CORNWALL COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUM (CCAF)
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 30 OCTOBER 2018

Date:	Tuesday 30 October 2018
Time:	2.00 pm
Venue:	Grenville Room - County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 3AY
Present:	Philip Allen, Gerry Brain, Marie Bryant, Steve Church, Kay Driver (Chair), Jim Flashman CC, Mark Hynard, Nicholas Jeans, Esther Kieboom (Vice Chair), Matt Luke CC, Cherilyn Mackrory CC, Jacqueline Merrick, Andrea Sandford, Carol Wilson and Lucy Wilson
Apologies:	David Andrewartha

Minute no		Action by
	Thanks were given by the Chair on behalf of the Forum to Lucy Wilson and Andrea Sandford for the training given to Forum members on the completion of Definitive Map Modification Orders before the meeting. Following discussion, it was AGREED that Carol Wilson holds a training session on Human Health and the Environment at 1:30pm on Tuesday, 29 January 2019 in the Grenville Room, County Hall, Truro.	CW
CAF/24	**Declarations of Interest (On matters included in the agenda)** There were no declarations of interest.	
CAF/25	**Minutes from the Meeting held on 24 July 2018** It was moved by Councillor Flashman, seconded by Esther Kieboom, and **RESOLVED** That the Minutes of the meeting of the Cornwall Countryside Access Forum held on 24 July 2018 were correctly recorded and that they be signed by the Chairman.	Secretary's Representative
CAF/26	**Matters Arising (Not otherwise included in the agenda)**	

	The Forum considered the following matters: (i) <u>Press Release (Minute No. CAF/9 (Chairman's Meeting with the Cornwall Council Leader)</u> The Chair stated that she had drafted a further press release, which she had sent to the Cornishman. She stated that the aim was for a press release to be drafted following each Forum meeting to assist with raising the profile of the Forum and the work it undertook. Councillor Mackrory invited the Chair to forward future press releases to her as she could arrange with a contact for them to be forwarded to the relevant press contacts for Cornwall, which was AGREED. Following consideration of the above matter(s), it was **AGREED** that 1. The information be noted; 2. The Chair forwards future press releases to Councillor Mackrory to arrange for them to be forwarded to the relevant press contacts.	 KD/CM
CAF/27	**Chair's Announcements** The Forum considered the following announcements by the Chair: (i) <u>Glover Review of National Parks</u> The Chair drew attention to the previously circulated information regarding the Glover review of national parks, which called for evidence before 18 December 2018, and suggested that this matter be considered by the Consultation Response Working Group and that the CRWG response be circulated to all Forum members prior to the next Forum meeting, which was AGREED. It was further AGREED that Carol Wilson joins CRWG. (ii) <u>Agriculture Bill</u> The Chair recommended submitting evidence to the Committee sitting on the Agriculture Bill. A call for written evidence had been published. This was AGREED. (iii) <u>Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan</u> The Chair suggested that the CRWG met to discuss the Tamar Valley AONB management plan, circulated to Forum members in September 2018, and subsequently to seek a	

	meeting with the lead officer for Tamar Valley AONB to discuss the Forum's advice, which was AGREED. Following consideration of the above matters, it was **AGREED** that 1. The information be noted; 2. The Glover Review of National Parks be considered by the Consultation Response Working Group; 3. That Carol Wilson joins the Consultation Response Working Group; 4. Evidence be submitted to the Committee sitting on the Agriculture Bill; 5. A meeting be held by the Consultation Response Working Group to consider the Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management plan, circulated in September 2018, and subsequently for a meeting to be sought with the lead officer for the Tamar Valley AONB in order to provide the Forum's advice.	 CRWG CW KD CRWG
CAF/28	**Amendment to Updating Process** The Forum considered the previously circulated request from the Chair for reports from the representatives of working groups and task and finish groups to be submitted in writing in time for inclusion in the agenda for the relevant meeting. The Chair also requested the Cornwall Council Forum members to assist in directing actions and outcomes from Forum meetings to the appropriate officers. Following consideration by the Forum, it was **AGREED** that 1. Reports from chairmen or representatives of the Forum's working groups and task and finish groups be submitted in writing in time for inclusion in the agenda for the relevant meeting; 2. The Cornwall Council Forum members to assist in directing actions and outcomes from Forum meetings to the appropriate officers.	 GB/SC/KD/NJ/AS JF/ML/CM
CAF/29	**Cornwall Countryside Access /Connecting with Nature Strategy - Update** The Forum considered the presentation given by the Head of Environmental Growth and Partnerships regarding the Cornwall Countryside	

