

Nottingham City Council

Nottingham Local Access Forum

Minutes of meeting 11th January 2023, 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 | ✓ Chris Thompson |
| Cerys Gibson | Joanna Ward |
| Nick Hynes | ✓ Councillor Audra Wynter |
| ✓ Rob Kirkwood | Hillary Yates |
| ✓ Margaret Knowles | |
| ✓ Councillor Pavlos Kotsonis | |
| ✓ Alan Lodge | |
| ✓ Christopher Lydall | |
| ✓ Dave MacKrory | |
| ✓ Hugh McClintock | |

Also in attendance: Adam Escott (Superpedestrian), Jennie Maybury (Transport Strategy)

46 Apologies for Absence

Councillor Audra Wynter (arrived from another meeting at 19.35)
Hillary Yates
Nick Hynes
Nigel Sarsfield
Yvonne Dragun
Joanna Ward

47 Minutes

No comments or amendments raised for the minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2022. John apologised for sending the minutes out later than usual.

Action: All. To note the minutes and any actions.

48 Roles and responsibilities of Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Culture and Planning (Councillor Pavlos Kotsonis)

Provided a summary of his portfolio roles and responsibilities including

- relationship to national and local planning policy (can influence the latter, campaign on the former)
- role of Local Plan in setting framework for Planning Team to work to – often more ambitious requirements than national policy

- vice chair of Transport Planning Board and member of Joint Planning Advisory board
- relationship with neighbouring councils – “duty to cooperate” – e.g. waste management, housing targets
- provides political steer i.e. policy direction, strategy and budget; operational management led by Paul Seddon and planning team officers
- can’t approve or reject planning applications – this is role of planning authority and officers, but has influence through decisions on planning policy
- forthcoming Carbon SPD will help support planning decisions, delivery of active travel options, sustainable transport, walking and cycling etc.

Discussion points included:

- aspirations such as CN28 seem to get overlooked in the delivery of planning policy, and decisions on development proposals
- relationship between planning and non-planning policy in the council
- relationship between local and national planning policy
- role of Active Travel England
- National Planning Policy Framework and Planning White Paper
- cycle parking standards, often standards are below those set out in policy
- duty to “enable development” to meet national targets, housing etc, which may mean compromising ambitions set in local plan/ local planning policy
- monitoring and enforcement capacity is limited (e.g. re green space conditions in planning application approvals)
- planning checklist for planners exists and has previously been shared with LAF (includes e.g. cycle parking)
- role of LAF, NOSF (and other voluntary bodies) is valued by council (e.g. when commenting on planning application or SPDs) because our voice can add weight to the ambitions the council hopes to achieve (e.g. CN28)

Action: Cllr Pavlos to advise whether the council plans to respond to the latest National Planning Policy Framework/ Planning White Paper. Reiterated that LAF members should always contact him on specific issues, and where relevant, copy into emails.

49 Active Travel Social Prescribing programme (Jennie Maybury, City Council Transport Strategy team)

Jennie outlined the Active Travel Social Prescribing Project part of a national pilot with £1.58m of national funding to provide walking and cycling activities through the social prescribing workstreams. The project will focus on 3 areas of Nottingham, St Ann’s/Sneinton, Western Nottingham and Bulwell. Feasibility stage in spring 2022 engaged 64 stakeholders across 20 partner organisations which confirmed that it was important for the programme to be “for and run by people like me” (see presentation attached to these minutes).

Four levels of initiatives:

1. community based/ family friendly
2. personalised – designed to be inclusive for those experiencing mental health or social isolation
3. hospital trust “walking clinics”
4. social prescribers – advocates

The GoJauntly is a free walking app which offers

- free walking routes
- dynamic green routes
- nature notes

A partnership package with Go Jauntly will allow the Council to develop Nottingham specific content including options for

- audio enhanced content
- ability to download map content offline (to save on data)

Some Nottingham content already exists on the App and intention is to include some of existing self-guided routes in Nottingham (e.g. park walks & LAF walks) where these are appropriate (e.g. short, easily accessible / no steps / steep gradients, level surfaces / routes)

Action: All LAF members are encouraged to download and try the free GoJauntly app and provide feedback and suggestion for routes in the 3 project delivery areas. Send comments to John Lee, john.lee@nottinghamcity.gov.uk.

Discussion points included the following

- challenge of pulling together all the walking opportunities (guided, self-guided, other) in one place when different partners are involved and there are different sources of information
- Notts Guided Walks ambition to provide calendar of all guided walks in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire was noted
- NOSF “Green Map” ambition to be repository of all things green, also accessibility issues which include
 - digital / non digital
 - diversity (e.g. in promotional material)
 - disability & perception of walking (e.g. “rambling”/ “rucksacks”) – can put some people off

49(a) New item (not on the agenda) e-scooters update from Adam Escott, Superpedestrian

Adam updated on the national & local e-scooter trials which has been extended to May 2024, with Superpedestrian providing Nottingham’s trial e-scooters. Presentation included the following (see Adam’s presentation attached to these minutes).

- new design features of the e-scooter (designed “in-house” by Superpedestrian) and developing technologies to encourage good / safe use and monitor usage
- the trial will feed into future legislation on e-scooter usage
- “education first” approach to dealing with e-scooter misuse

limited discussion time, but points raised included the following

- limited number of “wardens” to support e-scooter monitoring/ enforcement
- issues re pavement riding, 2 riders and use of non-trial / unauthorised scooters
- Nottingham Trent University currently advertising for PhD students to research e-scooters and user behaviours, link here <https://www.ntu.ac.uk/research/find-a-phd->

Action: (1) All to forward questions for Adam to John Lee, responses to be forwarded to Councillor Wynter and to be considered by e-scooter subgroup. (2) Adam to be invited to future meetings to update on trial and address questions raised by LAF members.

50 Subgroup Updates

50a Walking subgroup

Update circulated to members before the meeting, with copy attached to these minutes. Next subgroup meeting, Thursday 16 January 6:30, Laura Armitage (of Green Space Network) will attend. All LAF members welcome to attend. For venue details, email Liz.

50b Planning subgroup

Padstow fields development, engagement with developer regarding creation / dedication of new public rights of way has been positive, and reminder to advise Councillor Kotsonis if there are any issues. The planning training arranged for 11 January had to be postponed due to staffing issues and availability. Planning training to be re-arranged, with the more experienced subgroup members providing the training to new subgroup members.

50c Definitive Map subgroup

50d E-scooter subgroup

Nigel would usually cover this item but was unable to attend the meeting.

51 Items for future Agendas

52 Future Agenda Items (including those from previous meetings)

- Broadmarsh
- walking strategy City and County
- north - South cycleway
- Active Travel / Social Prescribing Fund
- Transforming Cities funded schemes
- Active Travel England (representative)
- meeting with Notts County LAF (including to discuss the new River Trent footbridge)

Action: (caried over from last meeting) John to contact the PROW manager at the County Council.

53 Any other business

Helen asked if any members were keen to take on the position of chair. Helen has been the chair for 3 years now and is happy to continue in this role but at the same time wanted to give everyone the opportunity. Any expressions of interest should be discussed with Helen.

54 Date of Next Meetings

19 April 2023, 6.30pm at Loxley House (room TBC)

12 July 2023, 6.30pm (either MS Teams or Loxley House, TBC)

11 October 2023 (either MS Teams or Loxley House, TBC)