

Rutland County Council

Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP

Telephone 01572 722577 Email governance@rutland.gov.uk

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A meeting of the **RUTLAND COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUM** will be held Via Zoom - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86149649844> on **Wednesday, 28th September, 2022** commencing at 2.00 pm when it is hoped you will be able to attend.

Recording of Council Meetings: Any member of the public may film, audio-record, take photographs and use social media to report the proceedings of any meeting that is open to the public. A protocol on this facility is available at www.rutland.gov.uk/my-council/have-your-say/

Yours faithfully

Mark Andrews
Chief Executive

A G E N D A

1) APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

2) APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

3) WELCOME & APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies for absence.

4) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the Regulations, Members are invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have and the nature of those interests in respect of items on this Agenda and/or indicate if Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to them.

5) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

To confirm the minutes of the Rutland Countryside Access Forum held on the 9th March 2022.

(Pages 5 - 10)

No.	Ref:	Action	Allocated to:	Completed
1	5	Highways to be informed about the signs for Wardley by the A47 and sign at crossing point on to the Bridleway	Vicki Semple	Completed in May 2022
2	5	Highways to be informed about the need for a horse user sign in Lyddington.	Vicki Semple	Completed in May 2022
3	5	Rosemary to review where current signs highlighting horses on the roads and bridleways. To then research areas that she felt needed more signage and signs to be relocated. Documenting any incidents, she had been made aware of or witnessed in these areas to support the requirement. She would also look at the use of temporary signs erected by the police.	Rosemary Harris	Completed and fed back to Forum Members and Stuart Crook by email
4	6	John Law to draft letter to DEFRA regarding replacement for Higher Level Stewardship (HLS	John Law	Completed
5	6	Governance to circulate the letter to Members of the Forum and then send the letter to DEFRA copying the local MP and Natural England.	Governance	Completed and response to be discussed at September Meeting
6	7	Governance to review the DEFRA guidelines recommending secretarial support.	Governance	Completed
7	8	Paul to give a written update regarding the Canal project.	Paul Dadford	Scheduled for September Meeting
8	11	Governance to seek members views on in person or virtual meeting for next meeting.	Vicki Semple	Views sought without preferences expressed

6) MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

To discuss any matters arising from the previous minutes that are not included in the agenda.

7) GREEN SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

To receive a written report by John Law.
(Pages 11 - 12)

8) COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS VOLUNTEERS

To receive a written report by John Law.
(Pages 13 - 16)

9) MILES WITHOUT BARRIERS

To receive a written report from John Law.
(Pages 17 - 18)

10) THE BRITISH HORSE SOCIETY - EQUESTRIAN ACCESS

To receive a presentation from Wendy Bannerman from the British Horse Society.
(Pages 19 - 34)

11) LEGAL ORDERS

To receive a report by Stuart Cook, Highways Asset & Policy Manager.
(Pages 35 - 42)

12) RECRUITMENT TO THE FORUM

To receive a verbal update from Stuart Cook, Highways Asset & Policy Manager.

13) RESPONSE TO LETTER ON PERMISSIVE ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

To discuss the response to the letter on permissive access arrangements.

14) THE OAKHAM CANAL GREEN CORRIDOR - PROJECT UPDATE

(Pages 43 - 44)

15) ANY URGENT BUSINESS

16) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 8th March 2023.

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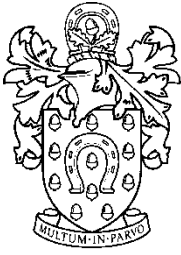
DISTRIBUTION

MEMBERS OF THE RUTLAND COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUMNAME OF COMMITTEE:

1.	Councillor A Brown (Chair)
2.	Councillor Rick Wilson
3.	Mr R Brett
4.	Mr J Buchanan
5.	W Cross
6.	Mrs R Harris
7.	Mr W Kirstein
8.	Mr J Law
9.	Mr R Linford
10.	Mr J Williams

OFFICERS:

11.	Stuart Crook	Highways Asset Management and Policy Manager
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Minutes of the **RUTLAND COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUM** held via Zoom on Wednesday, 9th March, 2022 at 2.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillor Andrew Brown (Chair)
John Clarkson
William Cross
Rosemary Harris
John Law

ABSENT: Councillor Miranda Jones
John Williams

OFFICERS: Stuart Crook Highways Asset Management and Policy Manager
V Semple Governance Administrator

1 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Harry Baines, James Buchannan, Richard Brett, Roger Linford, Tommy Plummer and William Kirstein.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on the 6th October 2021 were considered and **AGREED** as a true record.

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

John Law informed the forum that he had not managed to write the report regarding Spraying. He would advise the forum when he would be submitting the item at a later meeting.

5 WARNING SIGNS CONSIDERATION

Rosemary Harris expressed her concerns regarding the lack of signs around for horse riders and cyclists and the incorrect location of these signs in some areas. Rosemary advised the group that the Highway code had been updated due to the increase of accidents with these users involved. The code now read that when passing horses

and horse drawn carriages drivers should allow for a 2-metre passing width and not exceed 10 miles an hour.

In particular Rosemary mentioned signs at Wardley by the A47 where they had been erected many years ago and now required moving as they were incorrectly placed after changes over the years. She also mentioned that there was no sign at a crossing point on to the Bridleway that sat just beyond a bend making the crossing extremely dangerous to horse users. The Chair advised that Highways should be informed regarding this.

ACTION: Vicki Semple

Another village Rosemary felt would benefit from a horse user sign was Lyddington as they do not have any off-road riding there. The Chair asked for this to also be raised to Highways.

