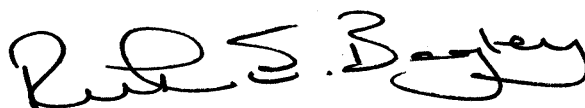


Date of issue: 3rd September 2010

MEETING	LOCAL ACCESS FORUM
DATE AND TIME:	MONDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER, 2010 AT 5.30 PM
VENUE:	MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM, TOWN HALL, BATH ROAD, SLOUGH
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER: (for all enquiries)	CLAIRE GRAY 01753 875120
LOCAL ACCESS FORUM SECRETARY	JACQUI WHEELER, RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICER 01753 477479

NOTICE OF MEETING

You are requested to attend the above Meeting at the time and date indicated to deal with the business set out in the following agenda.



RUTH BAGLEY
Chief Executive

NOTE TO MEMBERS

This meeting is an approved duty for the payment of travel expenses.

AGENDA

PART 1

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>REPORT TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
	Apologies for Absence	
1.	Election of Chair	
2.	Declarations of Interest (Members are reminded of their duty to declare personal and prejudicial interests as set out in the Slough Local Access Forum Terms of Reference).	

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>REPORT TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	
3.	Minutes of the last meeting held on 12th May 2010	1 - 6	
4.	Matters Arising (other than those on the agenda)		(5 minutes)
5.	Membership Update		(10 minutes)
6.	Gating Order Proposals Updates - Mildenhall to Lerwick Drive – Vinay Vyas - Shaggy Calf Lane to Borderside – Esther Deacon - Salt Hill Park Tunnel – Nahid Moghul - Footpath 35a – Nahid Moghul - Gating Order Process update	7 - 8	(10 minutes)
7.	Regional & National Update - Survey from Natural England and England Access Forum	9 - 12	(15 minutes)
8.	Cinder Track Action Plan	13 - 16	(10 minutes)
9.	Updates on planning applications		(10 minutes)
10.	Britwell Loop / Evergreen Trust - Update locations of signage for Britwell Loop on footpaths and how can LAF support		(10 minutes)
11.	LTP 3 - ROWIP Integration and Walking and Cycling Strategies update Walking and Cycling Interactive Map – demo		(15 minutes)
12.	Access to Jubilee River in Chalvey FP33 and 32 - Action Plan	17 - 20	(5 minutes)
13.	Any Other Business - Slough LAF Annual Report copies available - Items for next meeting (need suggestions) eg; signage to Jubilee River across the borough, cross boundary issues		(5 minutes)
14.	Date of the next meeting		

Press and Public

You are welcome to attend this meeting which is open to the press and public, as an observer. You will however be asked to leave before the Committee considers any items in the Part II agenda. Special facilities may be made available for disabled or non-English speaking persons. Please contact the Democratic Services Officer shown above for further details.

Local Access Forum – Meeting held on Wednesday, 12th May, 2010 at the Committee Room 2, Town Hall, Bath Road, Slough

Present:-

LAF Members

Laurie Tucker (Chair)
Councillor May Dodds
Toby Evans
Margery Hitchman
Ian Houghton
Councillor Satpal S Parmar
Ken Wright
Malcolm Hellings

Observers

Les James, Slough and District Civic Society

Officers, Slough Borough Council

Alex Deans, Acting Head of Highway Engineering
Bruce Hicks, Community Parks Project Officer
Gerald Pleace, Parks Development Officer
Jacqui Wheeler, Rights of Way Officer

Apologies for Absence:- David Coe and Margaret Innis

1. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Parmar declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 7, Gating Order Proposals - Update, as he lived in Mildenhall Road but he would approach the matter with an open mind.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 12th January, 2010 were approved as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising

Stoke Poges Lane / Elliman Avenue

The Forum was advised that junction improvements were going ahead as at the last meeting the Forum had been advised that this was not the case. These had been brought forward as extra funding had been made available. Members asked about the consultation processes for the scheme and were advised that notices had been placed on site. Members were concerned that they had not received any information in advance of the improvements as they had expected to see a model.. A Member suggested that it would be useful to widen the traffic islands

Local Access Forum - 12.05.10

to ensure that the road width could only accommodate one car to prevent a second from blocking the cycle path.

