



## Minutes of meeting held on 27th September 2022 in Borough Hall commencing at 6:30pm

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<b>Members present:</b>	<b>Apologies received:</b>
Bob Wallace – Chair of the meeting David Mitchell James Russell Barry Ingram	Cllr Royden Ann Kennedy Nigel Jacobs
<b>In attendance/Observers:</b>	
Andrew Prigmore - Bedford Borough Council April Quinn – Bedford Borough Council	
<b>Clerk:</b> Georgina McDade	

<b>1.</b>	<b><u>Welcome by Chairman</u></b>  The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Minutes from June agreed and signed.
<b>2.</b>	<b><u>Apologies</u></b>  As above.
<b>3.</b>	<b><u>Item 2 Governance</u></b>  It was agreed by members that were present that the rules surrounding quorate numbers would be reviewed.  Clerk to put proposal forward that the quorate number should be revised to 2/3 <sup>rd</sup> s of the members.
<b>4.</b>	<b><u>Item 3 – Green wheel</u></b>  April – The LCWIP “telephone consultation” carried out in August was to seek the best way to carry out the formal consultation. An internal review is currently being undertaken by managers to determine the detail of the content for the consultation, which is hoped to be circulated by the end of October. Results

	<p>of the consultation will be notified to consultees. AP confirmed that the LAF are a consultee and will be contacted when the consultation is circulated.</p> <p>James suggested it would be worthwhile if Yo could present the findings at the next meeting, dependant on timescales.</p> <p>NCR51 update – currently same position. Andy confirmed funds were available, however National Highways have not advised which section of the route will be completed. It was agreed that the LAF would arrange to write to NH to chase for an update on which sections will be completed and a commencement date.</p> <p>Bob suggested it would be worth the LAF requesting NH to provide a cycle link to Forest of Marston Vale. This would provide more routes for residents. Suggested Parish Councils could get involved to assist ie Wootton.</p> <p>Andy confirmed to Barry that a new junction has been created with a refuge in the middle and a speed reduction in relation to the A421 crossing.</p> <p>New routes – James advised that the south of Bedford are putting forward new schemes/proposals but discussions are ongoing about the mechanisms with which to move the schemes forward.</p> <p>It was agreed that LAF members would provide some suggested routes/schemes by mid November. By mid December, the LAF would agree collectively what proposals should be prioritised and suggest to the Council which to move forward.</p> <p>Andy confirmed that Barry’s idea for a route from Roxton to St Neots has been put forward to be included in the development of the area. The Countryside and Access Team is actively working with developers to secure routes specifically Sharnbrook and the Black Cat, where the team are pushing for improvements.</p> <p>James suggested it would be useful to invite other user groups to submit proposals for the LAF to discuss and consider.</p>
5.	<p><b><u>Item 4 – Communication</u></b></p> <p>It was agreed that communication was key to get users accessing the countryside and RoW network.</p> <p>It was suggested that any newsletter that is to be produced should be a collaboration between the LAF and Council.</p> <p>Andy will seek to upload any PDFs on to the LAF section of the Council website.</p> <p>Barry advised that any newsletter that is produced should reflect something different ie a new path being created, clearance works, the time of year ie autumn- farmers should be marking out public RoWs etc.</p>

	<p>James to circulate the previously produced BoBLAF guide to PRow and Outdoor Access for review. <b>Completed.</b></p> <p>It was agreed that this item remain an item for the next meeting so members could discuss content and aim to have a newsletter completed by May/June 2023.</p>
6.	<p><b><u>Item 5 Landowner Document</u></b></p> <p>April confirmed that maintenance of structures on a right of way are the landowner's responsibility. The Council can supply required structures ie kissing gates if required.</p> <p>Andy confirmed that the final version of the document would be circulated within the next month so that it can be published in the new year. Bob advised the LAF can approve the final version so it can be published after the next meeting.</p>
7.	<p><b><u>Item 6 – ROWIP</u></b></p> <p>Members confirmed approval of Ann's comprehensive response.</p> <p>Andy confirmed that all comments would be considered and reflected in the final draft, which will be published in 2023.</p> <p>James suggested a traffic light system could be used to make it clear what has been achieved, what is likely to be achieved and what is not achievable but aspirational.</p> <p>Andy confirmed that despite other authority's increasing the duration, the Borough is keeping a 5 year duration to ensure progress and improvements.</p>
8.	<p><b><u>Item 7 – Relevant matters</u></b></p> <p>Confirmed that three DMMOs have been made based on applications from the BHS.</p> <p>Countryside and Access Team is waiting for PINS' decision on several cases.</p> <p>A public hearing and a public inquiry is taking place in November for a PPO and a DMMO.</p> <p>Site visit being carried out at Rookery South to check progress on the surfaces that are being laid for the dedicated paths.</p>
9.	<p><b><u>Item 8 – Volunteering</u></b></p> <p>New post put in for bridleway in Melchbourne</p>

	<p>Clearance works carried out on Footpath in Pertenhall as well as full survey of the parish, Great Barford and Chellington. Clearance works carried out on Bridleway in Harrold, Pavenham, North Harrold and gates checked on byway at Sharnbrook.</p> <p>A new conservation group has been set up in Biddenham, which has been asking for advice.</p> <p>Further post painting to be carried out in due course.</p>
10.	<p><b><u>Item 9 – Meetings attended</u></b></p> <p>Thanks given to AQ &amp; GEM for attending regional LAF meeting. The participants took an active interest in the Borough's "ploughing and cropping" letter, which is positive.</p> <p>Thanks given to James for his assistance with the new Let's Go! Website. Bob confirmed that half of the walks have been uploaded on to the website, the remaining walks to be uploaded over the next couple of months.</p>
11.	<p><b><u>Item 10 – AOB</u></b></p> <p>List of dates to be sent to members for future meetings to ensure quorate numbers.</p>
12.	<p><b><u>Future Agenda Items</u></b></p> <p>Green Wheel Communication Landowner Document ROWIP</p>
13.	<p><b><u>Close of Meeting</u></b></p> <p>The meeting closed at 20.45</p> <p>Next Meeting dates:</p> <p>TBC</p>



Signed: .....

Date: .....

26/4/23





