

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  LOCAL ACCESS FORUM  MEETING |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: | Penny Lymn Rose (Chair) | DATE:TIME:VENUE: | Thursday 3rd November 2022  13.30  County Hall, West Bridgford |
|  |  | NOTE TAKER: | Mary Mills (NCC) |
| MEMBERS, PROSPECTIVE MEMBERSGUESTS: | Penny Lymn Rose, Dave Backhouse, Sue Jones, Hilary Limb, Councillor Richard Butler, Councillor Jim Creamer, Mary Mills, Chris Thompson, Dennis Reeson, Edmund Hopkins, Mike Graham, Martin Smith, Andrew Osbourne, Debbi Smith  A46 Newark Bypass Scheme:  William Day (Mott MacDonald), Mark Sutton (Skanska UK), Andy Levitt (National Highways) and John Bowes (Bowes Infrastructure) | OFFICERS: | Neil Lewis (NCC) |

# MINUTES

#### ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES

Alan Hudson, Stephen Walker

**ITEM 2 – MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes from the last meeting held at Rufford Mill on Tuesday 24th May 2022 were approved as a true record.

**ITEM 3 – MATTERS ARISING**

No matters raised.

**ITEM 4 – GENERAL UPDATE**

Countryside Access Team update:

Stephen Tipping has been appointed to replace Eddie Brennan as a Commons, Village Green and Definitive Map Officer.

Stephanie Lock has left the Council and a replacement Diversion Officer will be appointed shortly.

**ITEM 5 – A46 NEWARK BYPASS SCHEME**

Mark Sutton introduced the project by outlining the anticipated timetable for approval and construction of the new and improved sections of the A46 around Newark. A Planning Consent Order should be made in summer 2023, it will then go through various periods of review with an anticipated start date for construction of early 2025 and then a further 2-3 years to complete the project.

Mark then went on to explain that several footpaths would be rerouted permanently by the works, some would be better linked than before, while some would also have to be closed temporarily (probably with temporary alternatives) while works were carried out.

Overall, the LAF were impressed with the detail provided and the possible improvements to the connectivity of the footpath and cycle network which the A46 team seem able to include within the scheme. It was agreed that the LAF would hold a separate meeting on Thursday 17th November to discuss the ‘nitty gritty’ of individual path detail and look at any other improvements which could be requested off the back of the project. A written response will then be fed into the current consultation which concludes on 12 December 2022.

LAF members raised some issues regarding the Trent Valley Way, potential flooding problems, and support for solving issues outside the red line boundary of the scheme.

**ITEM 6 – UPDATE ON THE M2M PROJECT-TRAILS AND PATHS**

Rachael Rickell is no longer involved in the project.

There is still some money available for the trails and paths side of the project, it is anticipated that this will be used to fund some new steps on the Papplewick Footpath at its junction with the A60 near Seven Mile House, the resurfacing of a bridleway in Sherwood Forest, work on a Clipstone Bridleway, some signage and waymarking work and production of a new Booklet featuring walks and rides in the project area.

**ITEM 7 - TRENT VALE TRAIL**

Neil gave a brief update in the absence of Alan: the project is progressing well; negotiations with the landowner have enabled permissive access for cyclists to be agreed out of Besthorpe, improvements have been made to the surface of the path, a ramp has been created onto the flood bank and resurfacing work has taken place on Green Lane. Discussions are ongoing on the section of trail approaching South Clifton, the proposal is to divert and upgrade the footpath to bridleway and take it past the trig point before descending into the village.

**ITEM 8 – PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS – STANDING ITEM**

No updates on PSPOs affecting public access.

**ITEM 9 – NETWORK RAIL / HS2 – STANDING ITEM**

**HS2**

No update

**NETWORK RAIL**

**Network Rail land at Scrooby**: negotiations are ongoing with Network Rail to dedicate a bridleway from Scrooby towards Bawtry, as part of the ongoing discussions Network Rail would like to close the bridleway crossing on this section of the line, with the potential loss of access to horse riders.