	Access/Connecting with Nature Strategy and also gave consideration to the 'Access Governance and Strategic Planning 2018/19 on a Page' document circulated at the meeting (copy available). In response to comments and questions raised by Forum Members, the Head of Environmental Growth and Partnerships and the Countryside Access Team Leader confirmed that: (i) With regard to the Strategy:- This was the first step towards scoping the challenge, setting out a forward plan and focussing on matters to change. The Chair invited Forum members to contact the Head of Environmental Growth and Partnerships with any comments they may have; (ii) With regard to the Forum's work plan:- The timetable for the item 'Planning Applications – Linking Up Greenways and Rights of Way' would be rescheduled to January 2019; (iii) With regard to public liability insurance for users of Rights of Way:- It was usually the responsibility of the landowner to ensure this was in place. As Cornwall Council was responsible for the surface of Rights of Way, it would be responsible for any injury liability. Stiles were considered to be the responsibility of the landowner as they were usually installed to enable effective land management. However, the legal position for the Council in respect of public liability insurance for stiles would be investigated and the outcome included on the Council's website; (iv) With regard to public liability insurance for public parks:- The Chair's request for a Forum member to investigate this with the National Farmers' Union and also that the NFU to be reminded that they no longer had a representative on the Forum and be invited to put one forward was acknowledged and AGREED. (v) With regard to the Council's budget for Rights of Way:- The allocation from the Revenue Budget for 2019/20 was static, whereas it had previously increased year on year. An application for additional Capital funds had been placed and the outcome was currently		

	awaited. The result, when known, would be shared with the subsequent meeting. The Chair's request for information regarding funding for the work of the Forum was acknowledged and it was AGREED that this would be investigated and the results reported to the Forum. Following consideration of the matter, it was **AGREED** that 1. The information be noted; 2. Forum members contact the Head of Environmental Growth and Partnerships with any comments they may have on the Cornwall Countryside Access/Connecting with Nature Strategy; 3. The timetable for the item 'Planning Applications – Linking Up Greenways and Rights of Way' to be rescheduled to January 2019 on the Forum's work plan; 4. The legal position for the Council in respect of public liability insurance for stiles to be investigated and the outcome included on the Council's website; 5. A Forum member to investigate the matter of public liability insurance for public parks with the National Farmers' Union; also to remind the NFU that they no longer had a representative on the Forum and to invite them to put one forward; 6. Clear information regarding the allocation to Rights of Way from the Revenue Budget and Capital Budget, and also for support to, and for the work of the Forum, to be provided.	 Forum members ME ME Forum member RB/ME
CAF/30	**Maintenance of Category 5 & 6 Roads** The Forum considered the presentation given by the Highways Asset Manager, regarding the maintenance of Category 5 and 6 roads. In response to comments and questions raised by Forum Members, the Highways Asset Manager confirmed that: (i) With regard to serious defects:- A new recording method had been introduced; (ii) With regard to issues with structures:- The budget for addressing these was severely stretched, however the issues with the bridge at Higher Lanner, Kea, were known and were due to be addressed. That the barriers here	

	had been moved and there were now safety concerns as a result were noted and would be recorded; (iii) With regard to overgrown trees and hedges:- Arboriculturalists inspected any safety concerns; (iv) With regard to the 'abandonment' of Category 6b roads:- These were abandoned when they became overgrown. Comments by a Forum member and the Chair that Category 6b roads were important for, and used by, non-motorised traffic, such as cyclists, horse riders and pedestrians, and that these roads were important as they provided connectivity, were acknowledged. It was suggested that Category 6b roads could become Rights of Way, and it was AGREED that this should be discussed with Parish Councils; (v) With regard to urban footways:- Those that ran alongside carriageways were treated in the same way as roads. There was a separate budget for segregated footpaths. Following consideration of the matter, it was **AGREED** that 1. The report be noted; 2. Safety issues caused by the removal of the barriers at the bridge at Higher Lanner, Kea, be recorded and addressed; 3. Consideration of Category 6b roads as Rights of Way be explored with Parish Councils.	 MP MP
CAF/31	**Local Maintenance Partnership Review** The Forum considered the presentation given by the Countryside Team Leader regarding the Local Maintenance Partnership Review. In response to comments and questions raised by Forum Members, the Countryside Team Leader and the Countryside Access Team Leader confirmed that: (i) With regard to the replacement of stiles with kissing gates:- The Council had no powers to make landowners to change stiles to kissing gates; it was only possible for the Authority to encourage them to do so. Parish Councils were best placed to liaise with	

	landowners in this regard; (ii) With regard to Local Maintenance Partnership monies:- These were paid according to the total length of gold and silver paths in the parish and the number of cuts undertaken. Arrangements would be made to circulate the payment criteria to Forum members. The criteria for gold, silver and bronze categorisation of paths had been set by Cornwall County Council. It was recognised that this method had not proved foolproof and that there was an opportunity for this to be reviewed. However, the Council was relying on individual parish councils to provide details of paths which were considered to have been inaccurately categorised; (iii) With regard to parish council resources:- Not all parishes had the same resources. Arrangements were being put in place to upskill those needing it, and mentoring would also be provided. It was hoped to bring more parishes into the LMP, and the Forum's promotion of the benefits of membership to them would be invaluable. A Forum member's request for the amount of grant to each parish to be circulated was acknowledged and AGREED; (iv) With regard to planned maintenance:- A Forum member suggested that a seasonal adjustment needed to be made so that the order of activity be: grass cutting - leaf clearance - gulley cleaning, which was acknowledged. It was subsequently agreed that a new 'Developing Parish Initiatives' working group be set up, comprising Philip Allen, Mark Hynard, Councillor Luke and Carol Wilson, to liaise with the Countryside Team Leader and pursue closer working relationships with parish councils. Following consideration of the matter, it was **AGREED** that 1. The information be noted; 2. The Countryside Team Leader to circulate to Forum members details of the LMP payment criteria and amount of payment made to each parish; 3. A seasonal adjustment be considered to planned maintenance: grass cutting - leaf clearance - gulley cleaning;	 DM