ACTION: Vicki Semple

Rosemary advised that she would be reviewing where signs were currently highlighting horses on the roads and bridleways. She would then research areas that she felt needed more signage and signs to be relocated. She would also be documenting any incidents she had been made aware of or witnessed in these areas to support the requirement. She would look at the use of temporary signs erected by the police that were tied on to post using cable ties. She had come across many of these that had slipped down the post and were even facing away from the road making them unreadable to drivers.

ACTION: Rosemary Harris

6 PERMISSIVE ACCESS AGREEMENTS

John Law updated the forum on the current situation of Permissive Access Agreements. He advised that he would draft a letter to DEFRA, raising concerns about the issues regarding the replacement for Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) schemes as they do not seem to be considering payments for permissive access, other than for access to woodlands.

ACTION: John Law

It was agreed that governance team would circulate the letter to Members of the Forum and then send the letter to DEFRA copying the local MP and Natural England.

ACTION: Governance

John also raised concerns about administration of any scheme that replaced HLS. John believed that the schemes often failed to deliver all the anticipated benefits due to lack of enforcement.

In previous years many of the permissive access routes were unsigned, incorrectly described, not maintained to a reasonable standard, had a lack of access and various other issues. They would have failed compliance checks if they had been reviewed. Members of the Forum agreed it was important for the public to be able to access the countryside and see what happens on farms. They felt the health and educational benefits of this outweighed the cost of the funding for the routes.

7 SECRETARIAL DUTIES RELATING TO LAF SUB GROUPS

Councillor A Brown agreed to forward the Governance's response to John Law and all Members regarding the Secretarial support that could be offered. John also highlighted that DEFRA guidelines suggest that Secretarial support would be expected to alleviate workload for Members. It was agreed that Governance should review the guidelines recommending secretarial support.

ACTION: Governance

8 UPDATE ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF ACCESS ALONG THE OLD OAKHAM CANAL

Paul Dadford, Oakham Canal Project Manager gave a verbal update regarding the progress at the Old Canal in Oakham. He informed the forum that the Northern Section E154 which was last reported to be in a bad condition with a sloping path and very waterlogged, had now been worked on. A team of local volunteers had been in and helped level the full 420 metres path and given it a firm surface. They had also replaced a foot bridge that required maintenance and next they had plans to replace the footbridge that went across the dam and would be looking at more waterlogged areas on the E154 South side. Paul also informed the group that they had recently been on 'Escape to the Country' talking about all their project at the Canal.

Members Congratulated Paul and his team of all their efforts on the project and it was agreed that Paul would provide a written update for the next meeting.

ACTION: Paul Dadford

9 LEGAL ORDERS AND PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Stuart Crook, Highways Asset Management and Policy Manager, introduced a report setting out two legal orders relating to proposed changes to public rights of way and one definitive map modification order for the Forum to consider.

Item 1: Proposed diversion of public footpath E229 at Home Farm in Ketton, to facilitate construction of a residential development.

This application had been approved in principle by Planning but had been complicated by the developer's intention to have the diverted footpath follow an estate road. This is contrary to guidance (circular 1/09) and can make liability for maintenance difficult to determine. Rosemary Harris suggested that the path be upgraded to a Bridleway and Stuart Crook confirmed that would be something they would look to do in the future. William Cross expressed his frustration that this application had been approved by Planning before the diversion of the footpath had been agreed and fully evaluated.

Item 2: The Rutland County Council District Council (Preston) Bridleway E252 and Footpath E253 Diversion Order (No1) 2021 was made on the 22nd December

The diversion altered the point at which a Bridleway terminated on the A6003, by moving it to a safer location. The diversion order was confirmed on 2nd March, and only some minor work needed to be undertaken for the route to be ready and useable.

Item 3: A definitive map modification order to record a footpath between Main Street in Barrow and Sheep Dyke in Cottesmore.

A group in Cottesmore called Ways Around Cottesmore had submitted an application for a modification order (DMMO) to have a route added to the definitive map. All affected landowners have objected to the recording of the footpath. Rutland County Council have 12 months to determine the application and assess the evidence which, on the first impression, appeared to have been very well researched.

Stuart Crook made the Forum aware of the following major Planning Applications that will affect the rights of way network in Rutland;

- [Mallard Pass](#) (no RCC ref as it's a national infrastructure project).
- Manor Green, Ketton ([2022/0066/MAF](#))
- Home Farm, Ketton ([2020/1254/MAF](#))
- Ranksborough Solar Farm ([2019/1249/MAF](#))

Stuart Crook informed members of the recent announcement by DEFRA regarding important changes to the rights of way package of reforms. Work on the package had been underway for many years but the legislation required to implement these reform measures was not yet ready and considerable work remained to complete the work.

DEFRA had therefore decided to progress the Right to Apply and Cost Recovery Statutory Instruments only and to repeal the 2026 cut-off date. They felt that would strike some balance across stakeholder concerns and interests, whilst recognising that it didn't deliver on all the benefits originally envisaged.

More detail and information will follow at some point. In particular, there is still a desire to implement some of the useful things from DeReg such as modification consent orders, advertising changes, and so on – but it will depend whether they can be 'decoupled' from the sections that will not be progressed.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the forum **REVIEWED** and **NOTED** the Legal Orders.
- b) That the forum **REVIEWED** and **NOTED** the planning applications.

10 ANY URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be confirmed following the publication of the Programme of Meetings 2022/23. It was asked by Members if the next meeting could be in person. The Chair advised he would go with the overall consensus of the group. Governance to email members closer to the time of the next meeting.

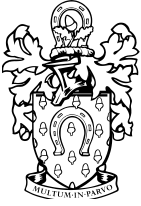
Action: Vicki Semple

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Chairman closed the meeting at 3.11pm.
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RUTLAND COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUM

28 SEPTEMBER 2022

GREEN SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

JOHN LAW

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1. To inform the LAF of the communications taking place between John Law and Emma-Jane Perkins of the Community Care Services.

