

BBC/EWR Line Task Group – Minutes



BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Date: Friday 21st November

Time: 2 – 3pm

Venue: Hybrid

Attendees:

Craig Austin (CA)

Ben Raza (BR)

John Molyneux (JM)

Antigua Riley Corion (ARC)

Jo Branson-Budd (JBB)

Sarah Combes (SC)

Gavin Chinniah (GC)

Margaret Birtles (MB)

Dawn Staal (DS)

Simon Joynes (SJ)

No.	Discussion	Actions
1.	Apologies Paul Pace (PP), Anna Robbani (AR)	
2.	Minutes from meeting on 10th November The minutes from the previous meeting held on 10 th November were circulated and agreed.	Actions carried forward: JBB to circulate strategic and technical issue logs for all to review and add to. MB/DS to prepare a briefing note for the Mayor outlining licence agreements and implications <i>before</i> these are signed.
3.	Stakeholder Engagement – EWR and BBC JBB confirmed that EWR have published a ‘You said, We Did’ document. This provides EWR’s updates to BBC’s response to the non-statutory consultation conducted in November 2024 – January 2025, and covers the section of EWR in Bedford Borough. EWR’s responses to BBC feedback will be reviewed, with queries and comments for EWR logged. JBB advised that EWR will be undertaking another non-statutory consultation process beginning in mid-April 2026. MB advised she has still not received communication from EWR re the CPO of Charris House on Ashburnham Road. ARC updated the Task Group of BBC engagement activities undertaken since the last meeting. Advised that a letter drop	JBB / SC to collate questions arising from this feedback and include them in the actions and issues log. MB to contact EWR again to confirm who EWR sent the CPO communication to. ARC to share issues raised by residents and businesses with CA and SC, to add to the actions and issues log.

	<p>of nos 2 – 20 evens on Ashburnham Rd was completed on 11th November following consultation with the Mayor, and follow-up door-knocking to engage with residents and businesses took place on 17th November.</p> <p>ARC advised that the potential risk around losing the Doctor's Surgery on Ashburnham Rd due to the proposed demolition is being discussed at a meeting with the ICB next week.</p> <p>ARC advised she will circulate dates for a drop-in session for affected residents and businesses of 2-20 Ashburnham Rd.</p>	<p>ARC to circulate proposed dates for engagement session.</p>
4.	<p>External Specialists</p> <p>GC confirmed that suitable legal counsel has been engaged, and we can expect a response by the next Task Group meeting.</p>	<p>GC to share legal advice summary with BBC colleagues and EWR when received.</p>
5.	<p>EWR Licences for access</p> <p>MB confirmed that further information regarding 'safeguarding' was published and circulated on 19th November.</p> <p>MB advised that EWR have requested access to sites through licences that are not subject to safeguarding. Agreement to discuss with BBC legal team to address these in a separate licence agreement.</p>	<p>MB to speak with DS regarding separate licence agreements for sites not subject to safeguarding.</p> <p>MB to include decision regarding any separate licences in briefing note.</p>
6.	<p>Communications</p> <p>BR discussed BBC communications plan re current activities and EWR updates.</p>	<p>BR to share proposed communications releases.</p>
3.	<p>AOB</p> <p>JBB confirmed she has circulated a timesheet for recharging officer time spent on EWR to EWR under the PPA.</p> <p>JBB confirmed that EWR have agreed to fund a BBC project post through PPA. Confirmed that external specialist resources can also be funded through the PPA, but we must confirm the scope of this in advance with EWR.</p> <p>Discussion regarding whether officers have seen any evidence of other routes (other to Route E) being discussed</p>	<p>All to complete monthly timesheets for recharge, backdated to 29th July. First timesheets to be submitted by 5th December.</p> <p>JBB to share job profile with JM.</p> <p>JM to support JBB and liaise with HR regarding new role.</p>

	in various ongoing meetings. All officers in the Task Group confirmed they had not.	
10.	Date of next meeting Tuesday 2 nd December (Hybrid)	