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PLYMOUTH LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

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When calling or telephoning please ask for: **Helen Rickman**

PLYMOUTH LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Date: Monday 28 September 2015
Time: 10.30 am
Place: Council House, Plymouth

Committee Members–

Mr Fairchild, in the Chair

Mr Stewart, Vice Chair

Mr Attrill, Mr Curno, Councillor Sam Davey, Councillor Ken Foster, Mr Harvey, Mrs Hitchens, Mr Pawley, Mr Skinner and Councillor Wheeler.

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf

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PLYMOUTH LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

1. APOLOGIES

To receive apologies for non-attendance submitted by Forum Members.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members will be asked to make any declarations of interest in respect of items on this Agenda.

3. MINUTES

(Pages 1 - 6)

The Forum will be asked to confirm the minutes of the 8 June 2015.

4. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

To receive reports on business which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be brought forward for urgent consideration.

5. TRACKING RESOLUTIONS

(Pages 7 - 10)

To monitor progress on previous resolutions.

6. NEW PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICER UPDATE

Members will be provided with a verbal update on the Public Rights of Way Officer post.

7. FORDER VALLEY UPDATE FROM THE WORKING GROUP AND PRESENTATION

For the LAF to be provided with an update on the Forder Valley Link Road and for members of the working group to provide feedback on the Forder Valley meet-up.

8. WALKING FOR HEALTH SCHEME

Dean Blagdon (Community Physical Activity Practitioner – NHS) will be present at the meeting to provide Members with an update on the Walking for Health Scheme.

9. GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION

Kaja Curry (Natural Infrastructure Manager) will provide Members with an update on Green Space Designation.

10. WATERWAYS EXERCISE AND PUBLIC SLIPWAYS UPDATE

Members will be provided with a verbal update on the Waterways Exercise and Public Slipways.

11. PUBLIC ACCESS TO PLYMOUTH HOE

For Members to discuss the public access to Plymouth Hoe.

12. PLYMOUTH PLAN

Members will be provided with an update on the Plymouth Plan.

13. ANNUAL REPORT (Pages 11 - 14)

Members will be provided with a copy of the 2014/15 Annual Report.

14. LAF RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN

Members will be provided with a verbal update on the LAF Recruitment Campaign.

15. MODIFICATION ORDERS UPDATE

Members will be provided with a verbal update on Modification Orders.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

To consider any correspondence received and note any correspondence sent by the Forum.

17. WORKING GROUPS

To agree any working groups for items on this agenda.

18. WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 15 - 16)

To receive the Forum's Work Programme for 2015 - 2016.

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 10.30am on 14 December 2015 at the Council House.

20. ISSUES ARISING FROM FORUM MEMBERS

To discuss any issues brought forward by Members of the Forum.

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Plymouth Local Access Forum

Monday 8 June 2015

PRESENT:

Mr Fairchild, in the Chair.
 Mr I Stewart, Vice Chair.
 Councillor Sam Davey, Councillor Ken Foster, Ms P Hitchens, Mr D E Pawley and
 Councillor George Wheeler.

Apologies for absence: Mr Attrill, Mr Curno, Mr Harvey and Mr Skinner.

Also in attendance: Robin Pearce (Smarter Choices Manager) and Amelia Boulter
 (Democratic Support Officer).

The meeting started at 10.30 am and finished at 12.26 pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the committee will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Agreed that Ray Fairchild is appointed Chair and Ian Stewart is appointed as Vice-Chair for the Plymouth Local Access Forum for the municipal year 2015 – 2016.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following declaration of interest was made in accordance with the Code of Conduct –

Name	Subject	Reason	Interest
Mr Pawley	South West Coast Path Update	Representative for the South West Coast Path Association	Personal

3. **MINUTES**

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2015 are confirmed as a correct record, with the following amendments -

Minute 48 (b) – there were 3 sections to the footpath and this was not currently on the definitive map.

Minute 48 (d) – that Dartmoor National Trust should be referred to Dartmoor National Parks Authority.

4. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair reported that the interviews for positions on the LAF had taken place. Two LAF members would not be continuing their membership Stephanie Rodgers and John Emery.

Agreed that a letter of thanks to be sent to Stephanie Rodgers and John Emery.

5. PLYMOUTH LAF UPDATE

Robin Pearce provided Members with an update on the recent changes within his team.

Members were advised that -

- (a) Robin was now acting as the Smarter Choices Manager as maternity leave cover and was now responsible for delivering the strategic cycle network, the Plymotion project, Public Rights of Way and Travel Planning;
- (b) the Rights of Way post was currently vacant and was being advertised as a secondment opportunity;
- (c) the Forum continues to be low on numbers. Officers continue the ongoing LAF recruitment campaign;
- (d) the Forum was advised that last year Plymotion staff knocked on 34,000 doors and were looking at higher numbers this year and would use this exercise to promote the vacant posts on the Forum. They were also looking at targeting students during Freshers Week, libraries and targeting interest groups.

The LAF suggested that -

- (e) Councillor Sam Davey raised that Councillor Philippa Davey was a Cycling Commissioner and could also promote the work of the Forum and the current vacancies. Have Your Say Meetings could also be used to raise this issue as well as having notices displayed along the Co-operative Way.

6. TRACKING RESOLUTIONS

Members were provided with an update on the Forum's tracking resolutions and were advised that –

- (a) Minute 41 - Contact had been made with Mr Blagdon who organises walks for disabled groups. Mr Blagdon has agreed to attend next meeting to provide the LAF with a 10 minute presentation;
- (b) Minute 47 (1) – email sent on 1 June 2015 to Hilary Winter. Hilary has responded to say that she is still Devon Secretary and would be organising an annual meeting of the LAF Chairs;

- (c) Minute 47 (2) – no contact made;
- (d) Minute 48 – no contact made;
- (e) Minute 50 – Kaja Curry would be undertaking Kat Deeney's role and the LAF would be provided with an update at the September meeting on the progress of Green Space Designation;
- (f) Minute 53 – this was on-going. Appeal for Hooe Road going to the Planning Inspectorate with one objector;
- (g) Minute 55 – on-going.

7. **WORKING GROUPS**

Mr Stewart highlighted to Members of the Ramblers upcoming campaign, 'The Big Path Watch' and queried whether the LAF could assist? Members felt that the Ramblers had made judgements on paths and not public rights of way (PROW) and that they had a lack of understanding on what is PROW.

The following comments were made -

- (a) Members felt they could undertake their own Path Watch and this would also give Members an opportunity to meet between meetings and to keep in contact. John Skinner was the representative and attends all Devon meetings. Mr Pawley would ask Mr Skinner to make the links and bring further back information to the next meeting;
- (b) Mr Pawley highlighted paths for Members to look at and in particular a path near Morrisons supermarket which links to Venn Grove onto Beechfield Grove. An application had been put forward for this to become a PROW. The Forum discussed the merits of a Working Group to be set up in August to look at this before the next meeting.

Agreed that the LAF Secretary set up a Working Group in August for LAF Members to look at PROW from Morrisons Supermarket leading to Beechfield Grove.

8. **WORK PROGRAMME**

Members discussed the work programme and highlighted the following items to be considered at the September meeting –

- LAF Recruitment Campaign
- Local Nature Partnership
- Plymouth Plan
- Annual Report
- Modification Orders Update
- Waterways Exercise and Public Slipways Update

- Forder Valley Update from the Working Group and Presentation

Mrs Hitchens highlighted the developments taking place in Forder Valley including the Forder Valley Link Road. Robin Pearce stated that lot of work was taking place in the north of the city. The LAF and in particular Councillors felt that it was important issue for the LAF to look at this prior to the next meeting in September.

Agreed that –

1. Robin Pearce to speak to the relevant officer regarding the Public Slipway pages on the Council's website;
2. The LAF Secretary to organise a Working Group in July/August 2015 to look at the developments taking place in Forder Valley, to include the working farm, housing layout, nature reserve and the Forder Valley link road;
3. Robin Pearce to request the relevant officers progressing the capital programme schemes which impact upon the Forder Valley area to provide the LAF with a presentation at the September meeting.