Agreed: That a plan for the work would be emailed to interested LAF Members.

4. Membership Update

Jacqui Wheeler (JW) advised that there had only been one response to the recent press release, a copy of which had also been placed in the Grapevine. It was agreed that information on the LAF would be placed on the front page of the Council's website. JW reported that Margaret Innis had resigned and two other Members' terms of office had expired. Members suggested that information leaflets about the LAF be sent to anybody who made a complaint or enquiry about footpaths, cycle paths, etc. A further suggestion was to put information about the LAF on the display screens in MyCouncil.

Agreed:

- (a) That letters be sent to those Members of the Forum whose term of office had expired to ascertain whether they wished to continue on the Forum.
- (b) That the suggestions detailed above be implemented in order to attract new Members

5. Evergreen Trust-Update

The Forum considered a report which provided an update on Evergreen Trust activity and the Britwell Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA). The Forum was advised that the Council had agreed a work programme and the Trust was currently waiting to see what funding would be available. There were several areas of the Trust's work programme which specifically referred to the LAF including instillation of signs, installation of steps at Lynch Hill Valley and installation of soakaways at Farnham Lane. There was some concern raised that the access for Lynch Hill Valley would be steps and Members questioned whether a ramp could be installed. The Trust's Alan Woodley was happy to meet with Members to discuss options for signage. Members discussed issues regarding access and it was noted that fencing was in place to prevent motorbikes and flytippers using the area but access was still available for pedestrians and cyclists. It was agreed that any developments regarding this would be obtained from Catherine Horsepool.

The Britwell BOA action plan looked to consult with the LAF on improvement of paths and disabled access and improvement of directional signage. It was noted that the Evergreen Trust was attending the Britwell Carnival and it was suggested that the LAF be represented at the Carnival as well.

Agreed:

- (a) That an invite be sent to all Members to visit the Lynch Hill Valley site and following this a meeting be arranged with Alan Woodley to look at the map for the Britwell Loop

Local Access Forum - 12.05.10

- (b) That the LAF be represented at the Britwell Carnival due to take place on 19th June.

6. Gating Order Proposals-Update

Mildenhall to Lerwick Drive

It was reported that this was on hold as there was insufficient evidence at present to proceed with a gating order. A Member reported that they had received concerns from residents but it was noted that problems needed to relate to the actual pathway and have to be reported to be taken into consideration.

Agreed – That a further update be provided at the next meeting.

Shaggy Calf Lane to Boarderside

The LAF considered a report which provided an update on the gating proposal. A questionnaire had been circulated which achieved a 20% response rate. Footage from a CCTV camera was also being considered along with the survey responses. However Esther Deacon (ED), Community Safety Project Officer was considering not pursuing a gating order on this alleyway due to the high useage.

Agreed – That ED attend the next meeting to provide an update.

Salt Hill Park Tunnel

Nahid Moghul, Community Safety Project Officer and JW attended a recent parks meeting where it was recommended that there was no justification for gating in the evening. A mural had recently been completed in tunnel which had received input for the design from school children.

Proposals for the Gating Order Process

JW advised that comments were requested from the LAF on proposals for the gating order process by the 16th June. Members considered a document which detailed proposals for the process, which included a suggestion for a Gating Order Committee and proposals for response rates to surveys. Members raised the following issues:

- How would non-residents, e.g. footpath users be consulted
- Whether the percentage rates for responses were for households or individuals
- That a third of responses was a high response rate as shown by the Shaggy Calf Lane Survey.

7. LTP 3- Cycling Consultation (ROWIP/LTP3 Integration)

A copy of the Council's cycling survey was distributed to Members. Responses were required by the 26th May. Members asked where the survey was available from and whether Stows Cycles had copies available. JW agreed to look into this.