2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN

2.1 The Disability sub group of the Joint Lincolnshire Local Access Forum is working with the Lincolnshire's Social Prescribing Team's Link Manager to include PROW, Countryside For All routes and Countryside Access Volunteers in the opportunities the team offer their clients. Clearly this information can be useful to the people of Rutland. Hence Emma-Jane has been made aware of the Rutland walk and Countryside For All leaflets. Lincolnshire walk and Countryside For All leaflets are also going to be made available, as well as volunteering as Countryside Access volunteers.

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RUTLAND COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUM

28 SEPTEMBER 2022

COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS VOLUNTEERS

JOHN LAW

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To explain the benefits of having Countryside Access Volunteers and recommend the way forward.

2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

2.1 Lincolnshire County Council uses volunteers to help ensure the PROW are in good order. Clearly being able to use volunteers to assist in maintaining Rutland PROW will help improve the accessibility of the routes. The Lincolnshire County Council information pack for would be Rights of Way volunteers, is included in the appendix.

2.2 Currently the Rights of Way team is short of one member of staff. If it is decided that volunteers should be used in this area, then training of volunteers would need to be put on hold until the vacancy is filled and the probationary period is completed successfully by this member of staff.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 John Law to discuss this issue with Stuart Crook once the new member of staff has completed their probationary period successfully.

4 APPENDICES

4.1 See the Lincolnshire County Council information attached

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COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Do you enjoy spending time in the countryside? Why not volunteer and help manage your local rights of way.

Is there a footpath or right of way close to your home or have you got a favourite local walk or ride?

Would you like to play an active role in helping us manage Lincolnshire's public rights of way (PRoW) network?

If you answered 'yes' to these questions then you could be just the person we are looking for!

No previous experience or knowledge of rights of way is necessary as we will provide all the training, equipment and information you need.

Why volunteer with us?

- ◆ You will be making a difference to the rights of way network, a valuable asset for both local people and visitors to an area.
- ◆ You will be helping to keep the network open and easy to use.
- ◆ You can use your existing skills and develop new ones.
- ◆ You will gain a sense of achievement and be part of a network of like-minded people.
- ◆ You will explore and discover the Lincolnshire countryside.
- ◆ Walking/cycling and riding are excellent forms of exercise and can help keep you active and well.
- ◆ It's flexible – you can do it when it suits you and for as long as you want.

Why is it important to keep rights of way open and easy to use?

- ◆ They are an important asset for an area, allowing access to the countryside including many important historic and wildlife sites.
- ◆ They provide an opportunity for people to exercise (walk, run, cycle and ride) and spend time in the fresh air which is good for both mental and physical well being.
- ◆ They may attract visitors to area who want to explore the local countryside. In turn they may support local businesses (pubs, shops, cafes etc).
- ◆ They have a role to play in sustainable transport, being used for local journeys such as taking the children to school, visiting local shops and facilities.
- ◆ They are part of our heritage.

What does volunteering involve?

- ◆ Regularly checking local footpaths/bridleways or a promoted route to ensure they are open and easy to use.
- ◆ Replacing damaged waymarkers to ensure routes are easy to follow.
- ◆ Removing vegetation overhanging gates, bridges and stiles.
- ◆ Be the eyes and ears on the ground, reporting any problems you find to us.

Who will provide the equipment necessary?

We will provide you with any tools, materials and safety equipment you need for the time you volunteer with us (for example: maps, high visibility waistcoat, first aid kit, gloves, secateurs)

What about insurance and health & safety?

Lincolnshire county council apply the same standards of health and safety to authorised volunteers as employees.

Authorised volunteers will be covered by the Council's employee liability insurance.

We will provide you with risk assessments for the activities you undertake as a volunteer.

Who can volunteer?

Almost anyone over the age of 18. But please be aware that there may be uneven and muddy ground and stiles on some routes.

Do I need to know about the countryside and rights of way?

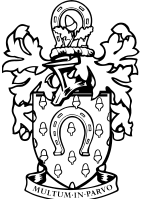
No. We can provide training as necessary, for example map reading, and will provide you with all the information you need.

Where will I be volunteering?

We hope that volunteers will survey rights of way and promoted routes close to their home, but there may be opportunities further afield.

How do I apply to become a countryside access volunteer?

If you would like to be a volunteer please complete the application form provided.



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RUTLAND COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUM

28 SEPTEMBER 2022

MILES WITHOUT BARRIERS

JOHN LAW

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To update the LAF on progress and next steps. To seek advice from the LAF on how they wish to promote and inform the public of the routes of miles without barriers.

2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 To enable more people with limited mobility to use the PROW it was felt that RCC should reduce the number of stiles and replace them with accessible gates. Whilst this is still required, there are other factors that can improve accessibility on the PROW network. This is by informing the public of routes which are most accessible. Fortunately, Rutland CC PROW Database holds all the PROW assets with their locations and PROW reference numbers.
- 2.2 It was decided to use the information on the database to identify the PROWs without stiles, steps and bridges. This has been carried out. The next task is to identify which of the PROWs without these barriers, have a barrier free route starting and ending at a public highway other than a PROW. Once this task has been carried out, it would be helpful if the barrier free routes could be checked by volunteers to ensure there are no obstacles. We can then display these Miles Without Barrier routes on the RCC website.
- 2.3 In future from the RCC PROW Database we can also prioritise routes that currently have one stile, to change to accessible gates.

3 ISSUES FOR THE LAF TO CONSIDER AND ADVISE RCC

- 3.1 How to make the public aware of the Miles without Barriers.
- 3.2 How to promote the web page of the Miles without Barriers.