9. **SOUTH WEST COAST PATH UPDATE**

Mr Pawley (representative for the South West Coast Path Association and Member of the LAF) reported –

- (a) that he recently carried out a condition survey of the South West Coast Path;
- (b) Mr Pawley would be meeting with Mark Owen and submitting a report on this matter; Mr Pawley's report would be recommending improved signage at Barrack Road and Royal William Yard.

10. **HUDDLE HOT TOPICS**

Mr Stewart highlighted that the Cornwall on-line map was very good.

11. **THE FORUM'S TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Members noted the Terms of Reference. A discussion took place on quorum which was noted in 5.11 of the Terms of Reference. Members were advised that if the meeting wasn't quorate, Members could continue to meet and make recommendations but those recommendations would have to be ratified when quorate.

12. **CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items of correspondence.

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Members were advised that the next meeting of the LAF would take place on Monday 28 September 2015 and commence at 10.30 am.

14. **ISSUES ARISING FROM FORUM MEMBERS**

Mr Pawley reported to the Forum that he had received a call about signage near the Asda garage on Exeter Street which simply says '2 to the city centre'. Mr Pawley put forward a request that distant was used rather than timings.

Councillor Sam Davey raised Village Green applications and whether this was something the Forum looked into. Robin Pearce reported that Town and Village Green applications appeared to be encompassed within the scope of the PLAF's remit.

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**PLYMOUTH LOCAL ACCESS FORUM
TRACKING RESOLUTIONS**

Date / Minute number	Resolution	Explanation / Minute	Action	Progress
15.12.14 Minute 41	The Forum reviewed and updated its Forward Work programme. <u>Agreed</u> that Ian Stewart (Vice Chair) would contact Dean Blagdon.		LAF Vice Chair	The Vice Chair confirmed at the 16 March 2015 LAF meeting that he has not yet contacted Dean Blagdon but would do so shortly. At 8 June 2015 LAF meeting it was updated under minute 6. Tracking Resolutions that 'Mr Blagdon had agreed to attend the next meeting to provide the LAF with a 10 minute presentation'.
15.12.14 Minute 43	<u>Agreed</u> that Bob Harvey would contact Hilary Winter (Regional LAF Co-ordinator) to determine if contact could be made with the local AONBs to ascertain their plans for the next 12 months, and to advise them that LAFs can advise them if required.		Bob Harvey	Bob Harvey updated Members at the 16 March 2015 LAF meeting and confirmed that he had not yet contacted local AONBs to ascertain their plans for the next 12 months.
16.3.15 Minute 47	<u>Agreed</u> that - (1)the Chair would thank Hillary Winter, on the Forum's behalf, for her dedication to the role of Regional Coordinator for the South West Region Local Access Forum's;	Chair's Urgent Business	Ray Fairchild - Chair	At 8 June LAF meeting the Chair advised members that an email had been sent on 1 June 2015 to Hilary Winter; Hilary responded to say that she was still the Devon Secretary and would be organising an annual meeting of the LAF Chairs.