**North Muskham Footpath 1 Crossing**: Network Rail have closed this crossing on safety grounds. Following the site visit by the LAF and others, a proposal for a diversion to the north of the crossing was put forward by Network Rail- this didn’t satisfy all users and Network Rail are trying to negotiate a further diversion to the south of the crossing.

**Cross Lane, Collingham**: Network Rail are proposing to stop up Cross Lane at the level crossing, using a Section 116 Order, a new section of road will be built first and will provide an alternative vehicular route via Swinderby Road Crossing, as part of this project Network Rail are proposing changes to the path network around the North Collingham Footpath Crossings to eliminate the crossing on Footpath 7 and move users to the one on Footpath 5. There has been no progress on the footpaths since the last meeting.

**Butts and Dykes Collingham:** Extinguishment and Creation Orders have been made by NCC to enable the closure of Dykes End Level Crossing, objections were received to these Orders, Network Rail are currently deciding whether to proceed. There has been no progress on this since the last meeting.

**East Markham:** Paths which were recorded on the Definitive Map approximately 8 years ago cross the East Coast Mainline at East Markham over 2 nonexistent bridges demolished by British Rail back in the 1970s. The paths are currently closed by TTROs. The County Council are working with local landowners, Network Rail and the Parish to look at path diversions.

**Coney Green, Collingham:** No progress yet on proposal to close the foot crossing and divert the footpath to use the barriered road level crossing, this is a skewed crossing and not particularly safe for pedestrians – mitigation would be required.

**Chestnut Grove, Burton Joyce:** Recent footage from this crossing shows a lot of misuse, Network Rail have held information days for the public to advise on safe use, and some safety improvements have been carried out on it. There are alternative crossing points but these are less convenient and less accessible for local users.

**ITEM 10 – NCC PLANNING AND RIGHTS OF WAY CTTE – STANDING ITEM**

South Scarle Village Green application went before the new committee last week, it was turned down by the committee on the recommendation of the Commons and Greens Officer, as it failed to meet the stringent criteria.

**ITEM 11 – TOWN OR VILLAGE GREENS/ COMMON LAND – STANDING ITEM**

As stated above a report went to committee in October for a village green application in South Scarle.

**ITEM 12 – PPOs AND DMMOs – STANDING ITEM**

**PPOs:** There is a temporary lull in PPOs as the dedicated Diversion Officer has left the County Council, normal progress will resume once the vacancy is filled.

**DMMOs:** Stephen Tipping has been appointed as a replacement for Eddie Brennan and has taken on his caseload, the officers are dealing with many ongoing applications, 13 new DMMO Applications have been received so far this year.

**Landowner Dedications:** Landowner Deposits have recently dedicated paths at Moss Drive Bramcote, and Car Colston, 2 footpaths at the Warsop estate have been upgraded to Bridleway by dedication.

**ITEM 13 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ MEMBERS UPDATE**

**BHS Ride by your side Gate Fund:** The BHS have funding available to replace one bridleway gate in each County, any suggestions welcome, Helen Swift from the CA Team has suggested Strelley BW1 at Oldmoor Farm.

**The History of Sherwood Forest’s Horses:** Penny informed members about an online course run by Inspire, which may be of interest to members.

**Tillbridge Solar:** Dave Backhouse kindly attended a publicity event to find out about this scheme which is predominately in Lincolnshire but is linked into the former Cottam Power Station in Nottinghamshire, if it goes ahead there will be some temporary disruption to Cottam or Rampton paths while the cables are laid. The plans are currently at an early stage.

**Joint LAF Meeting:** The City LAF have proposed a joint meeting to discuss City/County issues, it was agreed this would be a good idea.

**Speaker:** A request to speak at a future LAF meeting has been received from the BHS (Wendy Bannerman).

**Bridleway Gedling Country Park:** Further information on this is required before commenting or discussing.

**A52 Edwalton and West Bridgford:** Ongoing no update on underpass or any other improvements.

**ITEM 14 – FUTURE DATES AND VENUES**

The next full LAF meeting is scheduled for 19.15 on Tuesday January 10th 2023 at County Hall, West Bridgford.

Close of meeting.