Local Access Forum - 12.05.10

Members suggested that useful respondents to the survey would be the Police and possibly be royal mail. Members were asked to pass the survey on to as many people as possible. The Forum suggested that if a survey was ever carried out in future it would be useful to have a shorter more generalised survey to start with and then target focus groups for more in depth consideration.

8. Cinder Track Action Plan

Members considered an updated version of the plan which was circulated following a site visit on 4th May. Members noted that there had been work carried out without consultation and asked whether the fencing put in place was temporary. The fencing had been put in place to allow the planting along the edge to establish and were permanent. A Member noted that soil had been piled up along the edge of peoples fences. Officers advised that developers were instructed to not remove the soil.

JW advised that there was a possibility of the Cinder Track Action Group introducing a graffiti wall. There was some concern raised that the Resident's and Tenants Associations of north Slough had not been consulted about this. It was proposed that a letter from the LAF be sent to the Streetworks Team or Cable Companies as appropriate regarding the vandalism and graffiti to cable boxes. It was suggested that these may still be operational but this needed to be confirmed.

Agreed – That letters be sent in support of the proposal for a graffiti wall and highlighting the LAFs concerns about the vandalised cable boxes.

9. Regional and National Update

The LAF received an update on the England Access Forum. It was reported that the England Access Forum and Natural England were discussing future working arrangements. It was noted that there may be a lack of support for the EAF from Natural England. Natural England had requested comments and views from LAFs on future arrangements for the EAF.

At the South East LAF Members Conference advice was given on publicising LAFs. A Member suggested that a link could be put in place with Slough Council for Voluntary Service or Sunrise mental Health Group.

10. AOB

Slough LAF Annual Report

Members received a copy of the draft for the annual report which detailed the work of the LAF over the past year and included photos to be used in the report.

Agreed - That the Annual Report and photos be approved.

Local Access Forum - 12.05.10

Recent Modification Orders Jubilee River

Members were advised that the modification orders updated several footpaths and bridleways to reflect work which had already been carried out when the Jubilee River was built.

Agreed – That the Modification orders be noted

Updates on Planning Applications

Members were advised that an outline planning application for development of Kennedy Park had been approved. In principle SEGRO were supportive of a footway scheme across their land. However it was not yet confirmed and further discussions were underway. A member noted that this had been used as a walking route for the past 20 years.

Detailed planning schemes for developments on the trading estate still needed to be considered but outline planning permission had been agreed. Members asked about provision for cyclists and were concerned that the LAFs input was not being considered. Members requested further opportunities for consultation and wanted to receive updates on progress. The Forum were advised that the layout agreed included cycle routes. At this stage further detailed plans were not going forward.

Agreed –

- (a) That the agreed plans showing cycle routes be brought to the next meeting of the LAF.
- (b) That the LAF be given the opportunity to consider the detailed plans as they are taken forward.

Wild Food Project Bid Request

The Thames Valley Groundwork Trust was seeking funding from the BIG Lottery for a project which would help people in the urban fringe to improve their diet through foraging. The LAF would be able to assist with this by suggesting suitable walking routes for foraging.

Agreed – That the LAF send a letter of support for the project.

Planning Application – Intermodal Freight Exchange

Alex Deans advised the Forum that a development for an intermodal freight exchange from rail to road would mean that one Right of Way would be extinguished but another would be updated and improvements to cycle routes introduced. The LAF would receive further updates but the application had not yet been submitted.

Local Access Forum - 12.05.10

Ditton Park

A Member advised that the gate in Ditton Park was being locked indiscriminately and asked what the agreement was for this. The LAF was informed that there was only permission to lock the gate after dusk and it should not be closed at other times. JW agreed to ask Savio DeCruz to look into the closure by Computer Associates at time when flooding might occur.

