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| **Item** | **Main Meeting** | **Action** |
| 1 | Simon Curry Chair  Annmarie Behn (AB) Paths and Promotions Manager (MC)  Karen Beer (KB) NFU  Ian Gray (IG) User representative (CCG)  Peter Garrett (PG) Greenspace and Access Manager(MC)  Karen Francis (KF) Partnerships Officer (MC)  Clare Lanes (CL) HIF SEMS Project Manager (MC)  Graham Jenkinson(GJ) Ramblers  Darren Taylor (DT) Cycling representative  Sue Saunders (SS) BHS ( vice chair) |  |
|  | Welcome to guests, members and officers SC welcomed everyone to the March meeting. Introductions were made around the table and SC welcomed KF as the new Partnerships Officer for Greenspaces. |  |
| 2 | Apologies Arthur Water, David Palmer, Chris Morris |  |
| 3 | Minutes of last meeting (November 2021) The minutes of the last meeting were agreed. |  |
| 4 | **HIF SEMS**  CL gave an overview of the various aspects of SEMS for the Hoo Peninsula, discussing the Community Parklands and Access to these, including possible Equine access to an outer route on Cockham Community Parkland. Work is due to start on site soon.  CL discussed the concept of the Hoo Flats, where scrub and wetlands will be introduced with new access across the area.  Lodge Hill plans were illustrated, and CL explained that there is the opportunity and desire to introduce a route for various users including equine which would be fenced off from the rest of the area to protect the sensitive areas of Lodge Hill.  CL also advised that the proposed Deangate Ridge Community Parkland would provide an extra 4km of path through this area.  CL mentioned that there was a further project on SEMS that concentrated on improving the PROW offering in the Hoo area.  CL would like to return to the LAF at the next meeting to give an update on the consultation that will be taking place.  Slides of the presentation are attached as an appendix to the minutes. |  |
| 5 | **Round the Table( RTT) Medway Ramblers - GJ**  GJ advised there was now a regular walk programme again now that restrictions had eases with some new walkers joining the group.  GJ advised that walkers had been enjoying the newly opened section of the England Coastal Path. |  |
| 6 | **(RTT) Cuxton countryside Group - IG**  IG advised that CCG had been busy undertaking storm damage clearance and that there was a new 5-year management plan for Cuxton.  IG was concerned with the proposed winery in Cuxton and agreed to speak separately to AB about some queries he had concerning the adjacent PROW.  IG advised that there was a planning meeting the following evening to discuss the winery. |  |
| 7 | **(RTT) National Farmers Union - KB**  KB advised that she pass on the HIF SEMS information to the NFU and that if a LAF member wished to raise anything with the NFU, to pass it on to her. |  |
| 8 | **(RTT) British Horse society - SS**  SS stated that she was very happy with the proposals that SEMS was putting forward to improve the equine offer in the Hoo area, where there is a large contingent of riders. |  |
| 9 | **Reports from Officers (RFO) – AB**  AB advised that the Rochester Community Trail was progressing well and that a HLF bid was being made to help fund the project further. SC also advised that the trail would link with the Friends Groups of the local greenspaces that the trail would cross.  AB advised that the PROW condition survey was nearing completion and that the data would help build as asset register and inform better GIS mapping in the future.  AB advised that the ROWIP action plan is due to be updated and will hopefully be in a position to report back to the LAF at the next meeting. |  |
| 10 | **(RFO) – PG**  PG advised that the Woolwich to Grain section of the England Coast Path is now open in Medway and that it also forms part of the Thames Path from Source to Sea. The remaining section of the ECP from Grain to Otterham Quay should be open in the summer but there are issues with the route of the next stretch that falls within the KCC area. |  |
| 11 | **(RFO) – DT**  DT advised that there have been delays to the Four Elms Hill project due to overrun on the works to the highway by Medway Tunnel. He is hoping the scheme will start in April.  DT informed the Forum that Systra have been employed by MC to develop a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan which will cover the whole of Medway.  The LAF advised that they would like to be kept informed and consulted on this access work | **DT** |
| 12 | **LAF Website**  SC reported that the website still needs work to attract interest in the work that the LAF do.  SS advised that she provide a piece on Lost Ways for the LAF website.  AB reported that the Medway LAF website is one of the more informative pages of LAF groups in the UK and asked if each member could write 30-50 words about themselves and the group they represent to attach to the members page on the LAF website. | **SS**  **ALL** |

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| **Any other Business**  SC asked members to send any matters of interest to him and he will arrange for them to be circulated on social media sites.  GJ mentioned that repair work was needed on the riverside and PG and SC agreed with this, as the issue was becoming increasingly more common. PG advised that the river had no natural profile due to being penned in and that the riverside needed defending.  KF gave an update on the potential Whose Hoo Heritage Fund project which would involve lots of interesting projects on the peninsula such as beach cleans, walks and information on the Forts and stop lines. An update as to whether this £3 million project will be successful will be given on the 18th of March 2022.  SC advised that the MUGS forum met in person recently for the first time in two years and suggested we could do the same for the June meeting.  **The next meeting is on Tuesday 7 June 2022, at 4pm, hopefully at Riverside or Capstone Country Parks, with a quick catch up, followed by a walk in the park.** |