NOTTINGHAM LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

M I N U T E S

of meeting held on **3rd October 2007** at the

Tea Room - Council House from 6.30 pm to 8 pm

✓	Malcolm Bescoby	✓	Nick Hynes
✓	John Boland	✓	Wendy Judge
	Bill Clarke	✓	Trevor Muxlow
	Roger Codling		Mary Myles
✓	Angela Cooke		Councillor Packer
	Councillor Grocock	✓	Bill Wright
✓	Tom Huggon		

✓ - indicates present at meeting

Also in attendance

Jenni French (Open & Green Spaces Strategy Development Co-ordinator) John Lee (Advisor), Jenny Kukan (Secretary)

Action

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Bill Clarke, Roger Codling, Councillor Grocock, Mary Myles

1.2 Wendy Judge read Joan Wildgust's letter of resignation to the meeting

"…It is also with regret that I wish also to tender my resignation as a member of the Forum. This decision has been forced on me by other very heavy working commitments, notably my current role in the campaign to save the Nottingham Arts Theatre.

I have enjoyed my tenure with the Forum and would like, in resigning, to pay tribute to both members and officers for the dedication and the many kindnesses they have shown me over the years.

It would be appreciated if these sentiments could be reported to the meeting.

I also wish the Forum every success in its future endeavours

JOAN WILDGUST"

2 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 (Item 2.8) John Boland received a letter from Nottingham City Council explaining the procedure that will be followed if a Stopping Up Order is required for the Station redevelopments. If an Order is made, an objection period would follow. Tom Huggon suggested forming a sub group to formulate a letter of objection as it is not acceptable to be forced to walk a longer route along congested pavements. A copy of the Order would be sent to the Chair of NLAF.

2.2 (Item 3.1) John Boland will be attending the training day to be run by Natural England at Elvaston Castle on 15th October 2007.

2.3 (Item 3.2) John Lee has contacted Tim Hart at Nottinghamshire County Council who has a PHD in interpreting documentary evidence and has written papers on the topic. Tim will arrange some training consisting of both office based teaching and visiting the Nottinghamshire Research Archives.

2.4 (Item 4.2) The Modification Order for Richborough Place will be made in October. More than 100 user evidence forms were submitted in support of the claimed footpath and the 7-8 signed Statutory Declarations can be presented to the Planning Inspectorate if necessary.

2.5 (Item 4.3) A definition of Access Land has been requested which may enable NLAF to request Nottingham to be resurveyed by the Countryside Agency as the forum believe areas like the Trent Valley Way may fall under this category. **John Lee**
Definition: "*Access Land is mountain, moor, heath or down and registered as Common Land*"

2.6 (item 5.5) Trevor Muxlow has misplaced the document regarding access to the English Coast and consequently feedback is postponed until the next meeting. **Trevor Muxlow**

3 PRESENTATION "BREATHING SPACE" STRATEGY ON OPEN AND GREEN SPACES BY JENNI FRENCH – OPEN & GREEN SPACES STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR

3.1 Jenni French's presentation explained what open space does, why we need open space, why we need a strategy, which areas of the city have easy access to open space and some of the ways in which existing open spaces are being improved. Jenni and her colleagues are in the process of developing an action plan for the next 10 years. Copies of the document sent out to forum members with the minutes.

4 LAF TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

4.1 See item 2.3 regarding training on documentary evidence interpretation

4.2 Angela Cooke is attending day 2 of a training course run by BHS on Rights of Way law. If any other forum members are interested please contact Angela for further information.

5 UPDATE ON PUBLIC ACCESS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY WITHIN NOTTINGHAM

5.1 John Lee informed the meeting of the forthcoming Motorcycle Barrier Demonstration Event on Wednesday 10th October 2007 at Silverdale Walk. Three types of barriers will be installed on site for the event which has been advertised widely and various user and advisory groups have been invited including the Disability Advisory Group. The purpose of the event is to determine which type of barrier is most negotiable and user friendly for legitimate users.

5 UPDATE ON RELEVANT LEGISLATION

5.1 John Lee provided the meeting with an update on the Haswell Road Gating Order. No objections were received and the Order has now come into force. Initially youths were climbing over the gates but rolling crocodile wire was fitted and this ceased immediately. A local resident from Haswell Road has called to give his thanks as no further crime has been reported since the crocodile wire was fitted.

5.2 Three applications for Gating Orders have been received from Mapperley, St Anns and Colwick. When more information is available NLAF will be informed.

5.3 John Lee confirmed that the proposed Gating Order on Glade Avenue will not be going ahead.

6 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE

6.1 John Lee reported that a limited number of comments were received on the draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan during the consultation period. Only minor changes such as adding pictures have been carried out. Solicitors have advised that the document must go to the full council because there are policies included towards the end. Tom Huggon suggested that this should be seen as a positive as approval by the full Council will give it the highest status.

7 ELECTION OF NEW LAF CHAIR

7.1 Wendy Judge wished John Boland every success in his future as the new LAF chair.

7.2 Forum members are asked to consider whether they would like to take on the role of Vice Chair and if so, to nominate themselves **All**

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 The draft annual report for 2005/2006 is now ready for approval by NLAF. Forum members are asked to read the report ready to agree it at the next meeting in January 2008. **All**

8.2 The dates of meetings for 2008 were agreed to be the following:

- 9th January 2007
- 9th April 2007
- 9th July 2007
- 8th October 2007

John Lee

John Lee is to inform the relevant Councillors.

8.3 John Boland reported that part of the River Leen foot and cycle path which had not been maintained to an acceptable standard has now been significantly improved and residents are thrilled with this.

8.4 Angela Cooke informed the meeting that she is resigning as chair of the BHS. However, she is still happy to remain on the Local Access Forum and members agreed that she will remain a valuable member.

8.5 Following Joan Wildgust's resignation from the forum, it is now necessary to go out to recruitment for new members. The forum can have a maximum of 20 members so more than one new member could be recruited.

8.6 Wendy Judge was thanked for her time as NLAF Chair.

8.7 The meeting was provided with a copy of the latest ebulletin from Natural England regarding Lost Ways. Comments are requested from Local Access Forums on the role of LAFs in the Discovering Lost Ways project. Despite being informed that they should be in Nottingham from March 2007, nothing has been heard from the Lost Ways team for months. Angela Cooke reported that at a workshop she attended with BHS the Lost Ways team were vague about what they wanted from them. Tom Huggon has tried to encourage people to get involved in the project but without success as people believe there is little point in an urban environment because rights of way have already been lost due to development. However, John Lee noted that there are still valuable paths in Nottingham which should be protected.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

9.1 **Wednesday 9th January 2007**