Heart of Slough

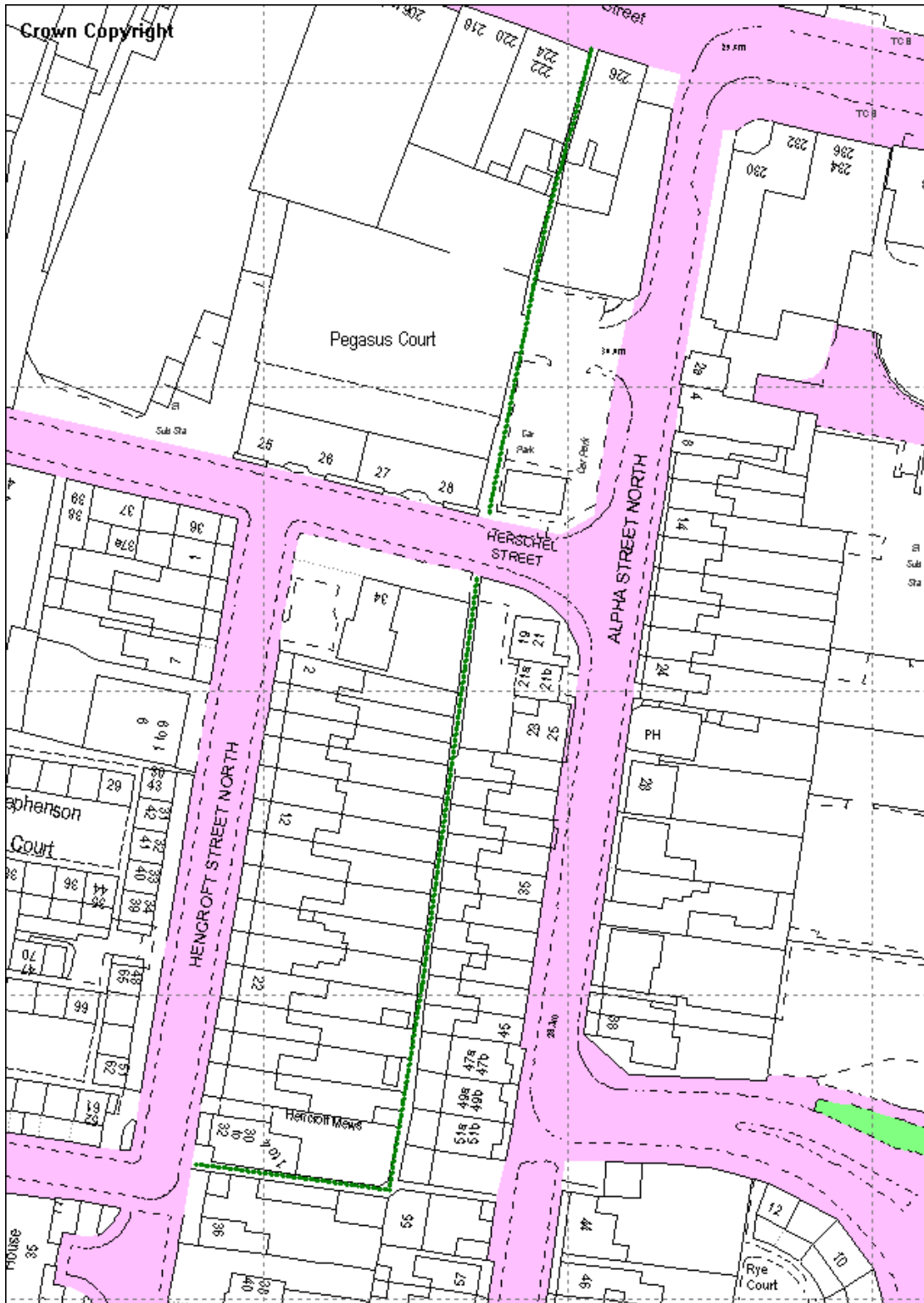
Members were advised that plans for the cycle routes around the heart of Slough area would be brought to the next meeting.

