NOTTINGHAM LOCAL ACCESS FORUM (NLAF)

M I N U T E S

of meeting held on **11th July 2012** Loxley House from 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm

✓ - indicates present at meeting

John Boland		Hugh McClintock	✓
Don Cameron		Diane Moore (Chair)	✓
Councillor Brian Grocock	✓	Trevor Muxlow	✓
Tom Huggon		Chris Thompson	✓
Nick Hynes		Councillor Jane Urquhart	✓

Also in attendance:

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

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE **ACTIONS**

1.1 Tom Huggon, Nick Hynes, Trevor Muxlow.

1.2 Due to increasing commitments Angela Cooke has decided to resign from the LAF.

2 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

2.1 In relation to item 2.2 of the previous minutes, a proposal is to be taken to the Council's Bridge Estate committee for a contribution of £2k. The Council's Highways Design team have been instructed to prepare plans for EA and other consent purposes.

2.2 In response to item 3.1 of the previous minutes, general discussion took place to consider ways of delivering IT training. John Lee

2.3 In relation to item 2.1 of the previous minutes, on completion of the upgrading works a "walk-about" will be arranged. All agreed maintenance should be a priority so new assets remain in good condition. John Lee

3 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND PRIORITIES FOR 2012/2013

3.1 This item was deferred to the next meeting.

4 PRESENTATION – FOOT AND CYCLE ROUTE SIGNING CITY WIDE STRATEGY, HIGH MCCLINTOCK.

4.1 Points raised in the presentation included:

a) signing should incorporate "Distance, Direction, and Destination" at key locations.

b) Paths that take you away from the main routes are just as important as the main routes, signing should reflect this.
c) Signs must be legible, well maintained, vandal resistant (i.e. so they point in the right direction).
d) Too many signs cause confusion, so there has to be a clear strategy that is consistent across all locations.
e) Interpretation boards could be introduced at key points.
f) Priorities; Wollaton Park, Colwick Park, Sneinton Greenway, River Leen.

4.2 Chris Thompson questioned whether the incorrect status of a path could be apportioned to someone injuring themselves. Councillor Urquhart advised that if we know the condition of a path and it is maintained, it would have to be proven that the Authority's negligence was the cause of the accident.

4.3 Cllr Urquhart: We are developing the next phase of the cycling action plan which looks at routes into the City, as well as providing more coherent signing. We have obtained some money through the LTP Local Sustainable Transport Fund that could be used.

4.5 Chris Thompson asked whether it was possible for new developments to provide segregated routes as part of the development. Cllr Urquhart advised that contributions from developers must be proportional to their scale so this may be limited.

4.6 John Lee advised that a signing scheme is programmed for Sneinton Greenway and Colwick Park this financial year, as well as a full review of signing across the Meadows including the Big Track and feeder links.

5 UPDATE FROM THE PLANNING APPLICATION SUB-GROUP (SITE VISIT TO RADFORD BRIDGE ROAD ALLOTMENTS, WOLLATON: NICK HYNES & TREVOR MUXLOW.

5.1 With the absence of Nick and Trevor this item was deferred to the next meeting. John Lee advised that the Planning Authority agreed with the comments of the LAF; that a north – south cycle / pedestrian route should be provided.

6 EAST MIDLANDS LAF REGIONAL CHAIRS MEETING (UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR) – DETAILS TO BE FORWARDED TO MEMBERS. Diane Moore

7 UPDATE ON PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY (RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN, IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES 2012/13, PUBLIC PATH ORDERS, MODIFICATION ORDERS AND GATING ORDERS.

7.1 John Lee: The forum was advised of the reasons why the Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2 (ROWIP2) had not yet been adopted, and until such time the current ROWIP stands.

7.2 John Lee: The Stopping Order for footpath 28 was not confirmed. Discussions are taking place with all parties to agree an appropriate diversion which will retain the footbridge.

7.3 John Lee: A request for a Gating Order has been received for a footpath running between Portland Road / Cromwell Street, Arboretum (off Alfreton Road).

7.4 John Lee: A request for an Extinguishment Order (S118 Highways Act 1980) has been received for a footpath running through a private car park at Knights Close, Top Valley.

8 RECENT CONSULTATIONS AND PROPOSED CHANGES TO LEGISLATION – IMPROVEMETS TO THE POLICY AND THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY AND THE WHITE PAPER ON ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (CHANGES TO GATING ORDERS) – FOR DISCUSSION.

8.1 John Lee: The Home Office are introducing a new ASB tool; Community Protection Orders, which will consolidate Gating Orders (and other powers).

8.2 Cllr Urquhart: The Council should have a process in place so rights of way implications are taken into account.

8.3 Chris Thompson expressed concerns that the police are under growing pressure to meet targets, which could result in some rights of way being needlessly lost.

8.4 John Lee: In light of the findings contained within the Penfold Review, a consultation process has begun to simplify the process of applying for the stopping up or diversion order to facilitate development. A response is being prepared which focuses on the sections relevant to the City Council.

9 AOB:

9.1 Hugh McClintock introduced the proposal to construct a cycle/ped bridge across the Trent linking Trent Lane and West Bridgford. It was greed that due to the scale of such a bridge, priority should be given to more achievable schemes such as the Colwick Park “little” bridge and recruitment of new members.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 10th October 2012, Loxley House, LH 2.11.