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19 The challenges and opportunities for equestrian access in Rutland

Wendy Bannerman

Access Field Officer, E & W Midlands

Wendy.bannerman@bhs.org.uk

07783888300



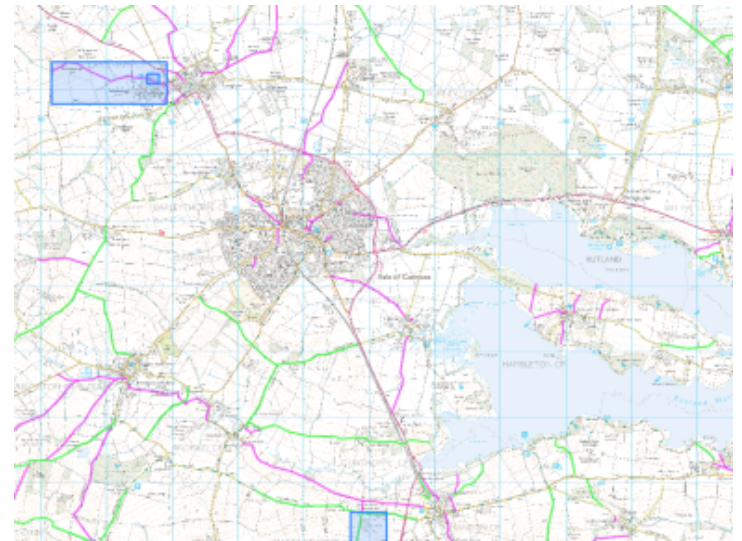
Safety

- Statistics produced from the Horse-I app show an increase in incidents, accidents and even fatalities on the roads involving horses and their riders/handlers
- All statistics are from 01.01.2021 – 31.12.2021
- 2,943 road incidents involving horses have been reported to The British Horse Society
- Of these, 66 horses have died and 129 have been injured
- 126 people have been injured because of road incidents
- 13% of riders were victims to road rage or abuse
- 85% of incidents occurred because a vehicle passed by too closely to the horse
- 75% of incidents occurred because a vehicle passed by too quickly



Fragmented PRow network

- ROWIP 2019-2029 shows Rutland does have above England average % of PRow accessible to equestrians (37%) although low density in comparison to other authorities per sq km (IPROW ROW Network Length Data, 2018)
- In part due to the establishment of Rutland Water, routes are often cul-de-sac or lead to busy roads
- Rutland's LTP focusses on walking and cycling



Active Travel and Equestrians

- Jesse Norman in House of Commons debate on Road Safety, 5 November 2018:
- “We should be clear that the cycling and walking strategy may have that name but is absolutely targeted at vulnerable road users, **including horse-riders**” [my emphasis]
- S.6 of the Active Travel includes horse riding supported by the Ministerial Statement of Richard Benyon from 2011 stating cycleways should be multi use.



- If equestrians are not an included user on active travel routes, permissive trails, footpaths, etc. they are left on the carriageway with lorries and cars passing them on the outside and cyclists passing them on the inside



Environmental benefits



- Commuting is likely to take place at times other than when recreational use takes place.
- Future-proofing the off-road network by ensuring they are shared by all non-MPV users including equestrians



Health benefits

- According to BETA two-thirds of equestrians are women and Church et al (2010) found 37% of women who are horse riders are over 45 years of age and over a third would pursue no other physical activity
- Horse riding constitutes moderate exercise as defined by the government
- Schwarzmuller-Erber *et al* (2020) found that ‘activity with horses in nature environments is a source of wellbeing, enjoyment, self-confidence and social contacts



Economic benefits

- The equestrian industry generates £4.7 billion of consumer spending
- DEFRA has recorded 3,911 horses in PE9, LE15 and LE16 postcode areas (2021), making a total of £21,698,228 contribution to the economy.
- Livery yards and riding centres in the county create employment and use equine services (vet, farrier, feed, instructors, etc) as well as visitoing equestrians due to the growing interest in equestrian tourism ('take your horse on holiday').



Extending, protecting and improving equestrian access

- What are the opportunities to increase equestrian access in Rutland?
 - Permissive routes around Rutland Water
 - DMMO applications
 - Express dedication
 - Allocated parking



Examples from the Midlands: Multi-user routes/greenways

- The BHS has worked with Sustrans to remove barriers on the Lias Line, Warks making the route more accessible in line with their *Paths for Everyone* commitment

28



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Permissive routes

- Many country parks do include equestrians by providing horsebox parking and these are both council owned and those owned/managed by other organisations.
- Examples are Shipley Country Park, Poulter Country Park, Fosse Meadows and more recently Stanwick Lakes.
- [Poulter Country Park, Derbyshire](#)
- [Shipley Country Park, Derbyshire](#)
- [Fosse Meadows Country Park, Leicestershire](#)
- [Bradgate Park, Leicestershire](#)
- [Oakwell Hall Country Park, Yorkshire](#) where a fundraising ride with 56 riders was successfully held recently



Allocated parking for reaching off-road routes

- Designated parking works well in the locations listed on the previous slide and others
- Prevents any conflict between user groups
- Increases access to off-road routes
- Example of Hartington Station, Derbyshire