11. Next Meeting Date - 8th September, 2010 at 5.30 p.m.

(Note: The Meeting opened at 5.40 pm and closed at 7.40 pm)

SLOUGH LOCAL ACCESS FORUM – 13TH SEPTEMBER 2010

**LOCATION MAP OF FOOTPATH 35A – HIGH STREET, SLOUGH TO
HERSCHEL STREET**



This page is intentionally left blank

SLOUGH LOCAL ACCESS FORUM – 13TH SEPTEMBER 2010

REPORT ON: ENGLAND ACCESS FORUM (EAF) AND NATURAL ENGLAND JOINT SURVEY OF ALL LOCAL ACCESS FORUMS

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to provide substance that might be included in a draft response to the survey on the value of the England Access Forum (EAF) for members to agree.

2. Natural England and England Access Forum are “Seeking Views”

“In seeking your LAF’s views we would be particularly interested in comments on

- The links between EAF and the LAFs through the regional coordinators.
- The effectiveness of the links between LAFs and Natural England at a national level through EAF.
- The added value that a national body representing LAFs can bring.
- The options for EAF’s development.”

3. Items for Response

As a small urban Local Access Forum, Slough struggles to feel the involvement in the bigger picture that is easier for a larger forum to feel. Consequently, the role of the England Access Forum takes on even more significance for the Slough LAF as it provides the over arching link in the chain of communication on national and regional affairs which must be disseminated to all forums regardless of relevance. So Slough LAF will still receive consultations on Horse riding issues or coastal access for instance and can then decide on

The existence of the England Access Forum provides the impetus to allow regional meetings to have an impact at a higher level, rather than ending with shared practice alone. Bringing local issues to the fore ground on a national stage with explanations/discussions developing from individuals with the same agenda as the local members and not therefore suffering the potential contamination of another body. That agenda is the improvement of access for all, real involvement with local communities and partnership working across the health, business and user groups agendas.

It is evident that in order to best represent all Local Access Forums the EAF must operate autonomously as all LAF’s do, or try to do. The EAF cannot be placed within or be financially dependent on another organisation if the influence it could achieve is to be truly representative of the local opinion it springs from.

- England Access Forum – what should its role and format be?
Options: Remain with Natural England
Receive funding from Defra
Stand alone – be self funding
Receive funding from a variety of sources (guaranteed by central govt)
Become a charity

Funding of the EAF ought to be via Defra, as the individual appointing authorities are already asked to fund individual LAF's and the EAF will provide a valuable consultation asset during the drafting stage of new policy. In the long term there is the potential for the EAF along with Natural England to help make the process of drafting new policy more effective and efficient in terms of being in closer contact with local opinion.

- Should the way that information is currently co-ordinated through the regional co-ordinator alter?

Is there a danger that the communication links could fail?

Communication links are key if the hierarchical structure of the LAF's and role of the EAF is to be successful. This calls for close working practices between LAF co-ordinators and LAF officers in individual authorities and the regional and national Natural England offices.

Sadly since the EAF began it has not been able to begin seriously undertaking its role due to problems with its relationship with Natural England. It is hoped that with the results of this survey and an added motivation from all parties, these difficulties can be left behind and a new positive working relationship developed which benefits all.

APPENDIX – COPY OF CONSULTATION LETTER

Duncan Graham CBE
Chairman of The England Access Forum

Dear LAF Chair,

Review of the England Access Forum:

You will be aware from recent correspondence that Natural England and the England Access Forum are currently discussing future working arrangements. This is timely since it also corresponds to the decision taken at our formative meeting in May 2008, where we agreed to review progress after two years. We are now seeking your views as the Statutory Access Forums.

We recognise the good links between Natural England and LAFs which are developing regionally, and which we wish to continue to support.



In seeking your LAF's views we would be particularly interested in comments on

- The links between EAF and the LAFs through the regional coordinators.
- The effectiveness of the links between LAFs and Natural England at a national level through EAF.
- The added value that a national body representing LAFs can bring.
- The options for EAF's development.

The wealth of experience and knowledge resident within England's 81 Local Access Forums is invaluable and we believe that the England Access Forum has a key role to play representing the LAFs at the national level to Government, Natural England and other national bodies. We wish to see the EAF properly resourced, and your responses will help us assess what is needed.