16.3.15 Minute 47	<u>Agreed</u> that – (2)the Chair would invite John Holmes to a future meeting of the Local Access Forum.	Chair's Urgent Business	Ray Fairchild - Chair	At 8 June 2015 meeting it was updated that no contact had been made.
16.3.15 Minute 48	<u>Agreed</u> that the Chair would contact the Dartmoor National Parks Authority to invite a representative to a future LAF Meeting to advise Forum Members of the affect budgetary cuts was having upon the service.	Tracking Resolutions	Ray Fairchild - Chair	At 8 June 2015 LAF meeting it was updated that no contact had been made.
16.3.15 Minute 50	<u>Agreed</u> that Kat Deeney would update the Chair of the LAF on the progress of the Green Space Designation consultation that was due to commence in September 2015.	Local Nature Partnership	Kat Deeney- Ray Fairchild - Chair	At 8 June 2015 LAF meeting it was updated that Kaja Curry would be undertaking Kat Deeney's role and the LAF would be provided with an update at the September meeting on the progress of Green Space Designation.
16.3.15 Minute 53	<u>Agreed</u> that – (1)Forum Members would be contacted advising them of when the modification orders were due to go to the Planning Committee;	Modification Orders Update	Robin Pearce – Public Rights of Way Officer	This is ongoing.
16.3.15 Minute 55	Rosemary Starr (Smarter Choices Manager) confirmed that she would contact Kat Deeney (Natural Infrastructure Manager) with regards to the timing for the green spaces site allocation stage to ensure that all known green spaces were accounted for in the Plymouth Plan (Stage 2).	Working Groups	Rosemary Starr – Smarter Choices Manager	This is ongoing.
16.3.15 Minute 56	<u>Agreed</u> that an update on the waterways exercise as well as information relating to public slipways would both be included on the Forum's work programme and scheduled for a future LAF meeting.	Work Programme	Helen Rickman – LAF Secretary	This has been added to the Forum's work programme – a date has yet to be agreed.

8.6.15 Minute 4	<u>Agreed</u> that a letter of thanks to be sent to Stephanie Rogers and John Emery	Chair's Urgent Business	Helen Rickman – LAF Secretary	Letters were posted on 30 July 2015.
8.6.15 Minute 7	John Skinner was the representative and attends all Devon meetings. Mr Pawley would ask Mr Skinner to make the links and being further information to the next meeting. (path watch)	Working Groups	Mr Pawley/Mr Skinner	For an update to be provided at the 28 September meeting.
8.6.15 Minute 7	<u>Agreed</u> that the LAF secretary set up a Working Group in August for LAF Members to look at PROW from Morrisons Supermarket leading to Beechfield Grove.	Working Groups	Helen Rickman – LAF Secretary	In progress.
8.6.15 Minute 8	For the following items to be added to the work programme: LAF Recruitment Campaign, Local Nature Partnership, Plymouth, Annual Report, Modification Orders Update, Waterways Exercise and Public Slipways Update, Forder Valley Update from the Working Group and Presentation	Work Programme	Helen Rickman – LAF Secretary	These items have been added to the 28 September 2015 LAF agenda.
8.6.15 Minute 8	<u>Agreed</u> that Robin Pearce is to speak to the relevant officer regarding the Public Slipway pages on the Council website.	Work Programme	Robin Pearce	
8.6.15 Minute 8	<u>Agreed</u> that the LAF Secretary to organise a Working Group in July/ August 2015 to look at the developments taking place in Forder Valley, to include the working farm, housing layout, nature reserve and the Forder Valley link road.	Work Programme	Helen Rickman – LAF Secretary	Arranged for 25 August 2015.
8.6.15 Minute 8	<u>Agreed</u> that Robin Pearce to request the relevant officers progressing the capital programme schemes which impact upon the Forder Valley area to provide the LAF with a presentation at the September meeting.	Work Programme	Robin Pearce	This item has been added to the 28 September 2015 LAF agenda.



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Complete resolution



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Outstanding resolution

Local Access Forum Annual Review Form 13

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April 2014 to March 2015

Name of LAF	PLYMOUTH.
Name of LAF Chair	R. G. FAIRCHILD.
Name of LAF Secretary	LYNN YOUNG

Total number of LAF members	13
Number of members representing users of public rights of way or access land	10
Number of members representing owners and occupiers of access land or land over which PROW subsist	2
Number of members representing other interests	1

1. LAF achievements? (Please give examples to illustrate how your LAF has improved public access to land for the purpose of open air recreation and the enjoyment of the area)

MEMBERS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN GIVING THEIR VIEWS ON THE DRAFT PLYMOUTH PLAN. WHICH WILL BE A SINGLE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE CITY, LOOKING AHEAD TO 2031. THE PLAN INCORPORATES LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN, LOCAL ECONOMIC STRATEGY, HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY.
 AWARDED £50 FOR OUR CONTRIBUTION/VIEWS.
 GAVE VIEWS/ADVICE ON P.ROW IN PLYMOUTH AREA

2. What are the main challenges affecting your LAF's ability to deliver improvements to public access in the coming year?

