NOTTINGHAM LOCAL ACCESS FORUM (NLAF)

M I N U T E S

of meeting held on **10th October 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)
Steve Rhodes, Observer
Margaret Knowles, Observer
Roger Sexton, Observer
Ruth Thurgood, Observer
Peter Nelder, Observer
Dennis Reeson, Nottinghamshire County Council LAF
Mary Mills, Nottinghamshire County Council LAF

SITE VISIT TO NOTTINGHAM MIDLAND STATION (FOOTPATH 28). PROPOPSED DIVERSION ORDER.

Members were asked to comment on the 2 options to divert the footpath onto a new alignment. Option 1 to run part of the route "on platform" or option 2 on a separate alignment between the platform and the service road to the MSCP; Members discussed

- whether the platform is wide enough to accommodate passengers and footpath users.
- pedestrian crossing on Queens Road (opposite Summer Leys Lane) to access the footpath.
- the design of the ramp means passengers more likely to take a short cut and walk diagonally towards the MSCP and not along the footway
- whether the new canopy would be lit and to what level
- Due to the current width of the platform majority preferred an "off platform" route

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. **ACTIONS**

1.1 Councillor Urquhart, Councillor Grocock, Don Cameron, John Boland.

1.2 John Boland has advised that is to retire from the Forum. Members would like to thank John for his overall dedication and contribution to John Lee

Rights of Way in Nottingham. John Lee agreed to write letter of thanks.

2.0 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

2.1 In relation to item 2.1 of the previous minutes, the design of the new footbridge needs consent from the Environment Agency.

- The bridge will be for pedestrians and cyclists only, due to financial constraints, not equestrian users.
- It was noted that the majority of horse riders would be able to negotiate the water as its quite shallow at around 6 - 10 inches
- The footbridge will provide a link to the paths on both sides of the Loop and open up Colwick Park to the wider community on the Gedling side.

2.2 Discussion took place on the health benefits of walking, cycling and riding and having good access to open spaces. Agreed to arrange presentation by Primary Care Trust for future meeting. John Lee.

2.3 In relation to item 5.1 of the previous minutes, Nick Hynes provided an update on the proposed housing development at the Radford Bridge Road Allotments site. The forum was advised that the application will be considered by Development Control Committee on 19th December 2012.

2.4 In relation to item 7.4 of the previous minutes, an Extinguishment Order has been confirmed for a stepped path through a private car-park at Knights Close, Top Valley. There is a suitable alternative that is relatively flat, well lit and does not go through the car-park. John Lee to send copies of the Order by email. John Lee

2.5 In relation to item 8 of the previous minutes, due to other commitments, and that the DfT consultation was largely a duplication of the earlier consultation by DEFRA, the Council responded to the DEFRA consultation only.

3.0 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND PRIORITIES FOR 2012/13.

Due to the forthcoming recruitment of new members this item was deferred to the next meeting

4.0 LAF RECRUITMENT – RESPONSE AND INFORMAL INTERVIEWS.

4.1 John Lee explained that there had been an excellent response to the recruitment posters / campaign and welcomed prospective members (the observers listed above) to the Forum. It was agreed that Diane Moore, Nick Hynes, Tom Huggon and Hugh Mcclintock would sit on

the interview panel with John Lee and interviews would be held during November.

5.0 NOMINATIONS FOR VICE CHAIR.

5.1 Diane Moore asked members to consider the role of Vice Chair. This would include, but not limited to, the following:-

- Chair meetings when Chair is otherwise engaged
- Attend regional meetings when Chair is otherwise engaged
- Attend pre- forum meetings to discuss Agenda items
- Exchange ideas with Chair to increase members participation
- Contributing towards Annual Report
- Contribute towards organising sub-group meetings

6.0 UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR.

6.1 Diane Moore explained that Natural England would like to encourage all Forum members to register on the Huddle, but acknowledged it needs to be used on a regular basis which is time consuming. Training can be provided for members. Concerns were made about whether Huddle users would represent their own views or the views of the Forum. Diane Moore to email minutes of the Regional Chairs meeting. Diane Moore

7.0 DEFINITIVE MAP SUB GROUP – THE NEXT STAGE: CHRIS THOMPSON.

7.1 Chris Thompson explained the importance of recording pre 1949 paths. The DM working group to review available evidence/information to determine the existence of a right of way. Once members have the basic principal/knowledge, process could be undertaken at home. May be advantageous for a session at the Archives, to gain an understanding of the type of evidence required. Chris Thompson to suggest dates for visit to the Archives. Chris Thompson

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

8.1 John Lee advised that no further progress had been made on the Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) since the last meeting. For the benefit of the observers, Diane Moore explained the purpose of the ROWIP, and how the Forum helped with both plans.

8.2 John Lee: The ROWIP had a date of 2007 to 2011 which is line with

LTP2. Although its end date is 2011, the current ROWIP is still valid. On Advise from Legal Services Full consultataion will need to be

8.3 Tom Huggon: It is the responsibility of all Local Highway Authorities to have a ROWIP. The City Council should find the resources because it is a statutory duty. Suggested using consultants to prepare the plan.

8.4 John Lee: The signs for the Big Track Scheme near Victoria Embankment are being erected, however, there has been a clash with the works associated with the Tram, however work will resume as quickly as possible.

There is a potential widening scheme to take place adjacent at the Mansfield Road / Forest Road junction to assist cyclists and pedestrians.

The widening of the A453 is due to commence this year.

Elm Avenue: A researcher will start the process this week.

There have been 2 Public Path Creation Orders in Bulwell which will be added to the Definitive Map and Statement in 4 – 6 weeks.

Gating Order at Portland Road: The path is used by drug dealers and drug users. The Order can be made which will then trigger the 28 day consultation period.

Footbridges at Meadow Lane and Trent Lane. The latest designs have been approved at DC Committee. The bridges can be built without interfering with the PROW, but Orders are required to divert the existing rights at the at-grade crossings.

9.0 <u>ANY OTHRER BUSINESS.</u>

9.1 John Lee: If the budget allows, there may be an opportunity for the forum to be involved in a highway improvement scheme. The best scheme will be awarded £5k, and has to meet the City Council's priorities. To give members an understanding of the issues that have to be taken into account, Hertz Yard won last year.

9.2 Chris Thompson suggested the development of a walking leaflet, which would also be a good way to promote the LAF. Diane Moore advised that this topic had been discussed on a number of different occasions, but would give it further consideration if the benefits could be listed on an A4 sheet of paper. However, concerns were expressed about the amount of resources such a project would require. Chris Thompson

9.3 Diane Moore thanked the prospective members and the County

Council representatives for attending the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 9th January 2013, Loxley House, LH 2.11.