

Nottingham City Council

Nottingham Local Access Forum

Minutes of Meeting 12th October 2022, 6.30pm Loxley House, Station Street Nottingham

✓ Indicates in attendance

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ✓ Helen Hemstock (Chair) | ✓ James McDonnell |
| ✓ Liz Cordle (Vice Chair) | ✓ Nigel Sarsfield |
| ✓ Edmund Hopkins (Vice Chair) | ✓ Steve Shardlow |
| ✓ Yvonne Dragun | Giselle Sterry |
| ✓ Cerys Gibson | ✓ Chris Thompson |
| ✓ Nick Hynes | ✓ Joanna Ward |
| ✓ Rob Kirkwood | ✓ Councillor Audra Wynter |
| ✓ Margaret Knowles | Hillary Yates |
| Councillor Pavlos Kotsonis | |
| ✓ Alan Lodge | |
| ✓ Christopher Lydall | |
| ✓ Dave MacKrory | |
| ✓ Hugh McClintock | |

35 Apologies for Absence

Councillor Pavlos Kotsonis
Hillary Yates
Giselle Sterry (note, Giselle has now retired)
Steve (John) Rhodes (note, Steve has now retired)

36 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2022 were agreed with the following amendments. Minutes to be amended to show Rob Kirkwood was in attendance and Item 29 c) was amended to clarify a new LAF walk is being investigated through Berridge Ward, and not being tested soon.

Action: John to amend minutes

37 Welcome to new LAF members and introductions

All existing and new members introduced themselves, gave a summary of main interests, reasons for joining the LAF, and where they live and move around on foot and cycle. John will forward links to various online resources.

With regard to inclusivity and diversity, it was noted that LAF membership does not reflect the diverse population of Nottingham. Agreed that the LAF should consider ways that this diversity can be better represented, for example reaching out to other networks.

Action. All

38 Roles and responsibilities of Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport and Parks (Councillor Audra Wynter)

Councillor Wynter gave a summary of her new portfolio role covering highways, transport and parks, including

- the importance of parks and open spaces during Covid restrictions, somewhere to exercise locally, improving health and wellbeing
- Cycling opportunities in Nottingham are good compared to many other cities, including those provided through the Transforming Cities funding, and other funding opportunities
- Nottingham has more Green Flag parks than any city outside London. The planning process must consider provision of / access to green space.
- The need for good quality parks and playgrounds in less affluent areas, and examples of recent park improvements
- Allotments are also covered by this portfolio
- Green Social Prescribing has links with this portfolio

39 The Island Quarter Development (feedback from the consultation event 07.09.2022)

Dave previously shared notes from the event with members. Overall, the responses were positive. Specific comments included

- Noted that the rights of way (including the step free access to the canal) are currently permissive, not public. Desire that these should be public.
- Concern about potential impact of events on access across these rights of way
- Paul asked about provision for retail premises and access to them
- Joanna noted that bins are left on the pavement outside the gym
- Rob asked whether the paths are “proper green paths” with regard to planting
- Regarding the value of the consultation it was not clear whether anything would change as a result of the event, but that it was useful for making contacts
- Students using e-scooters between London Road and Manvers Street, Sneinton, the need for routes to be designed for all types of users on foot, cycle and (legal) scooters.
- John noted that the Island Quarter project website can provide more information
- Cerys raised a general question about what powers the LAF have. Edmund, Helen and John responded explaining that LAF has an advisory role to public bodies and the council, acting as an “independent advisor” to “section 94 bodies”. As such that LAF has the opportunity to influence decisions but does not have power to deliver. We noted examples of when LAF has influenced developments, or development proposals (eg Padstow site) and when we have not (e.g. Unity Square). We also noted the value of building positive relationships with relevant stakeholders.

Action: John to circulate LAF Guidance from DEFRA which sets out the role of LAF's.

40 Subgroup members (who's in what group)

John provided a list of subgroup members which will also be forwarded to members to check they have been placed in the right subgroup, and to confirm if there are any other subgroups they wish to support.

41 Subgroup Updates

a) Walking Subgroup Update

- The focus of the group's work has been the development of a series of self-guided walking guides to cover our city, but members are involved in other activities outside their LAF responsibilities to promote walking in our city.
- To date LAF published 13 self-guided walks. The 2 Basford and Cinderhill walks which Ian has developed are in near final draft format and we hope to publish soon.
- Chris and Mike have been working on a River Leen walk from source to its outlet into R Trent
- Chris and Nigel have been operating the Notts Guided walks website this year.
- Potential future opportunities to support completion of walks to cover all areas of our city
- Explore other opportunities to make these walks available/ visible, better promotion
- Rob raised opportunities to share awareness including through the Green Space network and suggested the walking group meet with Laura Armitage
- A pilot project with the NHS supporting patients with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease & diabetes to deliver regular short walks from City Hospital and QMC sites
- Cerys and Yvonne noted some of the accessibility issues for walking – e.g. provision of benches & public conveniences
- Regarding communication of walking opportunities/ information Chris L noted the alabaster boards on High/ Middle Pavement; and Nigel noted that the Nottingham Facebook page had been highlighting self-guided walks
- Building on the walks to make them more accessible, a new “communications and promotions” subgroup could lead on this

Action: Helen will facilitate links with the Ridewise Walking and Wellbeing Project Manager and the walking subgroup

b) Planning Subgroup Update

Margaret had provided an update to members ahead of the meeting, and with input from the subgroup summarised various planning applications, the work involved, having to screen out applications that are not relevant to the LAF (i.e. rear house extensions), the need to align comments with national and local planning policy and guidance, checking cycle parking, sustainable transport elements. Dave referred to the recent issues with the development at Queens Bridge Road (Unity Square) and the sharded cycle route design. With so many applications to check each month, Margaret / the subgroup was pleased to see that several new members will be supporting this work.

c) Definitive Map Subgroup Update

This item was deferred. John will arrange a catch-up meeting with the subgroup at Loxley House before the next LAF meeting in January 2023.

d) E-Scooter Subgroup Update

On behalf of the subgroup, Nigel gave a summary of the E-Scooter trial held at Victoria Embankment on 16.08.2022, organised with Superpedestrian, the E-Scooter provider and attended by Nigel, Chris and Paul (see Nigel's notes from the trial previously emailed to members). Unfortunately, due to time constraints, Nigel did not have time to cover all this item, and there was no time for questions / discussion.

42 Future Agenda Items

- Broadmarsh
- Walking Strategy City and County
- North - South cycleway
- Active Travel / Social Prescribing Fund
- Transforming Cities schemes
- Active Travel England (representative)
- Meeting with Notts County LAF (including to discuss the new River Trent footbridge)

Action: John to contact the PROW manager at the County Council.

43 Any Other Business

Paul raised the NHS Walk-In Centre on London Road and the poor connectivity to public transport for those with limited mobility, with the suggestion of relocating the centre or improving public transport links. All agreed that Paul should follow this up. Helen asked who in the Council would be best placed to progress this with. John to provide contact details.

44 Date of Next Meeting

11 January 2023, 6.30pm at Loxley House, Ground Floor Committee room.

45 Future meeting dates

Wednesday 12 April, Wednesday 12 July, Wednesday 11th October

Future meetings will be held over MS Teams or at Loxley House, to be confirmed nearer the time. All meetings start at 6.30pm.