



Minutes of a meeting of the Leicestershire Local Access Forum held at County Hall, Glenfield on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2019

## PRESENT

### Members

Mr R. Denney (DC, Vice Chair)  
Ms. V. Allen  
Mrs. H Brown  
Mr. C. Faircliffe  
Mrs. H. Edwards

### Officers

Mr. E. McWilliam (LCC)  
Mrs. J. Attard (National Forest)  
Mrs. S. Dann (LCC)  
Mrs. A. Adams (LCC)

1. The Chairman's welcome and opening remarks

Mr. Denney will be chairing the meeting due to Mr. Howells being unwell. He welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mr. D. Nicholls, Mr. M. Gamble, Mrs. A. Pyper, Mrs. C. Radford CC, Mr. T. Kirby and Mr. J. Howells.

It was discussed that Mr. S. Warren be removed from the distribution list as it is unlikely he will be returning to the Group. It was also proposed to remove Mr. B Sutton due to his unattendance for the last 2 years.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes from the previous meeting were unable to be approved due to the meeting not being quorate.

4. Declarations of interest

The members confirmed that there were no declarations of interest.

5. Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda

There were no matters arising not otherwise on the agenda.

6. Requests for urgent items to be debated at the Chairman's discretion

None.

7. Reports from committees and working groups.

a) Planning and Travel Committee

Mr. Denney discussed the Rail Freight Interchange. Ms. V. Allen said that a consultation is being set up in today's Leicester Mercury with the intention to consult on a new level crossing at Narborough.

b) Network Opportunities Committee

An update was made on the Unrecorded Ways Group.

8. Reports from outside bodies.

a) Heart of the Forest, Access and Connectivity Forum

Ms. Allen updated on this item. She said that they now require volunteers for this project due to there being no funding, they would be putting up signs to advertise.

b) River Soar and Grand Union Partnership

There was no update on this item.

c) National Forest and Recreation Group

Mr. Denney advised that the group hasn't met since last June, there is no meeting planned until the autumn. Mrs. Attard updated that the funding had ended for the Black to Green project, a bid was submitted for more funding but was unsuccessful. They require funding for staff help, Mrs. Attard will report back to the NFC to see if they can assist.

d) Charnwood Forest Regional Steering Group

Mrs. Attard updated that she had attended the mid-point review meeting with the HLF. The development phase will end in September. The final submission will go to the London Committee and they will know in March if they have been successful or not.

Mrs. Attard also explained the Development Phase. This will be evidence based and they will get consultants in to work on the plans. She also spoke about the Landscape Conservation Action Plan, Mrs. Attard asked the group if anybody could write anything for submission in this, Ms. Allen will have a look at putting some wording together.

9. HS2 Update

Ms. Allen updated that there have been some changes to the plans around Ashby de la Zouch, they are planning to move the line further away from the A42, there may be some old mines at the site, so plans have changed several times due to this.

Mr. Denney mentioned Belmont Way and the plans for HS2 regarding this.

Ms. Allen had an article from the Leicester Mercury that explained that there was going to be a compound built as a permanent infrastructure base between the A511 and A522.

10. Rights of Way Improvement Plan Update

Mr. McWilliam had circulated an update prior to the meeting. Several items were relating to policy creation agreements. They are working with developers and need to be prepared to discuss this. The group discussed a major issue that happened last year regarding access between Barrow to Cotes.

Mr. McWilliam spoke about setting up a group to discuss the document proposals. Mr. Denney said he was happy to be involved in this. Mr. McWilliam said he would come up with some dates and suggest them to the group, preferably around early August in the morning.

11. Barrow Rail Crossing Update

A Public Inquiry has recently taken place regarding the Barrow Rail Crossing that was attended by some members of the forum. Ms. Allen commented that they have been informed that the legislation did not require a diversion, just a closure. They will continue to progress this and keep the forum updated.

12. Forum Recruitment

The forum discussed how they could recruit new members to the LLAF. Mr. Denney asked if LCC could do an advert. Mr. McWilliam suggested that they could put an advert in the Leicester Mercury within the jobs pages but make it clear that it is a voluntary post or advertised as a vacancy on the EMSS website where all County Council jobs are advertised.

The group discussed which areas they need representation from the most. It was agreed that it would be beneficial to recruit someone from the farming community.

Mrs. Attard said she may know people that could be interested but depends on the time commitment, but she will ask around.

13. Correspondence

There was no additional correspondence to consider.

14. Any Other Business

The Chair went round and asked members for any other business.

Ms. Allen informed members that the LLAF Chairs Report is required by 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 ready for the meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

15. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2019 (5.00pm for 5.30pm) – Forum County Hall (Workshop from 4.00pm).

Future dates are confirmed as follows:

- 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 - FORUM

The meetings of the Unrecorded Ways Group are as follows:

- 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019 (2.30pm to 4.30pm) – Room tbc
- 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019 (7.00pm to 9.00pm) – Glenfield Parish Rooms
- 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019 (2.30pm to 4.30pm) – Room tbc