Please do let us have your LAF's views and also any other comments you might wish to make. We would welcome your views by the end of September 2010 please to Andrew Mackintosh (Andrew.Mackintosh@naturalengland.org.uk), the Natural England secretary to EAF.

Yours sincerely



Duncan Graham CBE
Chairman of England Access Forum
and Analysis



Rob Cooke
Director Environmental Advice
Natural England

This page is intentionally left blank

Site Visit	Attendees	Apologies	
19/05/09	Jacqui Wheeler; Vinay Vyas; David Kilby; Ken Wright(LAF + North Slough Residents Forum); PCSO Soden; Residents; Jean Sellars and ?	Savio Decruz	
04.05.10	Jacqui Wheeler; Vinay Vyas; David Kilby; Ken Wright(LAF + North Slough Residents Forum); Becca Aitken(Probation Service); Jean Sellars (Resident), Malcolm Hellings and Les James (LAF Members)	Margery Hitchman, Ian Houghton (LAF Members)	
Item	Detail	Owner	Progress / Action
Lighting	Light number 013 (between Oatlands Drive and Warrington Ave) – No lantern cover	JW	Lighting engineer informed
	Foliage covering lights in Gloucester Ave – Hampshire Ave section	JW	Lighting engineer informed
	Granville Ave – Cumberland Ave section. 032 and 035 obscured. 039 lantern cover come off	JW	Lighting engineer informed
	Light Column 039 - Cumberland Ave to Canterbury Ave link path	JW	Lighting Engineer Informed 04.05.10
Fencing	Is the chain link fencing temporary?	SD	No they are permanent. On 04.05.10 – the inspection group questioned the above statement. The fence is a maintenance liability both in terms of damage to the actual fence and also in difficulty retrieving litter from behind it.
	Maintenance schedule for fences that are vandalised?	SD	During installation of the fence.
Gating	Letters to be sent to residents of 166 and 164A/B Canterbury Avenue about gating off path leading to cinder track.	VV	Consultation may need to be wider. Gate vis-à-vis permanent barrier to be considered
Surface of Path	Fibre Gravel loose and always broken glass. Concerns rose about risk to cyclists.	SD/JW	Gravel will be swept off as soon as primary layer is bedded in. Expected to be swept in September 09. Co-ordinate Community Payback and Enterprise to sweep and edge up the

			path. Ongoing problem. Comm. Payback have done work cutting veg. back along section between Essex Ave and Cumberland Ave. They were meant to do weeding and sweeping off the path edges. JW to chase Becca Aitken for a date they will return and finish sweeping and weeding.
	Old leaves from last season still along edges of path	JW	Chase Community Payback to come back and hand sweep all the way along the edges. Thereafter a regular order for the sweeper can be made with Enterprise.
Planning issues	84 Gloucester Avenue – large brick built extension + glass on top of brick wall	VV	Planning enforcement informed Concern about Slough Sheds reiterated. Follow up to see what action is being taken. Email sent to Planning Enforcement
	Hampshire Ave – Canterbury Ave section. Fake blue garage shutter door hiding UPVC doors and windows section leading to possible accommodation.	VV	Planning enforcement informed
	Barbwire on rear fence panel (opp 1 Granville Ave)	VV	Planning enforcement informed
	Sign to Grove Superstore	JW	Inform Planning Enforcement New fence has been erected preventing this access through from Cinder Track to the shop
Litter	Bin missing from Essex Ave south side junction with Cinder Track	JW	DK to get another bin placed at this location
Dog Fouling	Dog bin installation	SD	3 bins installed as. 4 general waste bins to be installed
ASB	Increase patrolling in hotspot locations.	VV	PCSOs, Wardens and Police aware
Graffiti	Request for artwork along the Track	JW	Contact Church re; graffiti wall Letter from LAF to Head of Highways needs to be approved by LAF and then can

			be sent
	Gloucester Ave – Hampshire Ave section – Cable boxes heavily graffitied. Investigate if cable boxes are being used.	JW/VV	Outstanding. To be actioned. Chase Adam Shaffi on this issue and suggest letter from LAF to put pressure on to get all unused boxes removed, but to whom?
Overhanging Veg	Vine overhanging path from 2a/b Canterbury Ave	JW	Send Highways Enforcement letter to property owner. Letter sent, further enforcement due
Fly Tip	Rear of 126 / 128 Canterbury Ave flytipped.	VV	Outstanding. To be actioned
	Rear of properties north of Cumberland ave	VV /JW	Outstanding. To be actioned

