been used in the county was at Oakmeads School, Burgess Hill.

6. Value of Cycling

- 6.1 A study about the value of cycling has been published by the Department for Transport, Birmingham University and Phil Jones Associates. It includes data about benefit/cost ratios is included and the economic and social benefits of cycling and greenways. It can be viewed here:
www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/509587/value-of-cycling.pdf

7. A27 Chichester Bypass Improvement Scheme

- 7.1 Highways England (HE) is looking at a number of options to improve the existing A27 Chichester Bypass and assessing their ability to meet the scheme objectives including improve road safety and to improve accessibility to areas with tourist activity.
- 7.2 Up to four junctions on the A27 between Fishbourne Road and Portfield Way will be improved. At present the options are still being refined to determine their performance in catering for forecast traffic flows and their environmental impact. As yet there are no preferred options and a decision will not be made until after a full public consultation has taken place. Options may include grade separation, traffic lights, 'hamburger' roundabouts (sometimes called 'through-about').
- 7.3 The postponed consultation is not expected to affect timescales for delivering the scheme:

Public consultation on options	Early summer 2016
Preferred Route Announcement	2017 (dates to be confirmed)
The preferred route designed in more detail	2017 (dates to be confirmed)
Start of works (if planning consent is granted)	2018/19
Works complete and open for traffic	2021-2023 (depending on which option is selected)

- 7.4 Further details can be found on the NE website:
www.highways.gov.uk/roads/road-projects/a27-chichester-improvement

8. Paths for Communities Programme

- 8.1 The Natural England review has shown this to be a good return on the investment.

9. British Standard BS5709 – Gates and Stiles

- 9.1 BS5709 is currently being reviewed.

10. WSCC Rights of Way (ROW) Committee

- 10.1 The scheduled February meeting of the ROW Committee was cancelled due to a lack of business

11. Agenda Item 12: WSLAF Future Meetings

- 11.1 All meetings will start at 10.30am (tea/coffee at 10.15am) and are followed by lunch for members and speakers. Dates, venues and items in italics are suggestions to be confirmed at the meeting.

Date	Venue	Proposed Topic / Speaker to include
Wed 13/7/16	Horsham	WSCC CAMS demo – Jane Noble
Wed 19/10/16	Chichester	To be decided by Forum
Wed 25/1/17	Horsham	To be decided by Forum

* CAMS demo deferred as system is not yet live

Other suggested speakers: Forestry Commission, Highways Agency, Network Rail, WSCC Officer to explain Infrastructure Project delivery and role of CLCs.

12. Neighbouring LAFs

12.1 South Downs Local Access Forum (SDLAF)

The next meetings of the SDLAF are:

- 26 April 2016 – South Downs Centre, Midhurst
- 20 July 2016 – South Downs Centre, Midhurst
- 21 October 2016 – South Downs Centre, Midhurst

<http://www.southdowns.gov.uk/get-involved/local-access-forum>.

WSLAF link member Tricia Butcher / Glynn Jones

12.2 Brighton & Hove Local Access Forum

<http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=c1238738>

12.3 East Sussex Local Access Forum

<http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/leisureandtourism/countryside/rightsofway/localaccessforum/default.htm>

12.4 Hampshire Countryside Access Forum (HCAF)

<http://www.countrysideaccessforum.hants.org.uk>

12.5 Surrey Local Access Forum (SLAF)

<http://new.surreycc.gov.uk/environment-housing-and-planning/countryside/footpaths-byways-and-bridleways/surrey-countryside-access-forum>

Jane Noble, Forum Officer