Northamptonshire Local Access Forum

**NLAF**

Minutes of Meeting held Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd} July 2015

**Attendees:**
- David Knight, NLAF
- John Shenfield, NLAF
- Lisa Fell, NLAF
- Chris Glasspool
- Alan Rigby, Northamptonshire Highways
- Steve Fowler, Northamptonshire Highways
- Nicky Hyde-Pulley, Northamptonshire Highways (Minutes)

**Apologies:**
- Peter Scanlon
- Cllr Michael Clarke

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| 1   | **Admin Items**  
None |        |
| 2   | **Minutes from last meeting**  
Re a query about charges for services from KierWSP at the commercial rate. SF told the group that the charges were not set by KierWSP but by NCC itself. The charge covers legal fees, advertising costs, staff time, administration costs etc |        |
| 3   | **Summary & Actions from previous meeting**  
**Improving access**  
Pictures of types of access gates were distributed and LF introduced a letter she had drafted requesting that the new type of gates be used when replacements to old were needed. AR discussed the issue of enforcement to provide this type of gate as there is no obligation for landowners to do so legally. The landowner is responsible for both replacement and maintenance and can refuse requests to change to the new type. AR will provide the standard of stiles etc and explained about the guidance that is on the government website re accessibility for dogs.  
JS talked about improving access and the need to encourage more Parish Councils to do more to support this. Suggested an annual survey of all their Rights of Way and a proactive stance utilising Parish wardens and then report through Streetdoctor following that. Mentioned the new Neighbourhood Plans which have legal rights associated. JS highlighted a lack of communication between Developments Control and other N’shire Highways teams. AR suggested contacting Chris Bond in Northamptonshire Highways Development Control on this issue | AR JS |
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**Closure of Footway Mill Road**
The reason given was Japanese Knotweed - was this a justified claim to a public ROW? SF requested details and said it had no legal highway status but if 20 years use could be proven it could be put forward as a PROW

**Any Other Business**
LF discussed the proposition of an online forum - she had investigated but there were issues re hosting so needs further consideration from the group.

**Date of next meeting**
Jeffrey Room at The Guildhall. 3rd September