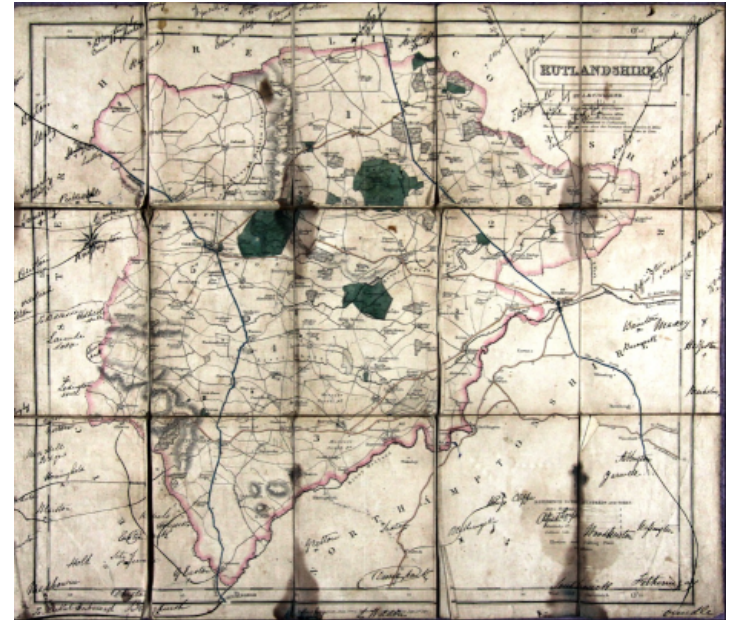
Campaigns: Ride Out UK

- Equestrians fundraise through Rideathon, organised rides, tack sales and other events
- Examples of projects considered are:
 - Linking existing off-road equestrian routes or public rights of way
 - Removing riders and/or carriage drivers from a dangerous section of road
 - Improving infrastructure (e.g. repairing/new gates, fencing, bridge anti-slip strips)
 - Waymarking
 - Surface improvements
 - Restoring an existing route which has fallen into disrepair
- <https://www.bhs.org.uk/about-us/access/ride-out-fund/>



Campaigns: Project 2026

- Despite the English and Welsh governments' announcement that they intend to abolish this deadline there remains a risk that it could be overturned, leading to the loss of many routes to future generations and forcing more horse riders onto the roads.
- Regardless of the deadline, our work must continue to record unrecorded and under recorded routes as this is the best way protect them from obstruction, development and neglect.



Further information

- Free information and guidance on surfaces, dimensions, structures and much more:
<https://www.bhs.org.uk/advice-and-information/free-leaflets-and-advice>



Legal Orders

1. Background

The County Council has a power to divert, extinguish or create public rights of way either of its own volition or following an application to do so from the public. The Council may also enter into agreements with landowners regarding the dedication of public rights.

As a Surveying Authority the County Council has a statutory duty to keep under continuous review the Definitive Rights of Way Map and Statement for Rutland and to make orders to take account of events requiring the map to be modified. This is carried out by the processing of Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMOs) which are either applied for by the public or initiated by the Authority on the discovery of evidence.

2. Policy

In our second [Rights of Way Improvement Plan](#) we committed to publishing a policy statement setting out criteria to be met in order for the authority to accept an application for a diversion and also for the prioritisation of applications that have been accepted by 2022. Until that time we will continue to exercise discretion in the use of our powers to divert rights of way. Applications that can't demonstrate some form of public benefit will not generally be accepted.

We also committed to publishing a statement of priorities / exception criteria in relation to applications for definitive map modification orders (DMMOs) by 2022. If a surveying authority fails to determine an application for a definitive map modification order within one year of receipt an appeal may be made to the Secretary of State. In considering the appeal they take into account any statement made by the authority setting out its priorities for bringing and keeping the definitive map up to date. Our statement will ensure that we can justify the prioritisation of applications with the potential to deliver the greatest benefits to the network.

3. Updates since last meeting

Public path orders

- a) TTRO for proposed diversion of public footpath E229 (Home Farm, Ketton) now in operation. Report to director still to be submitted and an agreement for future maintenance of the estate road proposed for construction over the footpath still required.
- b) The Rutland County Council District Council (Preston) Bridleway E252 and Footpath E253 Diversion Order (No1) 2021 has been confirmed and is now in operation. Certification is (I believe) still required and I'm waiting on confirmation from the applicant / user group that there are no outstanding works required on the new route.
- c) The application to divert footpath D79 to enable development to take place at Whissendine Lodge Farm has been resubmitted in response to comments from the forum (APPENDIX A).

Definitive map modification orders

- d) The application to record a footpath between Main Street in Barrow and Sheep Dyke in Cottesmore in the definitive map and statement for Rutland was registered (ref [RCCDC/M17](#)) is being considered by a consultant (Routewise). A report with recommendations is expected December / January.

