

21 January 2009

## Slough Local Access Forum

Adrian Harris  
The Bursary  
Eton College  
Windsor  
Berks  
SL4 6DJ

Replies to: Officer to Slough Local Access Forum  
(Jacqui Wheeler)  
Highways Engineering  
Slough Borough Council  
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Slough, SL1 3UQ

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Ref: Bridleway 17

Dear Mr Harris,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Slough Local Access Forum (SLAF) about Bridleway no.17 (a.k.a Wood Lane). The SLAF is a statutory group set up under The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 to advise local authorities and other bodies on local access issues. The Forum operates autonomously, though is supported by Slough Borough Council at whose offices its meetings are held.

The SLAF would like to express its concerns to you, as landowner about the safety of the bridleway running between the Jubilee River and Moores Lane, Eton Wick. The Forum is aware that this route is regularly used by a variety of people including; cyclists, horse riders, walkers and people with children in buggies.

The relatively narrow width available on the section described exacerbates the usual difficulties experienced on a busy multi-user path. The SLAF would suggest that the path needs to be wide enough to allow those on horse back or cycling or using buggies to pass easily side by side.

The Forum acknowledges Mr Cooley; the farmer's attempts to improve the fencing on this section of bridleway, but would note that barbed wire along the boundary of such a well used path is not ideal, especially when two parties are trying to pass each other. Some additional width would lessen the risk posed by this hazard.

Activity on this route can only increase in the future with the new housing being built in Cippenham placing additional pressure on surrounding leisure and sustainable transport amenities, such as those provided by this bridleway. It is an attractive and relatively direct walking and cycling route to Eton Wick connecting there to further routes leading to the River Thames and Windsor.

Cont.

After discussing all these factors the SLAF would like to ask Eton College to consider dedicating an extra width of land to become part of this Public Bridleway and so provide improved accessibility to this busy route.

We look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely,

**Laurie Tucker**  
**Chair 2009, Slough Local Access Forum**

Cc. Eton Town Council ???,  
Mr Bill Cooley, Farmer  
The Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead Local Access Forum