	4. A new working group: 'Developing Parish Initiatives' be set up, comprising Philip Allen, Mark Hynard, Councillor Luke and Carol Wilson, to liaise with the Countryside Team Leader and develop closer working relationships with parish councils.	PA/MH/ML/CW/DM
CAF/32	**Working Group Updates (To consider reports from the Chairman or Representative of Working Groups)** The Forum considered the updates given by the Chairman or Representative of each of the following Working Groups and subsequently **AGREED** that the information be noted:	
CAF/33	**A30 Chiverton Cross-Carland Cross Task and Finish Group; A30 St Austell Link Road Task and Finish Group; Carclaze Garden Village Task and Finish Group** The Forum considered the previously circulated update reports in respect of the A30 Chiverton Cross – Carland Cross Task and Finish Group, the A30 St Austell Link Road Task and Finish Group, and the Carclaze Garden Village Task and Finish Group, presented by Nick Jeans. (i) In respect of the A30 St Austell Link Road Task and Finish Group:- Nick Jeans circulated an update to Forum members at the meeting (copy available) following the recent meeting between the A30SALRTFG and the Project Manager, CORMAC; (ii) In respect of the Carclaze Garden Village Task and Finish Group:- Following discussion of the options to pursue support from Planning Services for Imerys' proposals to restore footpath network links following damage done during mining operations, which included raising the matter with the Head of Development Management or the Strategic Developments Manager, or with contacts at EcoBos, which was working together with Imerys, it was AGREED that the CGVTFG would meet to discuss the options and decide on a way forward. Following consideration of the matter, it was **AGREED** that	

	1. The Carclaze Garden Village Task and Finish Group meets to discuss options to pursue support from Planning Services for Imerys' proposals to restore footpath network links following damage during mining operations.	CGVTFG
CAF/34	**Coastal Access Working Group** The Forum considered and noted the previously circulated update report and information provided in respect of Coastal Access Working Group presented by Steve Church.	
CAF/35	**Consultation Response Working Group** The Forum considered and noted the previously circulated update report and information provided in respect of the Consultation Response Working Group presented by Esther Kieboom.	
CAF/36	**St Austell China Clay Mineral Permission Review Task and Finish Group** The Forum considered and noted the previously circulated update report and information provided in respect of the St Austell China Clay Mineral Permission Review Task and Finish Group presented by Nick Jeans.	
CAF/37	**Matters of Interest or Concern Arising from Correspondence to the Forum** Consideration was given to the following matters arising from correspondence to the Forum: (i) <u>Advice Note to the Council Leader and the Leader's Response</u> The Forum noted the previously circulated advice note to the Council Leader and the Leader's response. The Chair's proposal to follow up on actions taken following the advice given by the Forum was AGREED. (ii) <u>Cornwall Sports Partnership Update</u> The Forum noted the previously circulated update report and information provided in respect of the Cornwall Sports Partnership presented by Gerry Brain. Following consideration of the above matters, it was	

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>AGREED that
1. The reports be noted;
2. The Chair pursues actions taken following submission of the Forum’s advice.</td><td>

KD</td></tr>
<tr><td>CAF/38</td><td>CCAF Work Programme

The Forum considered the previously circulated update report in respect of the Forum’s work programme presented by the Countryside Access Team Leader.

In response to comments and questions raised by Forum Members, the Countryside Access Team Leader confirmed that for the January 2019 meeting, presentations would be arranged from:

• Penwith Landscape Partnership
• Planning Services (‘Planning Applications – Linking Up Greenways and Rights of Way’)

Following discussion, it was also AGREED that the Moorland and Open Spaces Working Group would meet to discuss farms on Bodmin Moor and subsequently pursue engagement with farmers and the Bodmin Moor Commoners.
Councillor Flashman added that Councillor Daw had received a formal invitation to engage with the Bodmin Moor Commoners and would attend the next Forum meeting to give comment and feedback.

Following consideration of the report and information provided, it was AGREED that
1. The report and information provided be noted;
2. The Moorland and Open Spaces Working Group meets to discuss farms on Bodmin Moor and subsequently to pursue engagement with farmers and Bodmin Moor Commoners.</td><td>

MOAWG</td></tr>
<tr><td>CAF/39</td><td>Date, Time and Venue of Future Meetings

The Forum noted the dates of future meetings.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>CAF/40</td><td>Any Business the Chairman Considers to be Urgent

There was no urgent business for consideration.</td><td></td></tr>
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The meeting ended at 4.20 pm.

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