

**LEYBOURNE LAKES COUNTRY PARK – ACCESS AUDIT
IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Issue	Recommendation	Comments	TARGET DATE
Physical access to the site			
1. Speed bumps	<p>1.1 Sleeping Policemen speed bumps on the main drive cause large jolts making it difficult to control some cars driven by disabled drivers – Speed ramps are unfortunately needed to reduce anti-social behaviour by a minority of drivers, no action therefore proposed. Alternative speed control measures could be considered as part of any future resurfacing work.</p> <p>1.2 The speed bump adjacent to the windsurfing cabin needs to be more clearly marked.</p>	<p>No costs available</p> <p>Completed.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>
2. Parking	<p>2.1 4 disabled bays are provided in the main car park. These are a good size with plenty of area marked out around them.</p> <p>2.2 The kerb line between paths and disabled parking bays is unclear to those with sight impairment. Consider marking with textured surface.</p> <p>2.3 There are no disabled parking bays with a lake view. Make 2 tarmac bays available in the water sports car parking area. This would need to be coupled to RADAR key access to the water sports car park entrance road.</p> <p>2.4 No facilities exist for disabled anglers. Liaise with angling concession and initiate plans for provision of disabled swims.</p>	<p>Comment only</p> <p>Completed.</p> <p>Lake View Parking Completed.</p> <p>Disabled fishing swim planned.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>APRIL 2009</p>
3. Paths	<p>3.1 The tarmac paths in the main car park area provide good surface for wheelchair access to the facilities and to paths in the wider Country Park area.</p> <p>3.2 Most paths within the Country Park are constructed from compacted stone. All the paths are flat and level with no significant gradients on site. As a whole the paths are considered disabled friendly with the exception of some of the old concrete gravel roads on the far reaches of the Country Park.</p> <p>3.3 The most accessible part of the site is around The Ocean Lake which has a circular walk with a total distance of 1.5 km from the car park.</p>	<p>Comment only</p> <p>Comment only</p> <p>Comment only</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>

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	<p>3.4 Clear walking tunnels of 2100mm high and 1200mm wide need to be kept clear of vegetation growth at all times. Areas of concern include growth from the old fallen willow near the windsurfing cabins and some path edges where tree growth is extending onto the paths. Add to routine maintenance/management schedule.</p> <p>3.5 Currently no lake edge facility exists to allow ramped access to the lake side. This could be incorporated into any plans to provide lake side bird viewing/feeding platforms with interpretation boards.</p>	<p>As required.</p> <p>No costs available.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>4. Entrances/ Gates</p>	<p>4.1 Anti motorcycle 'A' Frame barriers have now been installed at Ham Hill, Lunsford Lane, Sewage Treatment works, Brooklands Café and Tesco Crossing entrances. These units effectively prevent motorcycles whilst allowing motorised wheelchairs, pedestrians and cycles to pass. During the site visit it was noted that difficulty was experienced by users of wheelchair conversion units attempting to pass through the frame. It would be difficult to alter the design, build and installation of the 'A' frame to incorporate better access for these without allowing motorcycle access.</p> <p>4.2 Remaining entrances from Lunsford Lane and Gighill Road are kissing gate construction. These currently do not provide good access for wheelchairs, pushchairs or bicycles. Consideration could be given to improving these access points in the future or to providing signage and information as to the nearest suitable access point.</p>	<p>Comment only.</p> <p>All pedestrian entrances are 'A' frames, with the exception of PROW MR84, which has an alternative wheelchair access at a pedestrian crossing 30m away.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>5. Resting Places/Seating</p>	<p>5.0 Some bench seats have been installed at the Country Park. More benches are required of park bench design with back and arms. These should be placed closer to the footpaths to allow better accessibility.</p>	<p>Since the DDA Audit, 5 backed and armed benches have been installed around the Park.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>

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6. Disabled Facilities	6.1 A RADAR access for separate toilet has been provided. It was noted that the facility was good. However there were some concerns about the ramp design. The Sub Group also felt that future provision of disabled facilities should be incorporated into the main toilet areas	Comment only	N/A
	6.2 Male and female toilet handrails should be fitted to assist less-abled people.	Completed.	N/A
	6.3 Braille should be added to permanent toilet signs.	Completed.	N/A
Information about the site			
7. Web site	7.1 Highlight accessibility of the site and improve plain English of web pages.	Completed.	Ongoing.
8. Maps	8.1 A new map could be created to show access features of the site. Consider providing a new map perhaps through the KCC Walks for All initiative.	Completed.	N/A
	8.2 Need to show distances along walks and a scale on maps.	Completed.	N/A
	8.3 Need to state on map usability limitations such as changes in weather conditions "paths can have puddles in wet weather" so that a judgement can be made before the visit.	Not added.	N/A
9. Leaflets	9.1 State that "RADAR keys can be obtained from the Council Offices located at Gibson Drive West Malling by contacting the following Officer".	Completed.	N/A
10. Interpretation	10.1 On site interpretation and information boards should include areas for Braille information and incorporate hearing posts where viable.	Funding through Valley of Visions project	DEC 2009
11. Published Material	11.1 Provide more information about access in: Here & Now (write articles about access) Leisure Guide (include a disabled symbol and details facilities) Access Guide (include details of facilities in public open spaces)	Completed.	Ongoing.