

Minutes 21st September 2026 – Appendix A - Beech Road Safety and Footpaths Working Group

SCHEDULE OF PROJECTS – AS AT 18 SEPTEMBER 2026

Changes since 16 July in red

	Project Name	Description	Objective	Status	Actions
1	Ongoing road & footpath maintenance	Maintenance and improvement of village traffic calming and road safety schemes, including road markings, signage and speed cameras.	Maintain, and enhance if possible, existing village road safety.	<p>Signage (warning traffic) at two bridleway/pedestrian crossing points. The parish clerk has sent a letter to HCC requesting the installation of Highways warning signs.</p> <p>Steel Bridleway 712 finger post on Medstead Rd is illegible.</p> <p>Parish council has agreed an annual budget for clearing vegetation from its signs and cameras. First cut (costing £400) carried out by PJ Grace at beginning of July 2026).</p>	<p>MWC to specify signs and locations.</p> <p>TR to approach A Cox (HCC councillor) about HCC producing a spec. and cost for this.</p> <p>New HCC wooden finger post to be installed by Alton Ramblers. Awaiting positional agreement between HCC and SGN. PC will need to arrange removal of the existing steel sign and post.</p> <p>PC agreed approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual cut by (eg) PJ Grace - Interim trimming around footway signs by MWC - Interim trimming around cameras by TR & team
2	Bus bay clearance and enhancement	Clearance and landscaping of the bus stop bay outside the Village Hall.	Make the footway alongside the bus bay a usable part of the pedestrian route through the village; also cosmetic.	Bus bay and pavement cleared. Bank now cleared ready for planting. EHDC has approved £1300 S106 funds to cover costs. HCC cultivation license obtained for creeping thyme and English bluebells.	<p>Plants due for delivery end Sept, then volunteers will plant.</p> <p>PC to pay for bank clearance and plants, then claim the S106 money from EHDC.</p>

3	20mph zone	Introduce a 20mph zone in the village centre and on Wellhouse Rd.	Further reduction of traffic speeds through the village.	HCC have approved in principle. EHDC contends that CIL money cannot be used (and HCC cannot supply examples where CIL has been used). Application for a £25k grant under the PCC's road safety funding scheme refused. Met Julie Watts (HCC) to progress. Initial cost estimate c.£27k (£10k traffic orders etc, £17k signage plus installation).	It will cost £875 to get a firm spec. and costing from HCC under the Community Funded Infrastructure scheme. KE to source councillor grant funds for the £875, preferably from Cllr Costigan but, failing that, from Cllr Cox.
4	Road drainage improvement (Medstead Road)	Refurbishment/maintenance of, and/or construction of an improved, highways surface water drainage system on Medstead Road.	Reduce unimpeded surface water flow down Medstead Road.	The grips on Abbey Rd have recently been cleared by HCC, and a few on Medstead Rd. Parish council's contractor has cleared 15 grips on Medstead Rd on 11 April 2026. HCC maintains the sub-surface drains on lower Medstead Rd and Basingstoke Rd.	PC agreed approach approach: - GW to perform minor strimming of vegetation at grip mouths as required. - Heavier autumn/spring clearance of leaves, grit etc by (eg) PJ Grace. HCC clears these blockages when reported. No further action.
5	Basingstoke Road shared footway and cycle path	Improve the existing roadside footway on the north side of Basingstoke Rd to a shared footway & cycle path. (NB The existing 2m wide path was shared use until c.2010, when the minimum width of a shared footway & cycle path was increased to 3m; it is believed	Establish clear, well maintained, shared use pathway. This is part of LCWIP Route 210, which runs from Alton High St to Medstead Rd.	The developer of 'Land Nth of Basingstoke Rd' is proposing to improve the path (to 3m width for shared use) from Will Hall Farm half way to Medstead Rd. PC has asked the developer to extend improvement of the path all	Await outcome of 'Land Nth of Basingstoke Rd' outline planning application. Cycle Alton and Alton Town Council are taking a similar approach. Reappearing vegetation is already growing alongside and through the path. GW has raised a

		that the path was downgraded to 'footway-only' at that time.)		the way to Medstead Rd, or provide S106 money to do so. Meanwhile Cycle Alton volunteers have cleared the path to its original 2m width.	complaint with HCC about the need for repair and future maintenance.
6	Bridleway 712 improvement	Improve Bridleway 712 (Pertuis Ave – Medstead Rd via Ackender Wood), especially the surface at the 712/769 junction.	A well surfaced bridleway of adequate width, clear of obstructions.	HCC Countryside Services has been awarded the Ackender Wood (S106) Contribution, £203,732.06, to fund this project. HCC will also potentially receive £7,000 S106 contributions if and when development at 'Land NW of Ackender Wood' is permitted.	GW to continue to monitor HCC progress on this project, which could include aspects other than Bridleway 712. HCC has promised to involve the PC in developing their detailed scope of work. Surplus funds could be potentially used for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Possible new PROW(s) in Ackender Wood from Pertuis Ave and Bridleway 712 to Ackender Hill; - Extending footpaths around Alexandra Wood or improving access at the Ackender Hill site boundary (Item 16).
7	Footpath 714 improvement	Improve Footpath 714 (Basingstoke Rd – Medstead Rd via Wyards Farm), including replacing stiles with kissing gates.	A well surfaced footpath of adequate width, clear of obstructions.	Funding not being considered as part of the 'Land NW of Ackender Wood' development proposals. There is a proposal for a development on land which includes part of this footpath.	PC has invited the developer to present the details of the proposed development, when they are ready to.
8	New Basingstoke Road (south side) footway	A new roadside footway on the south side of Basingstoke Rd, from proposed new housing development 'Land NW of	Provide an accessible, lit pedestrian route from the new development to Beech Village Hall facilities.	Funding not being considered as part of the 'Land NW of Ackender Wood' development proposals. Alternative routes are via Footpath 714 or via the	On hold.

