NOTTINGHAM LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

DRAFT M I N U T E S

of meeting held on **12th October 2011** Loxley House from 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm

✓ - indicates present at meeting

Malcolm Bescoby		Nick Hynes	✓
John Boland	✓	Chris Thompson	✓
Don Cameron	✓	Diane Moore	✓
Angela Cooke	✓	Trevor Muxlow	✓
Councillor Brian Grocock		Councillor Jane Urquhart	✓
Tom Huggon	✓		

Also in attendance

John Lee, Public Rights of Way (Nottingham City Council Advisor)
Matt Leek, Traffic Management (Nottingham City Council Secretary)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

1.1 Cllr Brian Grocock, Malcolm Bescoby.

2 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

2.1 Item 2.2 of the previous minutes: Diane Moore advised that Natural England is still undergoing a re-organisation and when complete, we can re-visit the possibility of a further Planning Aid training event. In relation to item 2.5 of the previous minutes, Don Cameron advised that he also attended the event.

2.2 Chris Thompson: The Council should be complimented on ROWIP2. John Lee advised that ROWIP2 was awaiting approval, along with the Barrier Policy. Cllr Urquhart advised that a list of policies [which includes these] will be taken to the Executive Board for approval shortly.

2.3 Chris Thompson: How will this impact on ROWIP funding? John advised that even though the document is not yet approved, it should not have an impact on funding from the LTP3 for walking and cycling schemes.

2.4 Item 6.1 of the previous minutes: John Lee advised phase 1 of the River Leen (Basford to Bulwell) scheme starts November which will be completed March 2012.

2.5 Item 7.1 of the previous minutes: John Lee advised he would contact Nottinghamshire County Council LAF to progress the joint project to create a link bridge across the Loop at Colwick Park. **JL**

2.6 Angela Cooke provided an update on multi-user paths for cyclists and equestrians, and advised that the British Horse Society have issued a Guidance Note on the subject. John Lee to forward the information from the BHS and the response from Pedals to the forum. **JL**

2.7 Discussion then took place on whether the problems between different user groups were real or perceived.

2.8 Chris Thompson believes that the approach nationally has been fragmented and a national conference should be held to gather all views in one place. John Lee suggested that a letter be written to Richard Benyon MP with this suggestion. **CT AND JL**

3 LAF ASPIRATIONS AND FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME: DIANE MOORE (CHAIR) AND JOHN LEE.

3.1 Diane Moore advised that Roger Codling and Bill Wright have retired from the forum. Additionally, if members haven't submitted their aspiration forms can they please do so as soon as possible? **ALL**

3.2 Due to his absence at the previous LAF meeting, Chris Thompson advised that he had been involved in Rights of Way for 45/50 years. He is particularly interested in getting more paths protected and recorded on the Definitive Map.

3.3 Diane Moore proposed that the Aspirations Forms be used to add items to the agenda for future meetings. We want to encourage members to research topics of interest and report back to the forum. There are Guidance Notes produced by the Department for Environment (DEFRA) on the role of LAF's in England – John to email to members. **JL**

3.4 In relation to adding rights of way to the definitive map via "legal events", Chris Thompson and John Lee agreed to identify quick wins which will be brought to the next meeting in January. John Boland requested to help Chris Thompson. John Lee agreed to put a note together to explain Legal Event Modification Orders and asked for volunteers to draft the orders ready for checking and sealing. **JL, CT AND JB**

4 "HELP SHAPE YOUR CITY" (PLANNING POLICY, DEVELOPMENT, AND LAND USE).

4.1 Cllr Urquhart introduced the current consultation regarding preparation of the new Local Plan which is reviewing planning policy and land use. Stakeholders are asked to comment on the current land use designation for specific sites and whether these designations are still appropriate. The consultation will continue until 21st November. A second draft will then be issued for comment. Before the new Local Plan comes into effect, there has to be a public inquiry about the content of the Plan and whether it is sound.

4.2 Diane Moore asked when comments are put forward, what happens then? Cllr Urquhart explained that the details of the responses are included in a report which is then reviewed.

4.3 Trevor Muxlow asked how transparent will this be? Cllr Urquhart suggested that the answer lies in assessing the revised draft and looking at whether your particular comments have been incorporated.

4.4 Tom Huggon suggested that a meeting be arranged with the Planning team and then the LAF can provide a formal response. The following members agreed to form a sub-group: Chris Thompson, Diane Moore, Tom Huggon and John Lee to arrange a meeting. **JL, CT, DM AND TH**

5 UPDATE ON PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY / ACCESS: JOHN LEE:

5.1	Gating Order at Botany Avenue / Ransom Road: the earlier meeting with the subgroup concluded that the statutory tests for the making of an order had been met but the location of gates require more consideration, the LAF will be involved in this. It was agreed that wherever possible, when a gating order goes ahead, the Council should add another one to the definitive map to compensate. John Lee and Diane Moore to visit the area.	**JL AND DM**
6.2	A pedestrian subway at Hungerhill Road is being closed under Section 118 Highways Act 1980 and a raised zebra crossing will provide an at-grade alternative crossing.	
6.3	A Freedom of Information request has been received asking for correspondence between the LAF, Planning and NET Teams regarding the proposed stopping up order for Footpath No.28.	
6.4	As a member of the Ramblers Association, Chris Thompson declared an interest in Footpath No.28. John Lee explained that if a member is pursuing a matter on behalf of a national organisation, the forum should be notified of this.	

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

7.1	Angela Cooke attended the Regional Chairs Meeting. Our representative from Natural England is Elizabeth Barnicott. One particular issue that was prevalent was that having separate City and County LAF's works well. Similar concerns were expressed regarding the stage of LAF interaction in the planning process. A new online sharing network called Huddle is being introduced so LAF's can share their experiences. Huddle will be online by March 2012.	
7.2	John Lee: it has been agreed with the Chair to recruit new members, which will be advertised in the Nottingham Post and by sites notices early 2012.	**JL AND DM**
7.3	Diane Moore: referred to the list of Area Committee meetings that had been circulated. Members are encouraged to attend and report back.	**ALL**

8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday 11th January, Loxley House (room LH 2.13) Station Street NG2 3NG.

Meeting dates for 2012:

11th April 2012
July 11th 2012
October 10th 2012