

**Gloucestershire Local Access Forum
NOTES/Minutes**

Thursday 24th October 2024

	Notes/Minutes	
Item	Topic	Action
1.	<p>Present Richard Holmes (V.Chair), Alan Shelley, Charlie Morriss, Sue Ellis, Nicola Simpson, Chas Townley, Councillors Beki Hoyland, Robert Vines; GCC Karen Pearman, Will Saunder & Nicola Chidley ; Apologies for absence (Alison Williamson; Paul Lockley; Chloe Turner); Absent</p> <p>The Meeting took a moment to remember Gerry Stewart who passed away in the Summer and had been a Member of GLAF, OSS Correspondent and Rambler as well as a former GCC PROW Officer. A memorial bench was proposed on the A417 Missing Link development to be arranged with Bernard Gill.</p>	NC
2.	Declarations of Interest – None	All
3.	Notes of meeting on 27th June 2024 and matters arising not covered in the agenda below - None	Chair
4.	Review of Notices and Consultations received by GLAF and Membership -[3 localised tree felling licences on access land that GLAF did not wish to receive.] [J9 and 9A consultation. Concern from CM regarding joining up with issues and consideration of the scheme in context.] [Tewkesbury re naming to North Gloucestershire proposed.]	
5.	<p>GLAF Annual Report – Widespread discussion. The report focusses on 2007 regulations that arose from CROW Act 2000. The last GCC GLAF annual report was in 2014 – 15. What resources would be available? Who could compile it?, Is there a will to compile it? and Is there a benefit to doing one? Why do Natural England no longer request nor require one? In favour of Annual report is promoting the work that GLAF are doing. See CT report.</p> <p>What other LAFS complete an AR (Seems about 50/50 do)? *CT to report back on numbers doing an AR;</p> <p>*Request to Natural England on their stance; *NC to circulate last AR completed (2014-2015)</p>	CT NC
6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don't Lose Your Way/Restoring the Record – updates from Stakeholder reps- Not much to update re changes as doubt on remainder of Regulations. review of Definitive Map statistics – Progress with 9 determinations in 2024; 1 submission to SofS (Witcombe - complicated); Significant number on list but some progress being made. Significant costs of Public Inquiry ("PI") (Leckhampton School was about £10 – 15k); If lots of user evidence and there is a dispute then PI is best as can test the evidence in a live setting. Discussions on optimal way to proceed and if Barrister is required or Inquiry is needed. Written Representations can be used if a technical objection. CT Graph showing the timescale of some orders showing those awaiting referral to Sec of State. CM is compiling list of cross reference number and site. *To share. GLAF expressed support of Karen's team and their work.. Suggested 4 way email BH/KP/CM/NC to write letter to minister. Deregulation Act reforms have not being enacted following the election we await updates *(latest - 2031 being repealed) *Bring updates to next meeting & Council Motion. BH could take to Full Council as a question and correspond with Minister. Chair was due to go to Env Scrutiny Cttee in Jan/Feb could ask if the regulations could be chased. PROW PPO Updates – See report. CT pointed out orders made are not complete. An extra PPO officer resource was approved and is helping reduce the backlog. There is 	CM/Chair NC/KP

	a list of active PPOs on PROW page on GCC website.	
7.	A417 Project update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Update on A417 Missing link, Air Balloon Construction – Decision documents inc * [DCO] Link here Update Link here – Works proceeding on building the new road link and the Gloucestershire Way Green Bridge. Regular Walking cycling and horseriding update meetings held, also Legacy Workshop has been held and new projects put forward. Some questions on temp. closures and works in SSSI areas. b) Designated Funds Project – Connecting Parishes Project. Total 18 schemes - 15 of 18 sites works completed. 2 of the 3 connecting links inc Fostons Ash, Birdlip to have counters. The accessibility schemes (7/14) have or to have counters. Plaque and signage to be arranged. GLAF Steering group met 2 October. Proposed site visit prior to next meeting. 	
8.	Other updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Cotswold Trails and Access Partnership (Next Meeting 27th Nov) *RH to report back b) Eleven Rivers Group - 3 ChoirsWay /Wysis Way & Gloucestershire Way Published books to be revised and published by Cicerone. Routes are all being checked as affected by developments and changes since first published by Gerry Stewart. Waymarking and signage is being updated on site. c) Tetbury to Kemble – no news d) Kemble to Cirencester Railway – proposal for light railway & accessible path subject to a feasibility study. e) Llanthony Swing Bridge – on the radar of GCC infrastructure, problem at southern end with Title and encroachment that is problematic. Needs a feasibility assessment. * keep on Agenda 	RH
9.	Report on GLAF Visit to Centre for outdoors accessibility - at Aston Rowant OX49 5HX– 14 th August 2024. 10 attended from GCC & GLAF. Excellent site with many types of gate and latches on show. Treialled some on foot and with powered mobility scooters with mixed success in some gates styles. * RH seeking to include the prototype Freestyle Gate in one of Connecting Parishes projects or in Gloucesterhsire. GLAF happy to support finding a location.	RH
10.	Any Other Business – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) CT responded to Alney Island consultation. GLAF had a presentation on the Gloucester Nature Park 2 years ago. Was it linked? *Add Glos Nature Park to Agenda b) Sharpness development came to GLAF 2 years ago. Peter Newbold was promoting the Severn Estuary Mitigation Strategy c) Fix My Street – the error linking the background updates has been fixed. Once registered you can report, follow and see what updates have been logged. How can non adopted routes eg cycleways Ebley stroud be reported (They are in the National Street Gazatteer so you can log it against that layer). If you have difficulty report on Fix My Street there is a form on the GCC website to report issues. d) The Nailsworth to Stroud Railway Path – what happened to the bridleway proposal. It stalled with objections from Parishes, it is logged on the NSG Cycleways layer. Not all List of street roads are on FMS though. * CT/CM/SE to look at DMMO possibility as a signed User evidence form had been submitted. e) BH – the Salt Marsh Porposals at Awre will affect PROW. * NC to check with JW what proposed ie was a bridge proposed at the breach? f) OSS have issued guidance on reducing path paraphernalia written by Chris Beney who has written the BS5709 guidance notes. Here is the link. 	NC CT/CM/SE NC
	Date of Next Meeting: Next formal meeting Thursday 13 th February 2025 – Site visit Charlton Kings to look at a Connecting Parish project site.	
	2025 Meeting dates:- Thurs 13th February 2025; 12th June 2025; Thurs 16th Oct 2025	