

Nottingham City Council

Nottingham Local Access Forum

Minutes of Meeting 19th April 2023, 6.30pm Loxley House, Station Street Nottingham

✓ Indicates in attendance

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|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ✓ Helen Hemstock (Chair) | ✓ Nigel Sarsfield |
| Liz Cordle (Vice Chair) | ✓ Steve Shardlow |
| ✓ Edmund Hopkins (Vice Chair) | ✓ Chris Thompson |
| Yvonne Dragun | ✓ Joanna Ward |
| Cerys Gibson | Councillor Audra Wynter |
| ✓ Nick Hynes | Hillary Yates |
| ✓ Rob Kirkwood | ✓ June Perry (observer) |
| ✓ Margaret Knowles | Jennie Maybury (Go Jauntly item) |
| Councillor Pavlos Kotsonis | |
| ✓ Alan Lodge | |
| ✓ Christopher Lydall | |
| Dave MacKrory | |
| ✓ Hugh McClintock | |

46 Apologies for Absence

Councillor Pavlos Kotsonis (other Council business)
Councillor Audra Wynter (other Council business)
Jennie Maybury
Dave MacKrory
Liz Cordle
Hillary Yates

47 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2023 approved.

Action: None

48 Appointment / reappointment of Chair and Vice Chairs

At the meeting on 11 January, members were asked to send John expressions of interest for position of Chair and Vice Chairs. No expressions received. Helen agreed to remain as Chair and Liz and Edmund agreed to remain as Vice Chairs.

Action. For noting

49 Members retiring and recruitment

Margaret apologised for the delay in the training for the planning subgroup, and John added that it was partly due to staff resources, and more recently how the PC's in the Customer Hub are set up, for some reason the PC's do not allow access to the Council's Planning website. John has raised this with FM services and IT.

Margaret is retiring from the LAF and will be handing over to the new Planning subgroup lead in May. Edmund suggested Dave taking over the lead role with his support if needed, and raised the importance of this role, including allocating applications to subgroup members, coordinating responses to the planning authority, liaison with planning and highway officers, commenting on local and national policy, and organising training.

Discussed future LAF recruitment and membership being more reflective of Nottingham's diverse communities, engaging groups with protected characteristics, disabled, women, young people, students. Agreed this is a common problem with many voluntary groups and the LAF should try targeted recruitment through organisations, for example the Renewals Trust, Women Can, Nottingham Women's Centre.

Having a "corresponding member" may be a way of gaining additional support from those who do not have the time to attend meetings or commit to full time membership but may be able to offer support and advice on specific issues, for example the Nottinghamshire Disabled Peoples Movement. Further discussion needed on this subject.

John raised that Natural England have recently been in contact, wanting to update their contact details for LAF's, first time for around 6 years. Discussed maximum and minimum number of members, that the Nottingham LAF is still within these limits so no urgency on recruitment and pointed members to the LAF regulations which covers membership numbers.

50 Subgroup Leads and Members - start here

Discussed who will cover the planning lead now Margaret is retiring, see item 49 above. With recent retirements, still only two members of the Definitive Map subgroup, covered below under item 51(c).

Action: All, for noting

51 Subgroup Updates

a) Walking Subgroup

Nigel covered the following

- the 2023 Notts Guided Walks programme that Nigel and Chris have been working on, reminded everyone about the Dunkirk and Beeston walk on the 20th May to coincide for the National Walking Month.
- the work that Go Jauntly are carrying out on behalf of the Council, including digitising parts of the LAF walks, focusing on 12 walks in total that are short, flat, easy circular routes aimed at new walkers, and people with low levels of physical activity.
- notes of the Living Streets Walking Summit from Joanne, emailed to members ahead of the meeting <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walkingsummit>.

Action: All, for noting

b) Planning Subgroup Update

Margaret summarised the update, emailed to members ahead of the meeting.

c) Definitive Map Subgroup Update

Still only 2 subgroup members for the definitive map work, unfortunately two recent members of this subgroup had to retire due to other commitments. Suggestion that University students studying geography, or a related discipline, could be possible future recruits, part of the targeted recruitment drive. Joanne to forward details of the sustainable transport contact at Trent University.

d) E-scooter Subgroup Update

See notes of e-scooter meeting on 29 March 2023 with Helen, Chris and Nigel in attendance, forwarded to members ahead of the LAF meeting.

During the meeting Chris raised the need to re-seek the Governments position on several issues, safety concerns, training, education, helmets, number plates, and whether the LAF would support this. Also, whether the LAF should agree a position statement. Discussion followed, and consensus was for Chris to carryout further research across the areas that have e-scooters trials to get a rounded view, and not just the experiences in Nottingham. This is likely to carry more weight. Findings to be discussed at a future meeting.

June raised a related matter over safety concerns along Elm Avenue, Corporation Oaks and Robin Hood Chase due to more cyclists, and more recently e-scooters, using these routes and the legalities of this because these were created as public walks, not rides. John explained that riding a pedal cycle (and pushing a cycle) on a public footpath is trespass under common law, not a criminal offence, so it's a civil / private matter between the Council as landowner and the alleged trespasses.

52 Future Agenda Items

- Broadmarsh
- Walking Strategy City and County
- North - South cycleway
- Active Travel / Social Prescribing Fund / Public Health
- Transforming Cities schemes
- Active Travel England (representative)
- Meeting with Notts County LAF (previous attempts to engage the County LAF and RoW officers had failed)
- Highway Code

Action: For noting, and were relevant individual members to contact / arrange guest speakers

53 Any Other Business

Christopher Lydall raised the 20p per minute cost to hire an e-bike and whether this will encourage riders to go faster than if it were not per-minute charging.

Everyone agreed to a face to face meeting in July.

54 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 12 July 2023, 6.30pm at Loxley House, Ground Floor Committee room.

55 Future meeting dates

Wednesday 11 October 2023 (Loxley House or MS Teams TBC).