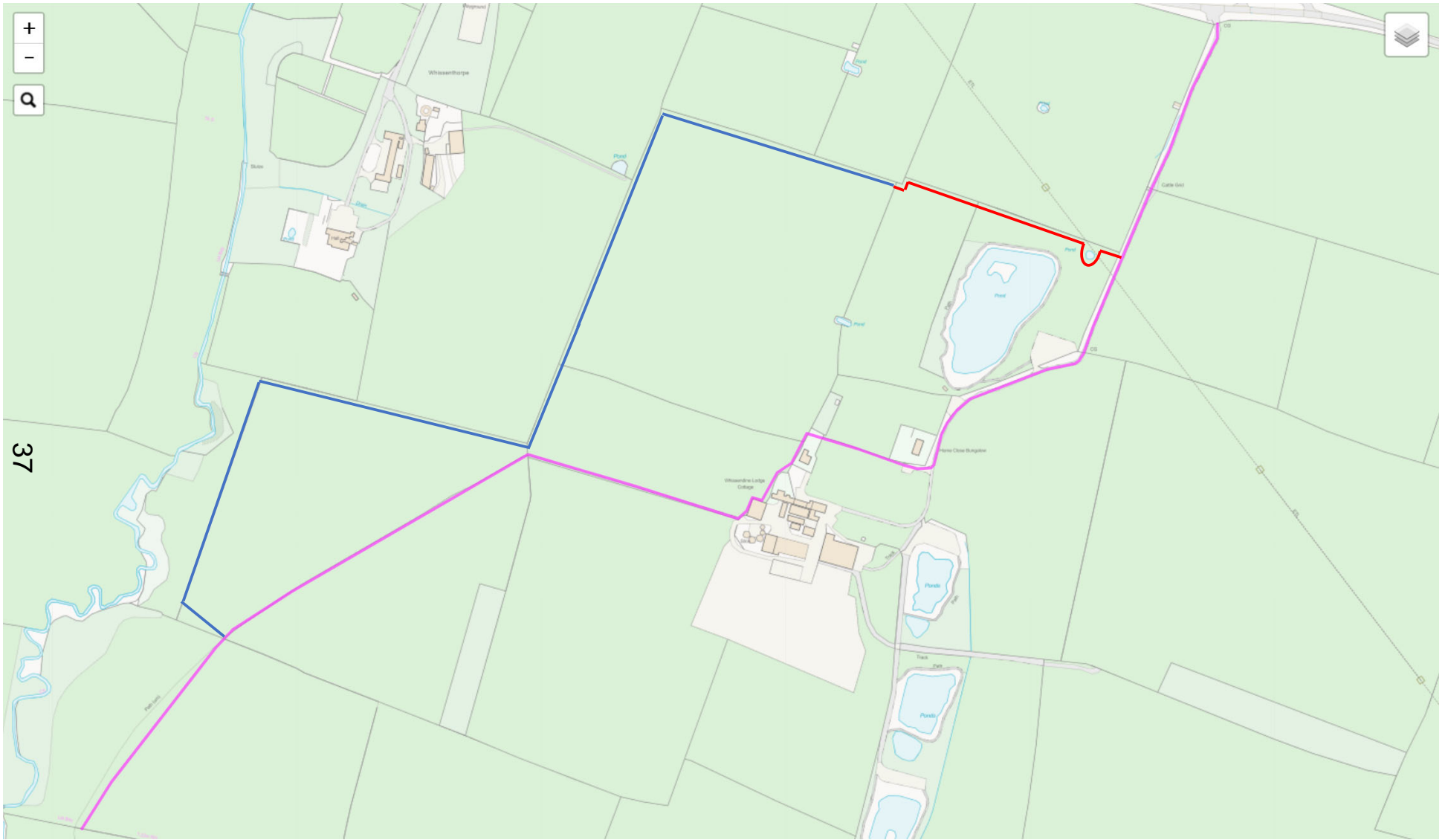
- e) On the 13th April 2022 an application to record a public road (byway) between New Town Road in Upppingham and the A6003 Lyddington in the definitive map and statement for Rutland was registered (ref RCCDC/M18). The application submits that the documentary evidence provided proves the existence of the claimed byway. The land crossed by the claimed byway is currently unregistered (APPENDIX B).

4. Recommendations

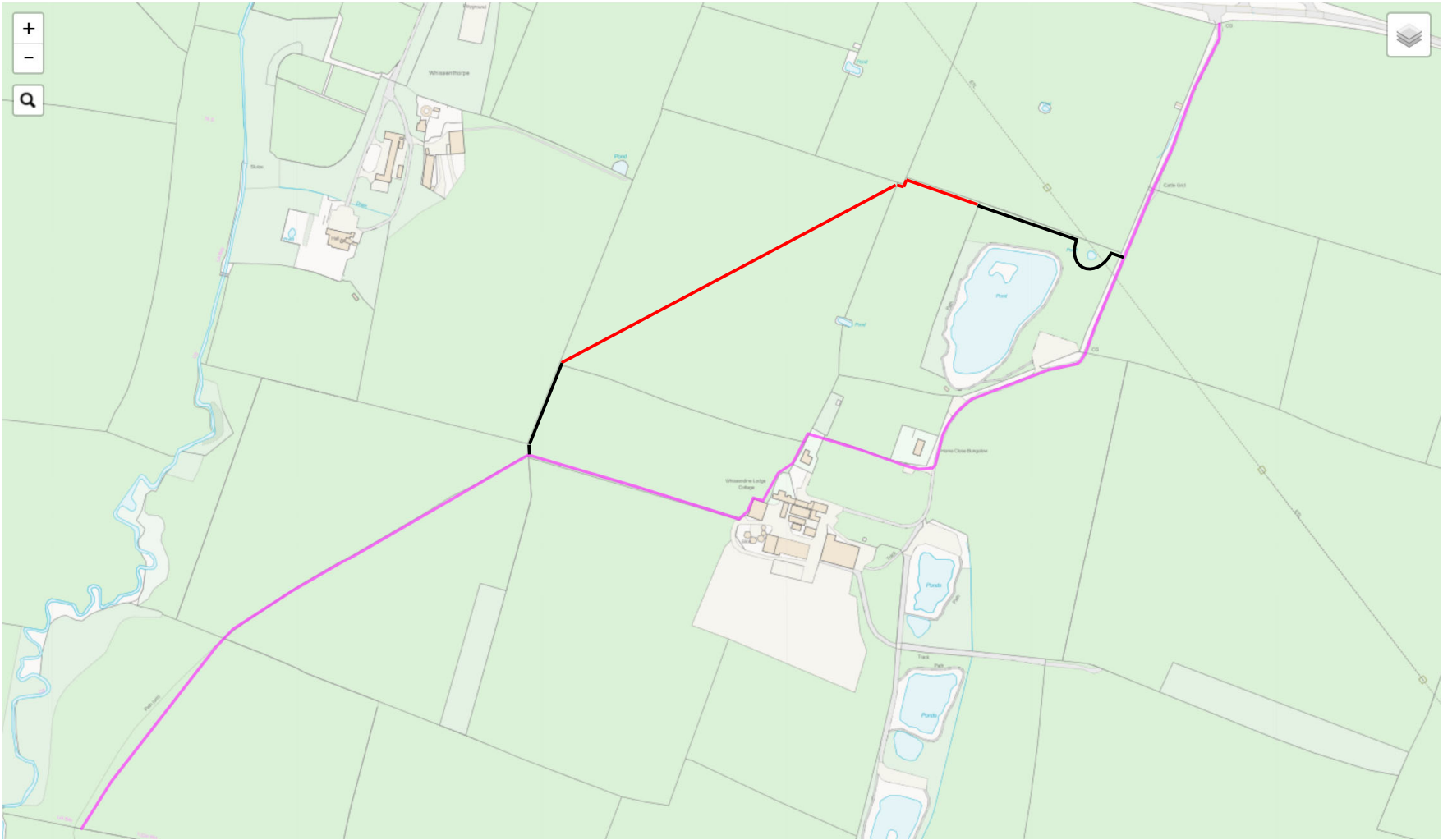
That the report is noted and formal written advice given where required.

