

Minutes

of the Meeting of the

North Somerset Local Access Forum

Tuesday 20 July 2021

held at Kingston Seymour Village Hall

Meeting Commenced: 18.00 Meeting Concluded: 18.35

Councillors:

Robert Payne

Apologies: Councillors Mike Bird and Ann Harley

Other Councillors in attendance:

James Tonkin

Independent Members

Rights of Way and Access Land Users:

Jonathan Brownett, Julie Main

Apologies: Nikki Barton, Sheila Dixon, Tina Hamilton

Landowning Interests:

John Harris

Apologies: Philip Bruss, Bernard Gray, Richard Jones, Paul Rowland

Absent: Robert Parsons

Other Interests:

John Knight, Marianne McAleer, Peter McAleer, Rhiannon Robinson

Apologies: Bob Rischmiller

Absent: Gillian Hopkins

Officers in attendance:

Andrew Carroll, Katharine Diver, David Fish (Place Directorate)

Roz Hime (Clerk for LAF, Corporate Services Directorate)

Apologies: Elaine Bowman (Secretary for LAF, Place Directorate)

LAF Welcome and apologies for absence (Agenda item 1)

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The Clerk welcomed attendees to the meeting and the apologies were noted.

The Clerk advised the Forum that Paul Rowland and Philip Bruss (Area Rangers, Somerset Coast & Countryside – Mid-Somerset) are the National Trust's new representatives on the Forum.

LAF Public Participation (Agenda item 2)

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None

LAF 3 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Municipal Year 2021-22 (Agenda item 3)

Resolved:

(1) that Julie Main be elected Chair for the Municipal Year 2021-22.

(2) that Rhiannon Robinson be elected Vice-Chair for the Municipal Year 2021-22.

Julie Main in the Chair

LAF 4 Declarations of Interest by Members (Agenda item 4)

None.

LAF 5 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 January 2020 (Agenda item 5)

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record.

LAF 6 Secretary's Report (oral report) (Agenda Item 6)

In the absence of Elaine Bowman (the Secretary and Principal Access Officer), Andrew Carroll (the Access Officer) provided verbal updates on:

Coastal Path

Sections 7, 8, and 9 were nearly completed, and work on Section 5 would begin next month. Work undertaken by Wessex Water was being revisited. Access improvements which have included surfacing, gates and waymarking have been carried out on Middle Hope. Marianne McAleer expressed concern that two new way markers at Sand Point have damaged the view, and Rhiannon Robinson reported that two new gates at the new Middle Hope car park are problematic for disabled access.

MetroWest Phase 1

Issue specific hearings were held with the Planning Inspectorate in January 2021 to resolve ongoing issues. There had been resistance from The Bristol Port Company to a temporary crossing on Portbury Dock Road but it was hoped an intervention by Roger Willmot from North Somerset Council (NSC) would lead to an agreement.

National Grid

No complaints had been received from members of the public about National Grid's work on the Hinkley Connection Project. Cllr Tonkin asked if any of the construction work undertaken by National Grid could be retained, or the materials, such as stone, be reused elsewhere. Support for this would be needed from the relevant Executive Member on NSC, together with advice from NSC's Planning Team on obtaining Development Consent Orders; transporting the stone and its storage would have budget implications.

Resolved:

(1) that the report be noted;

(2) that the Secretary's oral report on the Membership of the North Somerset Local Access Forum be deferred to the next meeting;

(2) that the Access Officer would arrange a site visit to Sand Point and Middle Hope to look at the new way markers and new gates and would provide an update at the next meeting;

(3) that the Access Officer would provide an update on the temporary crossing on Portbury Dock Road at the next meeting;

(4) that the Access Officer and Cllr Tonkin would meet with Philip Anelay regarding retaining/reusing National Grid's construction work and would provide an update at the next meeting.

LAF 7 Chair's report (oral report) (Agenda item 7)

The Chair provided updates on:

Feedback from the Banwell Bypass Environmental Working Group

The Chair advised she had not been able to attend the Working Group meeting on 7 July 2021, but that Cllr Harley and Tina Hamilton had been present.