		Ackender Wood' to the junction with Medstead Rd.		footway on the north side of Basingstoke Rd.	
9	Upgrade existing Medstead Rd path	Widening, and providing a more durable surface for, the roadside footway running along Medstead Rd from the A339 towards Beech village.	Provide an accessible, lit pedestrian route from the new development at 'Land at Whitedown Lane' to Beech Village Hall facilities.	Funding not being considered as part of the 'Land NW of Ackender Wood' development proposals. There is a proposal for a development on land alongside this path.	PC has invited the developer to present the details of the proposed development, when they are ready to.
10	Basingstoke Road pedestrian crossing	Moving the pedestrian crossing point on Basingstoke Rd further east (from Medstead Rd junction) to improve pedestrian sight lines. Plus a short length of new footway on the south side of Basingstoke Rd.	To provide a safer point for pedestrians and cyclists crossing from Medstead Rd to the path on the north side of Basingstoke Rd.	Could be part of any improvement of the existing Basingstoke Rd north side) path, or any upgrade of the existing Medstead Rd path.	Pursue in conjunction with Items 5 and 9.
11	Bridleway 704 improvement	Improve the surface and drainage of Bridleway 704 (Wellhouse Rd - Thedden).	A well surfaced bridleway of adequate width, clear of obstructions.	Path specification agreed with HCC and landowner. To be funded from Neighbourhood CIL and EHDC Strategic CIL.	Completion of construction is imminent. On receipt of invoice PC to claim the Strategic CIL from EHDC. PC to publicise on completion.
12	Ackender Wood paths improvement	<i>Merged into Item 6 following award of the Ackender Wood Contribution to HCC.</i>			
13	Railway line path	A new footpath/bridleway/cycle path along the route (through Beech parish only) of the old Alton-Basingstoke railway line.	A level, accessible route from the proposed 'Land Nth of Basingstoke Rd' development northwest to the wider public right of way network.	PC has requested a financial contribution for this purpose in its comments on planning application 'Land Nth of Basingstoke Rd'. HCC Countryside Services are aware.	Await outcome of 'Land Nth of Basingstoke Rd' outline planning application.

14	Kings Hill off-road footway	A new roadside footway from the on-road footway at 72 Kings Hill to the entrance to Alton Abbey.	Provide a safe pedestrian route west out of the village, including to any new development at Alton Abbey.	Provision of funds could be a potential condition of permitting any development at Alton Abbey, which is in the process of being sold to new owners (unknown).	GW to continue to monitor sale progress from Carter Jonas estate agents with a view to making contact with the new owners (last contact in early September 2026).
15	Beech Copse Footpath	Reinstate a public right of way from Snode Hill to Wellhouse Rd via Beech Copse and 35 Snode Hill (a potential housing allocation site).	A short cut from Snode Hill to Beech Village Hall.	Outline planning permission for development on the Beech Copse site has now been granted on appeal. Has been included in draft revised Neighbourhood Plan.	Parish council will comment on any future detailed planning application for development at Beech Copse and/or 35 Snode Hill. Then try to ensure that Highways land is retained for a footpath between the two sites.
16	Pedestrian route to Sports Centre (and other Ackender Hill access)	Create a signed foot route along the western edge of the Ackender Hill development, then north through Alexandra Wood to join existing permissive paths on the crest of the ridge in Ackender Wood. Ensure that other access points from Ackender Wood onto the Ackender Hill development are fit for purpose.	Create an accessible direct pedestrian route from Beech village to Alton Sports Centre. Ensure all pedestrian routes from Beech parish to Ackender Hill are fit for purpose.	Paths exist along the western edge of the Ackender Hill development, but no defined path through or around the developer-owned Alexandra Wood. The developer proposes several access points through the boundary hedges onto Ackender Hill. These have not been formed yet as housing construction continues.	MWC to monitor work being carried out at the Beech boundary. When the work is complete or as complete as site management intend it to be, we will review and consider further actions as necessary. GW to chase EHDC for information on proposed Ackender Hill boundary treatment with Ackender Wood.
17	Road drainage improvement (Wellhouse Road)	Refurbishment/maintenance of, and/or construction of an improved, highways surface water drainage system serving Wellhouse Road.	Reduce unimpeded surface water flow down Wellhouse Road, and the flooding of a number of gardens.	Surface water, including that originating from the fields to the north, flows down several sections of Wellhouse Road in heavy rain, and can empty onto lower Medstead Road in large volumes.	Group inspection (on 21 Sept) of Wellhouse road drainage, including residents at nos. 74 & 76, to identify surface flow routes and problem points. Followed by discussions with Thedden Farm about retaining more water on the farmland.