5. Background papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report: [The second Rights of Way Improvement Plan for Rutland](#).



Original proposal – Red unfenced. Blue fenced.



Amended proposal - Red unfenced. Black unfenced with a geotextile and stone subbase.

Current footpath (purple) is 1465m total length of which.

623 m is on hard surfacing / roadways

842 m is on grass

Original proposal was 1780 m total length of which

270 m is on hard surfacing / roadways

1510 m is on grass

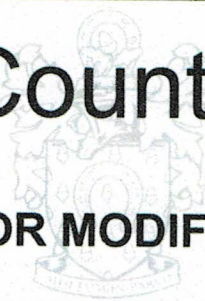
Amended Proposal route is 1405 m in length of which.

270 m is on hard surfacing / roadways

283 m is stoned geotextile subbase (black)

852 m is on grass

Rutland County Council



APPLICATION FOR MODIFICATION ORDER

WILDLIFE & COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981
DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDERS

(This form to be completed by the applicant and served on Rutland County Council)

To: Public Rights of Way Officer, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham LE15 6HP

APPLICATION

~~I/We~~ ROSEMARY HARRIS ON BEHALF OF THE BRITISH HORSE SOCIETY
of ABBEY PARK, STARETON, KENILWORTH, WARKS.. Post Code CV8 2XZ.....
hereby apply for an order under Section 53 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, to
modify the Definitive Map & Statement for the area by:-

(Delete any of the following sections that do not apply)

Deleting the footpath/bridleway/byway (delete as appropriate)
From To

OR

Adding the ~~footpath/bridleway~~/byway (delete as appropriate)
From NEW TOWN RD, UPPINGHAM. To A6003 LYDDINGTON.....

OR

**Upgrading/Downgrading the footpath/bridleway/byway to a
footpath/bridleway/byway/restricted byway** (delete as appropriate)
From To