This page is intentionally left blank

Action Plan – Chalvey Access to Jubilee River (Footpaths 32 & 33)

Site Visit		Attendees		
17.06.10		Jacqui Wheeler, David Kilby, Joe Byrne		
23.06.10		JW, Kam Bhatti		
19.07.10		JW, JB, Head of Montem(Charlie), Kevin Hendry (Montem School artist)		
01.09.10		JW, JB, Karen Porter (Eco Champion at Slough & Eton School)		
No.	Item	Detail	Owner	Progress/Action
1.	Paint Mural on Concrete Wall of the Waste Transfer Site	Discuss with Head of Montem Primary School and Slough & Eton School. Discuss and show photos. Gain interest and agreement for this to be school art project	Joe Byrne/Jacqui Wheeler	Joe has contacted Head of Montem School who is keen on the project. Site visit with Montem Primary School on 19.07.10. JW to arrange a site visit with Slough & Eton during holidays. Site Visit with Slough & Eton was very positive. This would be a good project for their GCSE Art students to undertake and would incorporate the recycling /protection of the environment part of their curriculum too.
		Dep. Head Slough & Eton is Peter Collins 01753 520824		
		Contact suitable artist to brief on requirements	JB/JW/KB	JB has contacted and need to arrange date to brief the artist on site.
		Email Richard West, Head of Enterprise, Nigel Dicker, and Head of Environmental Svcs to get their initial approval. Copy to DK, JB, JW, KB and Denise Alder	JW	Approval received via email from both RW and ND

LOCAL ACCESS FORUM REPORT – 13th September 2010 – AGENDA ITEM 12

		Wall would need to be jet washed and brushed	DK to price	Approx price £47 x 4hrs
		Paint Steel Girders holding the wire mesh fencing in place	DK	
		Paint base coat on the concrete wall	DK/KB	Labour quoted at £780. Waiting to find out from KB if paint will be free through ICI contact.
		Involve Local Access Forum and Chalvey Partnership Board (Community Group) in design consultation	JW/KB	Chalvey Partnership Board does not want a mural to be painted. They would rather it be a plain wall. Need to attend their next meeting on 21 st Sept to try to gain support for mural and talk to Denise Alder as well. If LAF supports mural then could there be a letter to Denise and the Partnership Board from the LAF in support.
2.	Paint and paint mural (decided not possible to do mural on this fence) on Corrugated Metal Fence	Arrange meeting to get R & C Motor Company (car repair Co.) approval. JB has their contact details.	JB/JW	Email confirmation received on 29.06.10 that R & C Motor Co. give approval for their fence to be painted
Ask R & C Motor Co. to repair section of barbed wire overhanging the path		JW	R & C Motor Co have confirmed they will repair	
Assess legality of the barbed wire overhanging the public highway		JW		
3.	Mural and paint under the railway bridge	Ask Network Rail if the bridge can be muralled/painted.	JW	

LOCAL ACCESS FORUM REPORT – 13th September 2010 – AGENDA ITEM 12

4.	Footpaths 32 and 33 from railway bridge to south side of M4 bridge	Litter picking required behind guardrails on both sides of railway line on HA land. Could be done by local volunteers.	JB/KB	
		Request Network Rail clear areas behind green palisade fencing of broken glass/litter	JW	
		Ask Enterprise to fix their palisade fencing and clear rubbish from behind it.	DK/IC	
		Dog fouling to be monitored and if necessary an appropriate bin installed and added to the emptying schedule.	DK/JW	

This page is intentionally left blank