



Minutes

Meeting held on 23 July 2024 at 18.30 at Borough Hall.

Members present:

Bob Wallace (BW) – Chair of the meeting
David Mitchell (DM)
Ann Kennedy (AK)
Nigel Jacobs (NJ)
Mark Poxton (MP)
James Russell (JR)
Barry Ingram (BI)
Cllr Martin Towler (MT)

In attendance/Observers:

April Quinn – Bedford Borough Council
Charley Harley – Member of the public

Apologies received:

Andrew Prigmore (AP)

Clerk:

Georgina McDade

1. Welcome by the Chairman

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes from January were agreed and signed.

Apologies received as above.

2. Governance

It was agreed that the re-election of members and posts would take place every April. The Chair will sit for 3 years. All members agreed that Bob should continue as chair. He advised he would be stepping down next year.

All members agreed that AK and JR would continue as joint vice chairs. Charley Harley will become a full member moving forward.

3. Funded Opportunities

a) UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Discussion with Ann Pape via TEAMS.

It was agreed that maps should be in a digital format so they can be downloaded making them more accessible to a wider audience including younger generation.

Ann confirmed that the funding for this project is available until March 2025 and the funds form part of the “levelling up” funds from central government.

It was agreed that the target length of routes should be between 2-5 miles. Filters such as lengths, parking facilities may be considered. The first routes should focus on deprived areas and new developments.

It was agreed that the next steps will be shortlisting routes. Routes should include open accessible green space, off road alleyways and through parks.

Suggested routes:-

Hill Rise (by nature reserve)
Eastcotts (Harrowden Road)
Wixams
Great Denham

Ann will forward her shortlist routes by end of May for members to investigate.

b) Active Rural Grant

No discussion.

Signed:

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Dated: 23 July 2024