

Milton Keynes Local Access Forum
18.30, 1st September 2022, MK Council Civic Offices Room 1.05

Item		Action
1.0	<p>Present: Steve Crowther (SC), Phill Fox (PF), Deborah Cooper (DC) John Franklin (JF), Mike Bowley (MB) Geraint Green (GG), Stephen Hobbs (SH).</p> <p>LAF support: James Walsh (JW) – MKC, Jeanette Melbourne - MKC (JM)</p>	
2.0	<p>Apologies: Gail Dunn, Suzanne Martin.</p>	
3.0	<p><u>Minutes of last meeting and matters arising</u></p> <p>3.1 DC asked for an update on future staffing arrangements of the RoW team. JW gave an update as far as known at this current time. PF emphasised that Milton Keynes is growing with bigger developments in progress. There was a general acceptance amongst LAF members that staffing levels clearly has an impact on the work the team can undertake. SC described the need in his opinion for the team to have 3 full time staff members to be able to operate effectively.</p> <p>3.2 JM gave an update following her visit to Moulsoe BW19. Cut back of vegetation was carried out and the bridleway is now accessible. A further visit is required for Moulsoe BW3. DC requested the gate to be looked at as it is not easy for cyclists.</p> <p>3.3 SC announced that Eric Swain has resigned from the LAF. Thanks are recorded for his contribution to LAF over the previous years. A card was signed by the LAF and JW stated he would ensure this was posted out to Eric.</p>	JM
4.0	<p><u>Rights of Way Section Progress Report</u></p> <p>4.1 <u>ROWIP Consultation Responses</u></p> <p>JW gave a presentation outlining the responses received to the Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) which includes responses from the public, landowners, parish councils as well as from user groups. There were 73 responses from the public, 10 from landowners and 8 from Parish Councils. DC apologised for not submitting a response from the Cycle Forum.</p> <p>A general discussion took place on the findings and statistics from both public and landowner surveys. In relation to a survey question, SH outlined that from landowner perspective permissive routes are likely to be referred as it would allow them a level of control as opposed to routes recorded on the Definitive Map. JW explained the next stage of the ROWIP process. SC pointed out that a higher-level exposure is needed to make people aware of the importance of improvements and the future of ROWIP. JW outlined the importance of working with parish councils and set out a recent successful partnership with North Crawley Parish Council. SH suggested a Parish Councillor from North Crawley could attend.</p> <p>4.2 <u>MK Rights of Way LAF Webpage</u></p> <p>JW is now a webpage author for the new Rights of Way page on the MKC website. This means the RoW team are now able to add information and adjust the site</p>	

	<p>easily, which is hoped will bring great benefits. An overview of the new webpage was shown and what was hoped to be achieved. Minutes for all LAF meetings will be published on the new LAF area of the website.</p> <p>It is standard on many other Local Authority websites for the names of LAF members to be listed as well as a brief summary of their interest. JW asked the LAF whether they would be happy for this on the new website. SC outlined that any members not wishing their name to be listed should inform JW. PF suggested that it would be useful for each member to specify their interests, i.e., cycling, horse rider, landowner, rambler etc to show the broad spectrum of knowledge within the group. Members were advised to email JW with their preference.</p> <p>4.3 <u>Other Routes and Public Access (ORPA'S)</u></p> <p>JW outlined ORPA's and a few examples within the MKC area. It was explained that Redways are not shown on the Definitive Map. They would be classified as an ORPA and a unique feature to MK. JW showed provided an example of an area in Oakhill that is not a bridleway but is an adopted highway. DC asked whether such routes could be adopted as a bridleway, JW said this type of action could happen once the ROWIP has been adopted. DC asked if e-scooters and bikes are allowed on these routes and footpaths. A general discussion ensued regarding the growing use of e-scooters and their associated problems to other users of footpaths and bridleways. PF remarked that 18th century laws were having to deal with 21st century problems.</p> <p>4.4 <u>Haversham/Little Linford Bridleway 47 Roadside Access Issue</u></p> <p>JW explained the issues with the bridleway which runs between Redhouse Park and Little Linford Lane. The route is becoming a short cut for moped users. The Little Linford Lane end is also a hot spot for fly tipping. Residents had raised queries whether anything can be done. A general discussion took place with suggestions of bollards or the installation of a horse stile. The issue of e-scooters was raised, and DC raised the importance of having effective geofencing.</p> <p>4.5 <u>Petsoe DMMO Case</u></p> <p>JW advised that the case is still on-going and provided some examples of recent work undertaken.</p>	LAF
5.0	<p><u>Planning Applications</u></p>	
5.1	<p><u>Linford Lakes (Reference 21/02533/OUTEIS)</u></p> <p>A recent and ongoing planning application relating to the site was outlined and discussed. JW advised that an application has been received to remove the adopted highway status which goes through the site. It was outlined why the RoW team opposed this and requested that some form of formal legal public access is retained. Solutions could include dedicating the route as a bridleway or removing vehicular rights. As part of the proposals a new footpath is proposed along the southern bank of the River Ouse which was broadly seen as a good proposal by the LAF. SC enquired about the status of this potential route and JW confirmed he had requested in his planning response it should be made a public footpath.</p>	

5.2	<p>Rights of Way Section 106 Agreements Update</p> <p>JW provided an example of the type of Section 106 contribution that has been applied for in relation to the application discussed above. In this instance the RoW team suggested a bound rubber crumb surface should be used along the towpath bordering the site.</p> <p>A successful S106 application was made relating to the Newton Leys site where it has been agreed that £74k will be provided to fund improvements along Bletchley Footpath 28.</p>	
6.0	<p><u>Members Items</u></p>	
6.1	<p>DC had requested an update on the MK East Development and asked about long-term connections. JW advised that St James Group is still in the early processes and long-term plans are yet to be put in place. JW explained he was happy with the current situation from a Rights of Way point of view with various Public Path Orders being applied for correctly across the site.</p>	
7.0	<p><u>AOB</u></p>	
7.1	<p>MB advised LAF about the closure of the bridge at Tyringham and is a problem for cyclists on that route. Closure is due to damage cause by motor vehicle accident. JW advised that the closure will be monitored.</p>	
	<p>Meeting closed at 21.25pm</p>	
	<p><u>Next meeting</u> – 6.30pm, 1st December 2022, Civic Offices</p>	

These minutes are a true record of the event.

Signed.....

Date.....