

The Surrey Countryside Access Forum

**Minutes of the meeting of the Surrey Countryside Access Forum
held online via Zoom
Monday, 18 January 2021**

Present:

Members (

1.5 The Forum has 19 out of a possible 22 members, so there are 3 vacancies.

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

2.1 Ian Russell, nominated by Andrew Povey and seconded by Elliot Cairnes was unanimously elected as Chair for the forthcoming year.

2.2 Elliot Cairnes, nominated by Ian Russell and seconded by Avril Sleeman was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair for the forthcoming year.

3. Declarations of Interest

3.1 Andrew Povey declared that he is a trustee of the Surrey Hills Society

3.2 Sophie Gordon declared that she is an employee of Cycling UK

3.3 Sean Harrison declared that he is an employee of Mole Valley District Council.

4. Apologies

4.1 Gail Brownrigg (carriage driving)

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting

5.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2020 were confirmed as a correct record with a minor amendment

5.2 The minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2020 were confirmed as a correct record

6. Matters Arising / Action points

6.1 David hasn't been able to talk to Dave Page yet about the parking issue at Esher Common

Action – David to talk to Dave Page

6.2 Penny will re-send the email and map regarding the Pirbright Memorial Loop

Action – Penny to resend the email

6.3 Avril asked Ian to resend the email from the police regarding electric scooters.

Action – Ian to resend the email

6.4 Ian couldn't get hold of Roger Geffen from Cycling UK to invite him to this meeting

Action – Sophie will try to get hold of Roger

- 6.5 Elliot asked about the MoD Liaison group meeting and the MoD byelaws review.
- 6.6 Ian said that he has been impressed with how the MoD has tried to balance all views and interests as will be seen when the consultation is published.
- 6.7 There will still be problems caused by some rogue users
- 6.8 Penny said that there has been a post on social media about distances to the proposed new entrances to the MoD sites.
- 6.9 Ian said that this is a different issue to the byelaw review, but this will be consulted on as well at the same time.

Action – Ian to find out the timescales regarding the consultations as they have been very delayed due to Covid.

- 6.10 Pamela mentioned a £500,000 grant that Surrey Wildlife Trust have received from the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Forum to promote access and asked what access they are promoting.

Action – Joanne to find out about the grant.

7. Matters dealt with since previous meeting

- 7.1 The letter the Environment Minister regarding the 2026 cut off was acknowledged
- 7.2 Penny said that there is currently a petition that is live regarding the 2026 cut-off and it runs until the 4 February. It is asking for the deadline to be extended for 10 years.
- 7.3 Avril said that there was an article in the Times saying that there are not enough staff to investigate the claims, or even for claims to be authenticated.

8. Surrey Countryside Estate Visitor Experience

- 8.1

8.20

10. Ripley South Consultation

10.1 David Bellchamber provided the following update:

In a role with Surrey Countryside Access, I attended a virtual meeting on 8th January with developers Taylor Wimpey about “Wisley New Settlement” (the name adopted for development involving over 2,000 new homes at the former Wisley Airfield)

The meeting was named “Ripley South Study” as it was for looking in the main at the effect on Ripley of the placing of north facing slip roads at Burnt Common. These are favoured by Guildford Borough Council as a mitigation measure but may not be the only option.

Inevitably those taking part from nearby communities wanted a wider discussion, which was actually relevant in considering the Ockham Park roundabout. I was able to restate my Cobham view, favoured by most attending, that there should be south facing slip roads there.

I looked at the possibility of ROWs being affected by any work either at Burnt Common or Ockham Park. We need more detail but there seems to be no danger of any being taken away. At Ockham Park in particular there is going to have to be some careful attention to detail to ensure safe use by NMUs. I expressed concern about ensuring safety was maintained for NMUs along stretches of road that would be the subject of increased traffic.

One observation from West Clandon Parish Council was as to increased traffic going to countryside sites such as Newlands Corner and suggesting that might be a permanent feature. I suggested that only time would tell as there might be a reversion to use of gyms and other exercise facilities.

The British Horse Society was represented by Sarah Rayfield. She identified part of what the BHS would like to achieve in the wider area around the development. I took down linking BW71 and BW 73 and upgrading FP70 to bridleway status. These appear to be peripheral to the development proposals. For what SCAF can do, I would look to safeguard and enhance ROWs. Taylor Woodrow are not bound by previous applications but the last one proposed an enhanced cycle way to Brooklands which is the type of improvement that should still commend itself.

Junction 10 improvements.

The timetable for this had the Secretary for State for Transport maovah