Express Dedication for Public Rights of Way

The Chair advised she had been contacted by several members of the public asking what the Forum's and NSC's view was on the use of Express Dedication to upgrade footpaths to bridleways/restricted bridleways on land owned by NSC. By way of example, the Chair circulated maps of a footpath in Nailsea and of a footpath in Clevedon, and suggested the former, although it had not been designated as a footpath, had been used by horse riders, whilst the latter could be made the subject of a Definitive Map Modification Order. The maps are contained in Appendix 1.

Felton Common

The Chair reported that at Felton Common stones had been placed on the bridleway to the side of the white lane/unclassified road leading from Long Lane, and in places on surrounding bridleways and entrances to bridleways. The intention was to stop car parking on the Common (although this has been unsuccessful) but the Parish Council did not talk to the Forum, the British Horse Society, nor NSC in advance to consider the impact on horse riders and whether an alternative approach, such as using signs, could have been taken. The Access Officer advised no complaints had been received but that the Principal Access Officer would be asked to make a site visit.

A38 Major Road Network

The Chair advised that the A38 Major Road Network scheme was proposing a series of improvements along the A38 for road users, including those that

cycle and walk. A consultation (<https://www.a38mrn-engagement.com/>) had been launched and, although the scheme was a road initiative, it would also impact the many footpaths and bridleways that cross the A38 (as shown on the map contained in Appendix 2); accordingly, the Forum should be consulted.

Resolved:

(1) that the report be noted;

(2) that Cllr Harley and Tina Hamilton would provide feedback from the Banwell Bypass Environmental Working Group at the next meeting;

(3) that the Access Team would be asked to consider the use of Express Dedication for Public Rights of Way and to provide an update at the next meeting;

(4) that the Principal Access Officer would be asked to make a site visit to Felton Common and to provide an update at the next meeting;

(5) that the Chair would contact the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Services (Cllr Mike Solomon) and the Executive Member for Assets and Capital Delivery (Cllr Steve Bridger), and the A38 Major Road Network project team, to remind them that the Forum should be consulted.

LAF 8 Notification of Items of business – to be considered at the next meeting (Agenda item 8)

Resolved:

(1) that named (or other appropriate) representatives would be invited to future meetings of the Forum to report on:

- Abbots Leigh Parish Council's Lost Ways Project;
- Clevedon Park Run;
- North Somerset Cycle Forum (Ben Searle at NSC);
- Weston to Clevedon Cycle Route;
- NSC's policy to manage ash dieback disease and its impact on walkers and others accessing the countryside in North Somerset (John Flannigan and Cathy Lynch at NSC).

LAF 9 Dates of future meetings during the 2021-22 Municipal Year (Agenda item 10)

Resolved: subject to the Clerk establishing they would not clash with meetings of the North Somerset Levels Internal Drainage Board, the Forum would meet on the following dates during the remainder of the 2021-22 Municipal Year

- Tuesday 26 October 2021 at 6.00pm
- Tuesday 25 January 2022 at 6.00pm
- Tuesday 19 April 2022 at 6.00pm

