

KCAF - Minutes of the Meeting
Monday 14th March 2016
Natural England Offices, International House, Ashford

In attendance:

John Bridle	<i>JB</i>	Chair
Richard Dickenson	<i>RD</i>	User Representative - Motorised Vehicles (Vice Chair)
Anne Beecham	<i>AB</i>	Other Interest Representative - Tourism (Vice Chair)
Anne Rillie	<i>AR</i>	User Representative - Equestrian
Linda Griffin	<i>LG</i>	Other Interest Representative – Cultural and landscape Heritage
Marcelle Lingham	<i>MLi</i>	Other Interest Representative – Sports and Rural Activities
Ron Butcher	<i>RB</i>	Other Interest Representative – Parish Councils & Disability
Theresa Trussell	<i>TT</i>	Other Interest Representative – Multi User Groups
Jeremy Boxal	<i>JBox</i>	Landowner / Management Representative
Averil Brice	<i>ABr</i>	User Representative - Walking
Chris Jelly	<i>CJ</i>	Other Interest Representative – Dog Walking
Alison Clifton	<i>AC</i>	Minutes (KCC)

Advisors:

Colin Finch	<i>CF</i>	Countryside Access Improvement Plan Officer (KCC)
Graham Rusling	<i>GR</i>	Public Rights of Way Manager (Kent County Council)
Kirstie Williams	<i>KW</i>	Highways Manager (Kent County Council)

Apologies:

Sue Saunders	<i>SS</i>	Medway Council
Mick Laidlaw	<i>ML</i>	Representative – Kent Police

Actions and updates from previous meeting and interim matters arising

The Minutes from the 14.12.15 were agreed (with an amendment to Action 3).

Amendment - Action 3: CF, JB, RD, AR and GR to set up byways Sub Group in Jan 2016.

1. Natural England Support

JB discussed concerns regarding funding and resources with James Seymour (Natural England). JS agreed all future meetings could be held at the Natural England, Ashford Office.

Volunteer Support Officer: JB asked for additional Forum support.

GR and CF to appoint a 'Volunteer' Local Access Forum Officer.

Action 1: GR to send the Local Access Forum Officer's, Job Description to JB and Jennie Scott (Volunteer Officer).

Elham Dog Walking Guide: The Draft guide is nearly complete.

Action 2: JB to ask Natural England for support, in finalising / printing the Elham Dog Walking Guide.

2. LAF Report

Contact details (email addresses):

JB requested email addresses for all Forum Members. All Members (present) agreed.

Action 3: All Members to email JB direct, with their email address.

Membership: JB asked if a Health and Social Care Representative should join the Forum.

3. Highways and Byways Working Group (Richard Dickenson / Kirstie Williams)

Highways Gazetteer:

Action 4: KW to arrange a meeting with Highways Definition and KCAF - Highways Working Group (AB, RD, RB, MLI and ABr) to discuss the Highway's Gazetteer.

Action 5: RD to discuss concerns regarding illegal activity on byways with ML.

Byways in Rucking, Farningham and Guston:

The Consultation period has now closed. GR to draft a Report.

Action 6: GR to discuss the Rucking, Farningham and Guston Byways Reports with the Working Group in April / May 16.

GR raised concern, that a seasonal closure would be difficult to police.
Could these sites be monitored under RIPA?

Byways in Bredhurst, Alkham and Holly Hill:

Several reports regarding illegal activity have been received.

All incidents need to be reported direct to Kent Police Tel: 101

4. KCAF Training needs & Opportunities (Marcelle Lingham / Linda Griffin)

MLi consulted 6 Forum's.

There is no bespoke training for LAF member's, however training is available on the British Horse Society and Rambler websites. The Institute of Public Rights of Way also provide training.

Funding: Could this be acquired through small grants?

5. KCAF Priorities – Programme of future work

Long Distance Paths

TT and AR are looking at a long distance route to Canterbury, which follows parts of the Pilgrims Way and North Downs Way.

TT and AR to discuss with P Morris (North Downs Way Officer), Public Rights of Way Teams and Sustrans.

Planning Applications: CF to send all applications to JB.

Lower Thames Crossing: KCC has already commented on 'Option C.'

Action 7: RD to respond on the Lower Thames Crossing proposal, on behalf of the Forum.

Junction 10A (M20): The Consultation closes on March 19th 2016.

The Forum would like an equestrian crossing, linking south Ashford to the Downs.

Action 8: LG to draft a response on behalf of the Forum (and send to JB).

Lorry Park (M20): The Consultation identifies two sites.

Planning Applications: CF to send all applications to JB.

Alkham Valley Road: **Action 9: KW to investigate reports of fly tipping.**

Cyclopark: AR raised concern regarding the bridge and the parapet.

Action 10: CF to discuss the height of the bridge parapet with Network Rail.

6. AOB

Geocaching: ABr recommended this fast growing hobby, which is very popular with families.

New Property Searches: will ask for additional information (whether a property is adjacent or abuts a Public Right of Way).

8. Date of next meeting

Date:	Monday 13th June 2016
Time:	1.45pm
Venue:	Natural England Offices, International House, Dover Place, Ashford, Kent TN23 1HU

Date:	Monday 12th September 2016
Time:	1.45pm
Venue:	Tbc

Date:	Monday 12th December 2016
Time:	1.45pm
Venue:	Tbc