

WORCESTERSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM - SERVICE DELIVERY SUB-GROUP

10 am on 16th June 2022 – Virtual Meeting via MS Teams

Attendees: Bobbie Matulja = BM (LAF Chairman), Rowena Hayward = RH (WCC), Tony Kerbey = AK (LAF Secretary), Phoebe Woodhouse = PW (Asst LAF Secretary), John Cuthbertson = JC, Peter Hughes = PH, Lyndon Bracewell = LB, Glyn Thomas = GT, Linda Robinson = LR.

Agenda Item 1 - Public Rights of Way Core data and Performance Indicators 2021/22

RH - Started by explaining that we have gained 1 more Km of Public Right of Way overall but 1 less Km of Bridleway; This is probably down to diversions and changes in path length. There were few PPOs due to advertising restrictions, but this will improve next year- these being the only changes. RH then took questions on the following:

BM – Asked if we would only see changes when things start happening with the DMMO.

RH – commented that there’s normally not a big change in km of path with PPOs, but if a DMMO is confirmed then often that will add more network length

RH post-meeting notes:

RH has asked Phil Coulson and Will Saunders to supply the list of Parishes without path wardens (see Appendix 1 enclosed).

RH was also asked for a Breakdown of the obstructions by type; figures are below (supplied by Phil Coulson): See table below

Deposits	Deterrent Notice	Intimidation (person/animal)	Building	Barrier Across	Disputed Route	Encroachment	Barbed Wire/Electric Fence Adjacent	Obstructions Total
63	32	46	139	430	10	25	114	859

Current Resources

RH- mentioned that there are changes in staffing as of the 1st of April 2022 compared to last year. She goes on to say there are three more staff, all of which are temporary positions, changing the total from 14 to 17.

Revenue Budget

RH – Explained this is the same as last year and excludes staffing. She then receives questions on the following:

BM – Said there were no figures last year and explained that the bottom three categories: revenue budget, revenue budget per kilometre and capital programme budget, were all still under review.

RH – Explained this is because we did not have the figures at the time of last year’s subgroup meeting. She also explained that we have kept the same revenue budget which was increased from

last year. She then goes on to say the capital budget is still being confirmed, but we're anticipating it being £300,000.

Performance Indicators

RH – Explained the indicators are from April 2021 through to the end of March 2022 and comparing this from the beginning of the year to the end of the year, there are 501 less reports outstanding, which is 9% less than the beginning of the year, this is a significant reduction in outstanding reports for defects.

Obstructions

RH – Explained that this had gone up from 744 to 833. She then passed on a message from Phil Coulson explaining that the ongoing increase in enforcement type reports is largely down to an increase in the use of the network and in some cases a reaction to this by the landowners.

Volunteering

RH – Mentioned that we have seen an increase in the number of parishes that have a Parish Path Warden; rising from 61% last year to 72% this year. RH then received the following questions:

GT- asked if there is anything that can be done to improve the linkages between Parish path wardens, for example, Ramblers in ramblers working groups.

Post meeting note: The Ramblers representatives can pass their details to relevant PPWs via Will Saunders WSaunder@worcestershire.gov.uk.

Mapping

RH – Explained that there is an increase in DMMO applications. There are 3 DMMOs being advertised currently. RH stated that the DMMO list had increased from 68 to 76.

BM - Mentioned Town and Country Planning Act (TCPA) diversions to enable development where paths need to be moved for things like housing estates but questioned how they are prioritised due to planning deadlines.

RH – Answered that the TCPA orders can only be done by the planning authorities. So, if, for example, it was Malvern Hills or Wyre Forest, then they would be the authority that process the path order application; WCC are a consultee.

Emergency/Temporary Closures

RH – This year we had 52, last year was 56.

Rights of Way Improvement Plan

BM – The LAF received a letter from Paul Smith, Assistant Director for Highways and Transport Operations following the chair's letter of concern about the lack of a recent ROWIP. She read out the content of the letter which was distributed to all LAF members prior to the sub-group. In outline, the chair welcomed the ROWIP's link to the next Local Transport Plan.

The meeting closed at 11:14am

Phoebe Woodhouse
Asst LAF Secretary

June 2022

Appendix 1 - PARISHES WITH NO PATH WARDENS

Abberton	Hunnington	Wyre Piddle
Astley and Dunley	Kemerton	
Berrow	Kenswick	
Bickmarsh	Kidderminster	
Birtsmorton	Kington	
Bockleton	Knighton on Teme	
Bredicot	Knightwick	
Bredons Norton	Kyre	
Broadwas	Little Malvern	
Broadway	Lowe Sapey	
Bromsgrove	Norton & Lenchwick	
Churchill	Oddingley	
Churchill and Blackedown	Pendock	
Cotheridge	Redditch	
Doddenham	Ribbesford	
Dodderhill	Rochford	
Dormston	Severn Stoke	
Doverdale	Spetchley	
Droitwich	St Peter the Great	
Earls Croome	Stanford with Orleton	
Eckington	Stoke Bliss	
Great Witley	Stourport on Severn	
Hadzor	Upper Arley (north west)	
Hallow	Upton Warren	
Hillhampton	Warndon	
Holt	Welland	
Honeybourne	White Ladies Aston	
Huddington	Wickhamford	