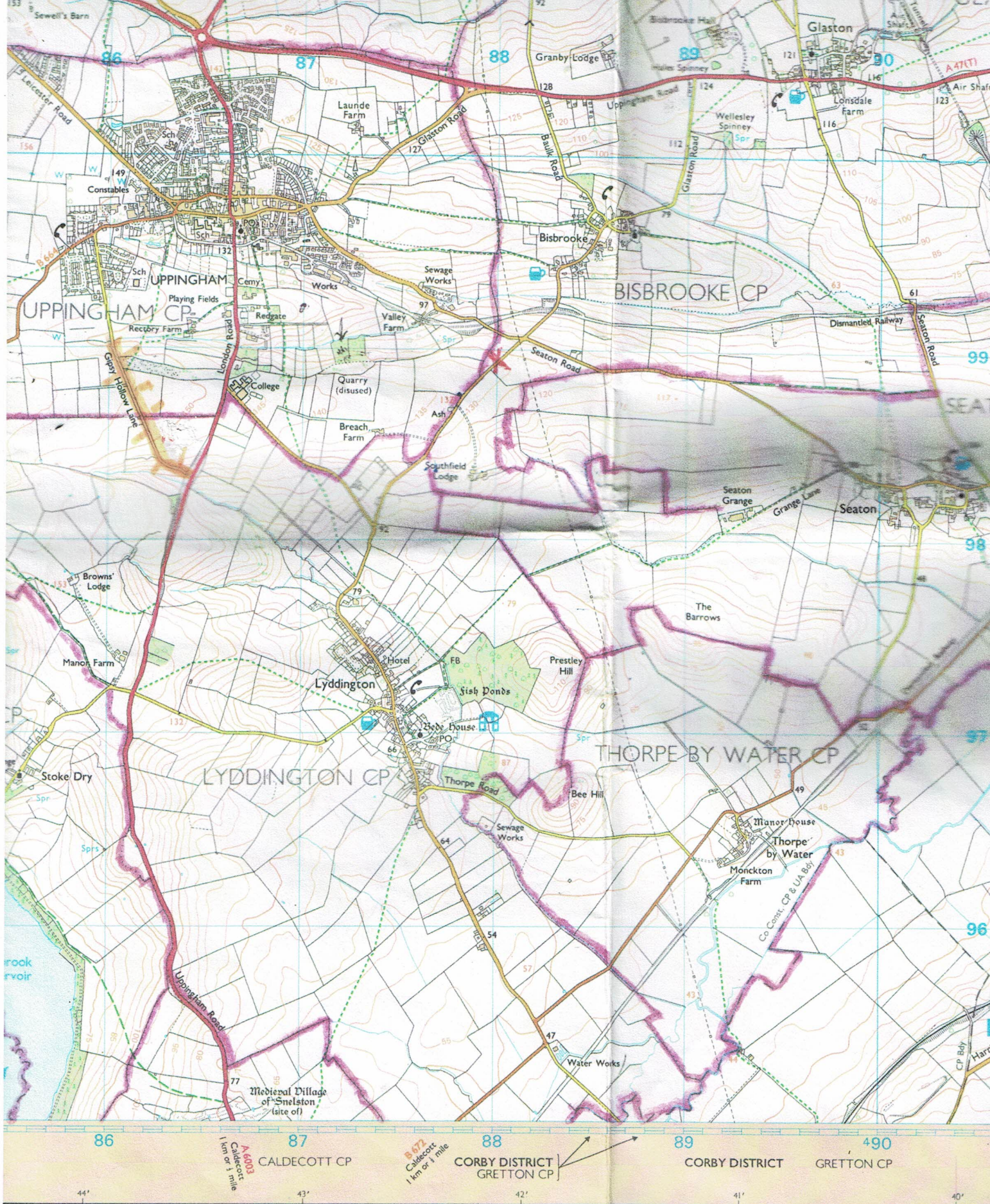
OR

Varying the particulars of the footpath/bridleway/byway (delete as appropriate)
From To
by providing that

(in all cases) and shown on the map annexed hereto.

~~I/We~~ attach copies of the documentary evidence (including statements of witnesses) in
support of this application.

Signed R.E. Harris Dated 31/03/2022



RAILWAYS Multiple track standard gauge Single track standard gauge Narrow gauge Light rapid transit system (LRTS) Road over; road under; level crossing Cutting; tunnel; embankment Station, open to passengers; siding		OTHER PUBLIC ACCESS Other routes with public access (not normally shown in urban areas) <p>The exact nature of the rights on these routes and the existence of any restrictions may be checked with the local highway authority. Alignments are based on the best information available.</p> National Trail / Long Distance Route; Recreational Route	
PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY		ACCESS General Access Access	

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Rutland County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP
Telephone 01572 722577 Email governance@rutland.gov.uk

RUTLAND COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUM

28 SEPTEMBER 2022

THE OAKHAM CANAL GREEN CORRIDOR - PROJECT UPDATE

PAUL DADFORD

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To provide an update on the progress of the Oakham Canal Green Corridor Project.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Oakham Canal Green Corridor Project is creating and maintaining a leisure, environment and heritage “green corridor” based around the remains of the Oakham Canal between the Springfield Estate and Kimball Close, to the north of Oakham.

3 PROGRESS

3.1 SPRINGFIELD ESTATE

3.1.1 The Project continues to progress the rationalisation of ownership of the canal and adjacent permissive footpath with RCC and Persimmon Homes. RCC have commissioned a survey, leading to the production of a specification, for the remedial works.

3.1.2 When the remedial works have been carried out, and ownership rationalised, the Project will support RCC in maintaining this section.

3.2 NORTH OF BURLEY PARK WAY

3.2.1 The Project is in communication with RCC, the Ramblers Association, and the agents of the two landowners (Mr Hill and Mr Hanbury) seeking the formal diversion of the E154 footpath between Burley Park Way and the spillway bridge to align the footpath with the canal corridor. No formal undertakings are yet in place, but the Project is hopeful that agreement can be reached.

3.3 E154 SOUTH (ANGLING SECTION)

3.3.1 The Project has replaced the bridge over the dam to provide a wider, safer, link from the E154 footpath to the permissive footpaths on the western banks. The Project continues to maintain the vegetation on this section and is developing plans to upgrade the footpath surface over the coming winter if funding permits.

3.4 E154 NORTH

3.4.1 The new steps from Burley Road, new bridge over the cattle drink, new gate / fencing, and improved footpath surface have been well received by the public. The Project has recently made and installed 4 new benches along this section and continues to maintain the vegetation.

3.5 WESTERN BANKS

3.5.1 The Project continues to maintain the vegetation to the newly created permissive access paths and has secured a quantity of bark chippings to deal with any sodden areas of footpath later in the year. The Project hopes to secure further bark chippings to further improve the footpath surface over the coming winter. Access from the Kimball Close layby has been improved by the creation of an aggregate surface. The Project hopes to work with RCC to improve the surface and general appearance of the Kimball Close layby in due course.

3.5.2 As required under its Permissive Path Agreement with St. John and St. Anne, the Project intends to install new pedestrian access gates and fencing either side of Burley Road.

4 OTHER MATTERS

4.1 The Project continues to engage with the community. It has given talks about the history of the canal and has operated a series of Guided Walks throughout the summer. The Project is in the early stages of developing a 'Talking History' of the canal with a local theatrical group which it is hoped can provide an interactive trail along the canal corridor.

4.2 The Project's work parties are well supported and it has recruited a number of community volunteers to act as Rangers, carrying out litter picking, cutting back overhanging vegetation and identifying other maintenance issues.

4.3 The Project has worked with the Rutland Natural History Society, Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust, Leicestershire and Rutland Bat Group and the Environment Agency to begin to identify and catalogue the wildlife species which occupy the canal corridor. It is hoped that the results will be available on the Project's website during 2023. The Project also continues to play an active part in the local Climate Action Group.

4.4 The Project continues to monitor the development of the new Local Plan and is committed to securing protection for the canal corridor and adjoining watercourse. The Project asks group members to continue to promote the importance of the canal corridor as a heritage asset, diverse wildlife habitat, and benefit to the local community wherever they have the opportunity.

Paul Dadford, Project Manager

22nd August 2022

www.oakhamcanal.org