From:
To:
A12chelmsfordA120

Subject: Re: TR010060 - ExA site locations for visits - ELAF suggestions

Date: 03 January 2023 23:48:32

Attachments: ELAF ExA SiteVisit suggestions 3Jan23.pdf

ELAF Unique Reference: 20033138

In response to the Rule 6 letters Annex F re suggested Locations for ExA site inspections, please find attached two suggestions from ELAF, Essex Local Access Forum.

Katherine Evans EssexLAF - Chair

email:

LAFs - making the countryside more publicly accessible & enjoyable On 12/12/2022 13:45, NI Mail Distribution wrote:

Planning Act 2008 – Section 88 and 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rules 4, 6, 9 and 13 Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme Appoin...



Planning Act 2008 – Section 88 and 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rules 4, 6, 9 and 13

Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme

Appointment of the Examining Authority and invitation to the Preliminary Meeting and Notification of Hearings

Dear Sir/Madam,

Unique Reference: 20033138

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re: Rule 6 letter Annex F2 – ELAF suggestions for ExA visits

re: Rule 6 letter Annex F 2. Accompanied Site Inspection – suggested locations

The draft Examination Timetable at Annex D to this letter includes a date reserved for an Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) in the week commencing 27 February 2023

The ExA requests that Interested Parties submit suggested locations for the ExA to visit as part of an ASI by Procedural Deadline A (Tuesday 3 January 2023). The request must include:

- Sufficient information to identify the location;
- the issues to be observed at the location;
- information on whether the site can be accessed via public land; and
- the reason why the location has been suggested

ELAF are concerned with Access for All, so routes / structures labelled WCH (for walkers cyclists and horseriders) must genuinely be designed and available for walkers, cyclists and horse-riders and where possible people with dogs / buggies, runners & mobility impaired users i.e. ALL non-motorised users.

1st ExA site visit suggestion: Witham footpath 95 & new WCH bridge over the A12 Witham by-pass

Witham footpath 95 is severed by the A12 bypass. A new WCH bridge is proposed to re-connect the footpath -see general arrangement sheet 7 - snip below. The legend for the General Arrangement plans describes "orange" as... "new or improved footpath / bridleway". During the consultations held by National Highways, assurance has been given that this means routes available for walkers, cyclists and horse-riders (WCH users)



The new WCH bridge is very welcome but the plans show that it only connects with a public FOOTpath on the south side. Whilst useful and welcome for pedestrians, this arrangement provides no legal onward connection for non-pedestrians i.e. no "access for all".

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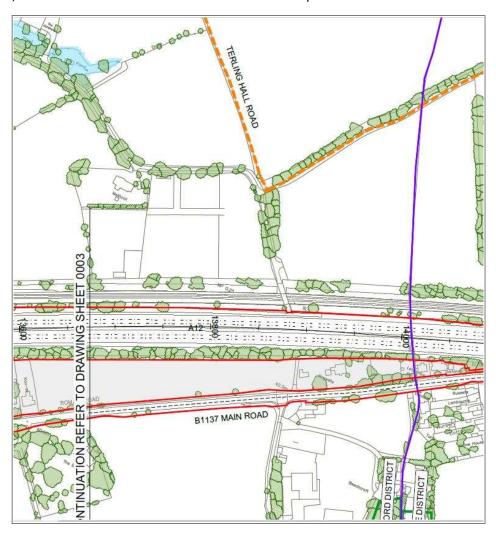
re: Rule 6 letter Annex F2 – ELAF suggestions for ExA visits

Slightly west of the footpath, on the south side of the A12, is the public road Howbridge Hall Road – highlit in yellow on the plan above. During the consultations held by National Highways, it has been suggested that the WCH bridge be aligned to connect with this (dead-end) road. This would provide a southern WCH connection to Maldon Road. On consideration, a simpler suggestion, which does not involve the realignment of the proposed new WCH bridge, would be the provision of a WCH connection on the south side of the A12 bypass along a proposed access track - so inside the DCO Order Limits - to Howbridge Hall Road. Also shown by yellow shading on the attached snip.

ELAF wish to suggest an ExA site visit to this area (e.g. to the bend on Howbridge Hall Road by the A12) so that the Examiner is informed of the topography and nature of the routes in this area — Witham public footpath 95, Howbridge Hall Lane, the site of the proposed WCH bridge and the proposed track inside the DCO Order Limits that could be used as the connecting WCH route.

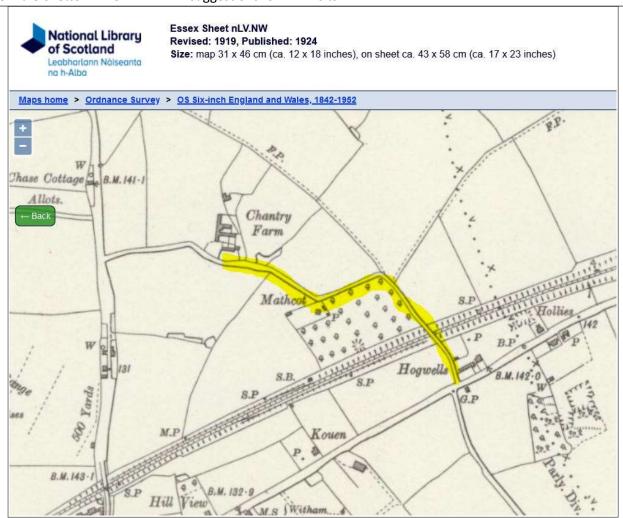
2nd ExA site visit suggestion: Chantry Lane, Boreham

Chantry Lane, a public vehicular highway, is severed by the current 3-lane section of the A12. See general arrangement sheet 4 - snip below. (Boreham footpath 29 - incorrectly labelled as Terling Hall Road - connects with Chantry Lane). See also the extract from the 1919-1924 OS map.



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re: Rule 6 letter Annex F2 – ELAF suggestions for ExA visits



The brick overline railway bridge (no.164) still exists - it is clearly visible when driving along the A12 - see the Google view below. The stub end of Chantry Lane on the south side connecting to the old Roman Road A12 route (now the B1137 Main Road, Boreham) on the west side of "Hogwells" CM3 3AD (was a brickworks) is also visible.



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re: Rule 6 letter Annex F2 – ELAF suggestions for ExA visits

A WCH bridge over the A12 at this location would mitigate the historical severance of Chantry Lane. The location in a broader context is the norhern red circle in the extract from the current OS map below.

ELAF wish to suggest an ExA site visit to this area – potentially parking north of the A12 at the severed section of Chantry Lane, a public (currently dead-end) road - so that the Examiner can observe Chantry Lane, the existing railway bridge (blocked off for safety reasons) and potentially the stub end of Chantry Lane on the south side by Hogwells, CM3 3AD.