BEING INVOLVED/INFORMED EARLY ON PROJECTS TO DELIVER IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC ACCESS.

3. What are your top three priorities for the year ahead?

1. LOCAL NATURE PARTNERSHIP INVOLVEMENT IN/WITH VARIOUS NATURE PROJECTS
2. INVOLVEMENT IN TRYING TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS TO LAF.
3. WORK WITH NATURAL ENGLAND ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATING TO PLYMOUTH AREA.

4. Is there any particular support or training that you need to deliver your priorities?

UPDATED TRAINING ON RIGHTS OF WAY LATEST LEGISLATION

Local Access Forum Annual Review Form

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April 2014 to March 2015

LAF activity in 2014/15

Number of full LAF meetings held	4	Number of sub-group meetings held	2
Number of working groups led by others	2	Number of training days provided by the Appointing Authority	

Partners the LAF worked with during 2014/15 (click on a box or type 'x')

Local Nature Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Enterprise Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health and Wellbeing Boards	<input type="checkbox"/>	LEADER funding Local Action Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please add numbers to the following differentiating between formal consultations and general advice given by the LAF on particular subjects. If a consultation covered more than one subject area, please count separately.

	Consultations	Advice
Green Infrastructure strategies		
Public Space Protection Orders (including gating orders)		
Transport (LTP, traffic management, rail, DfT, Highways Agency)		2.
Water / Coast (slipways, flood defence, EA, shoreline)		1. ✓
Public open space (protection orders, commons, village greens)		
Dog exclusion/on leads/fouling orders		
Planning applications		
Housing development schemes		
Local development frameworks and planning strategies		1
PROW creation, diversion or closure - number of each		
Right of Way Improvement Plan review		1
Route improvements (to PROW and other multi-user/cycling/horse-riding/walking routes)		
Promotion of access, open air recreation and the enjoyment of the area		
Definitive map and recording PROW		2
Parish Council or other grant schemes		
Disabled access / access for people with mobility issues?		
Vehicular access and issues relating to motorised use of PROW		
Nature conservation (including SSSIs)		
Land use and planning matters (e.g. informal advice on land development)		
Greenspace including Country Parks and Local Nature Reserves		
Open Access land restrictions		
Coastal Access/National Trails		1
NNR dedication		
Agri-environment scheme issues (HLS and new Countryside Stewardship) e.g. expiring permissive access agreements, effects of land management options on public access etc.		
Forestry and woodland		

Any other LAF activity (please specify)

2. CHAIRS MEETINGS AT TALINTON.

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April 2014 to March 2015

5. Summarise any feedback received from section 94(4) bodies¹

FEEDBACK FROM STRATEGIC PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE ON DERRIFORD TRANSPORT SCHEME CONSULTATION RESULTS.
MADE CONTACT WITH TAMAR VALLEY AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY CONSERVATION BOARD.

6. Please provide any comments from your Appointing Authority

No Comment

7. Comments from LAF Chair

8. Any important information to bring to the attention of Natural England

9. Any other comments

IT IS HOPED THAT WITH THE LOST OF REGIONAL COORDINATOR NATURAL ENGLAND WILL ENSURE THAT THE ROLE WILL BE TAKEN OVER IN HOUSE !!

¹ The Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000, Section 94(4) specifies that it is the function of a local access forum, as respects to the area for which it is established, to advise the appointing authority; the local highway authority; other bodies exercising functions under CROW Act Part 1 (Natural England, Forestry Commission and English Heritage) and such other bodies as may be prescribed. These other bodies are set out in the LAF Regulations 2007, paragraph 21, and include: any conservation board established by the Secretary of State, any parish or town council in the area covered by the LAF, and Sport England.

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