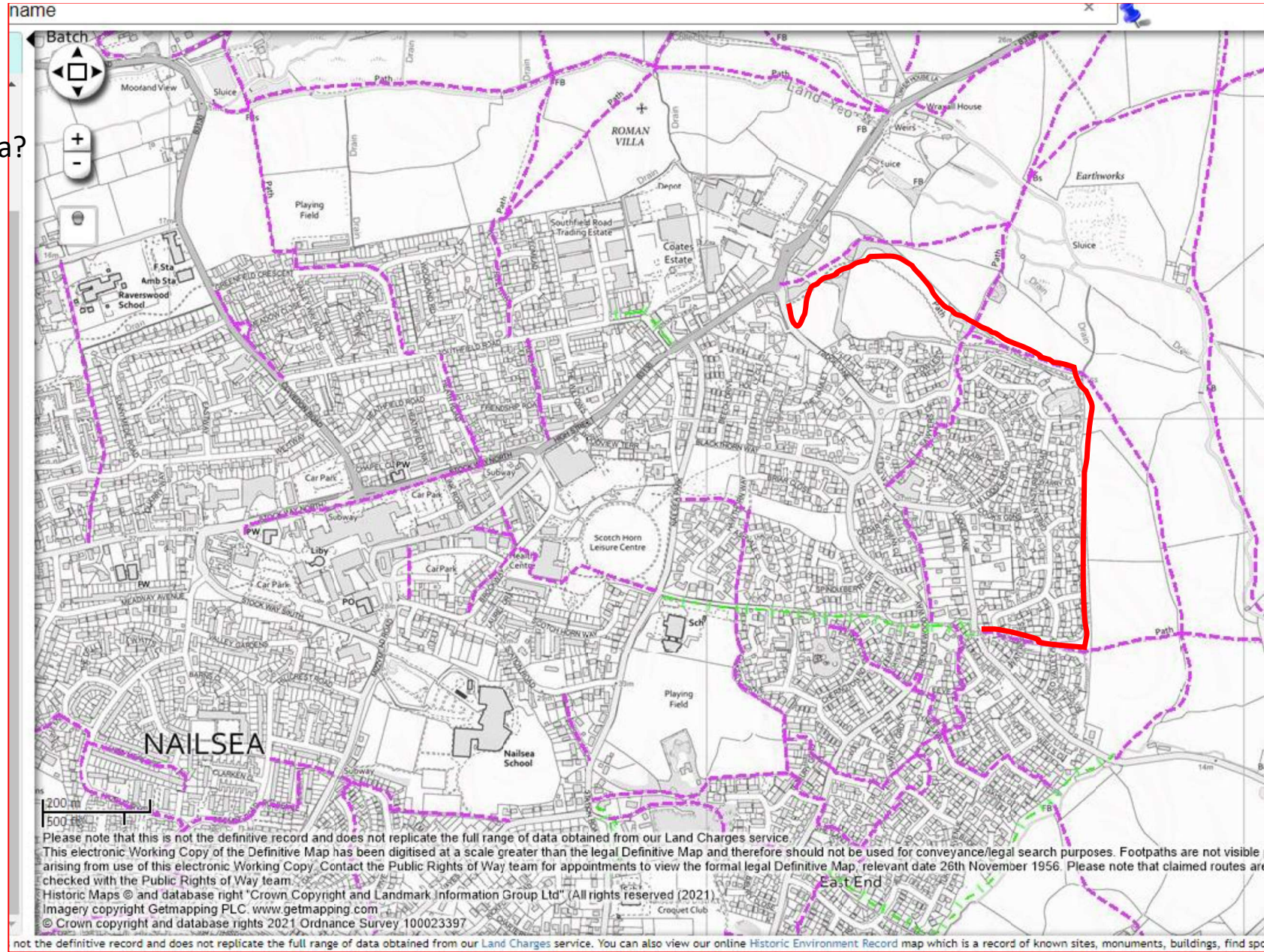
LAF 10 Site Visit to Tutshill (Agenda item 11)

Katharine Diver of NSC gave an update on work being undertaken at Tutshill as part of the creation of the Weston to Clevedon Cycle Route. The Route is to be accessible by pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and the disabled. Work will start on the farm accommodation bridge across the Congresbury Yeo in October 2021, and on the old railway line (including tarmacking, farm crossings and new gates) between Wick Road, Wick St Lawrence and Yeo Bank Road, Kingston Seymour in November 2021; both projects are expected to be completed by Easter 2022.

Members of the Forum then made a Site Visit to Tutshill.

Chairman

Express Dedication?
Potential Bridleway in Nailsea?



not the definitive record and does not replicate the full range of data obtained from our Land Charges service. You can also view our online Historic Environment Record map which is a record of known sites, monuments, buildings, find spo

Express Dedication?

Potential Bridleway in Clevedon? Apparently was probably a carriage road, so possible DMMO from the member of the public



Crossing by the A38

