Meeting of the West Sussex Local Access Forum
Wednesday 21 October 2026

A meeting of the West Sussex Local Access Forum (WSLAF) was held at **10.30am, Wednesday 21st October 2026,** in **Conference Room 2, County Hall, Tower Street, Chichester, PO19 1RH.**

Minutes (Unconfirmed)

Present

Graham ELVEY (GE) – Chair
Tricia BUTCHER (TB)
Phil MILES (PM)
David GREEN (DG)
Roy ALLEN (RA)
David PURCELL (DP)
Monica COLLINGHAM (MC)

WSCC Officers

Steve ALEXANDER (SA) – Forum Officer
Nick SCOTT (NS) – Principal Rights of Way Officer
Cllr Ian DAVEY (ID) – Member for Public Health & Wellbeing, Leader of Green Group

1. **Apologies and welcomes**

   i) GE opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees. All around the table introduced themselves for the benefit of the scribe and consented to the recording of the meeting for the same purpose.

   ii) Apologies received from Nicol Beard (NB), Carol Montgomery (CM) and Cllr Natasha DAVIE.

2. **Minutes of the Forum**

   a) Minutes of formal meeting of 29 April 2026

      i. Minutes of the formal meeting agreed.

      ii. No actions to update.

      As matters arising there was some discussion re the Highden 'overbridge' crossing. NS reported that Ami DYE (ADy) is dealing with this and is hoping for a 'light touch' approach to the diversion pending a full resolution of the 'overbridge'.

      PM spoke on the Bluebell Railway application stating that the new submission does not address ongoing concerns and suggesting WSLAF submit further comments outlining the holding objection. **ACTION: PM to draft a response.**

DP enquired about any update on Coxs Farm FP325. SA read out update from ADy – application currently under consideration and it is expected to go to committee in November.

DP enquired about any update on FP 323. SA read out update from Ami DYE – application has not formally been accepted. Once it has, it will be added to the waiting list.

PM updated on the application for a 20mph zone in Horsted Keynes. The application has been referred to 'Traffic Regulation' and then to 'Community Scheme' resulting in the deadline for submission elapsing. The application is now being considered.

b) Minutes of informal meeting of 11 February 2026

i. Items relating to actions and matters arising are either on the agenda, have an update in the General Report or have been completed.

3. **Any urgent matters to be considered not on the agenda**

No urgent matters raised.

4. **Consultations and advice**

a) **Current consultations**

i. Lancing Beach Green – engagement launch received.

ii. DP has seen "Better Journeys in Durrington" Active Travel scheme via the Ramblers in-box but this is largely relating to bus routes.

b) **Consultation responses, advice given**

i. Highways Act 1980 – Sec 118A Application for the extinguishment of part of footpath CHD 258 in the Parish of Chidham and Hambrook. WSLAF has raised no objections. NS has explored options with Network Rail (such as gates at the ends of the platforms) but these do not meet with NR criteria.

ii. Highways Act 1980 – Sec 118A Application for the extinguishment of part of footpath ANS 101CR in the Parish of Ansty and Staplefield. WSLAF have objected. DP reported that the suggested route south relies on the use of a tarmac track. Legal access to this track is unclear and the alternative using PRoW involves an additional 3km.

5. **Speaker**

NS presented the WSCC Annual Report. In doing so he confirmed for MC that the firm contracted for the Summer Clearance program is the same as used for Highways verge clearance. He further stated that 8% of PRoW received summer clearance this year. NS emphasised the value of local community groups and confirmed for MC that any such groups could use him as the initial point of contact. PM questioned why the Gates4Stiles figures were down on last year and SA reported issues with supply and also the account during a period of IT change. SA confirmed that requests were high so far this year. NS further briefed on the PRoW Team restructure with the additional support of Business Admin, the creation of the new post of Project Support Officer and the movement to the support of the Highways Hub due to commence in November.

MC Stated that the number of issues resolved stat was very good and useful for discussions outside WSLAF.

TB Commented on the strengths of WSCC compared to other counties with regard to pro-active inspections.

DP raised an issue with uploading pics to the on-line reporting site from a mobile device. **ACTION: DP to provide evidence of the reporting issue for SA to investigate.**

MC questioned whether it was still possible to report issues by telephone and NS confirmed this was so.

DG Observed that relatively few of the capital projects appeared to be on the coastal plain. NS /SA both explained the scoring system and suggested the project locations are dictated by the need.

GE Suggested the reality is that the Annual Report cannot be prepared in time for the April meeting and so the item should routinely be scheduled for the October meeting.

6. **WSLAF matters**

i. WSLAF website

GE requested the removal of Richard BURRETT and Janet DUNCTON and the addition of Cllr DAVEY and Cllr DAVIE**. ACTION SA: Amend membership accordingly.**

ii. Members priorities

Discussion regarding potential guest speakers included WSCC Ami DYE (DMMOs), WSCC Donna TRETHEWEY (Sec 106) and the NFU. A further suggestion from GE was a representative of Rampion 2.

TB Informed the meeting that it is possible to sign up with Planning Authorities for automatic notifications.

7. **General Report**

SA presented the General Report.

RA offered that the shingle board-walk he was involved in securing is made of HDPR and is available to be viewed if that assists.

8. **DMMO – Impact on Unavailable Routes**

a) SA provided an overview on the history of DMMO management and the new process. Also described the issues of Orders being made on routes that it is impossible to provide on the ground and the steps being taken within the process to minimise the impact of this on lawful users of the network. DP questioned whether WSCC could prioritise User applications over historic applications. **ACTION: SA to liaise with ADy.**

9. **Dates of Next Meetings**

- Informal: 10 February 2027 - Horsham
- Formal: 28 April 2027 - Chichester

10. **AOB**

i. DP questions how TTROs are to be managed during the Rampion 2 project. **ACTION: SA to research**

The meeting concluded at 12.15