



MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 18

11th September 2013

Dunstable Downs Gateway Centre

Members	
Steve Bumstead – Chair	Rosalyn Whisker
David Simkins	Brian Golby
Tom Chevalier	Tony Welch
Marion Mustoe	Angela Kirby
Andy Knight	Julian Clark-Lowes
Secretariat	
Caroline Romans - Central Bedfordshire Council	
Apologies	
Jason Jordan	Andy Gerrard
Pauline Hey	Cllr Dave Taylor
Cllr Mrs Angela Barker	Andrew Pym
Sam Taylor	Cllr Dave Taylor
Jonathan Woods – Central Bedfordshire Council	
Observers	
David Leverington – Central Bedfordshire Council	Keith Dove – Luton Borough Council

		ACTION
1.	<u>Public Questions</u> There were no public questions.	
2.	<u>Apologies</u> Apologies: see above.	
3.	<u>Health and Wellbeing – the role of the Local Authority and how the JLAF can help</u> Chimeme Egbutah, Advanced Health Improvement Specialist for Luton Borough Council was due to present to the forum on Health and Wellbeing - the new role of the local authority and how the JLAF can help, but unfortunately was unable to attend at short notice. She had kindly emailed the presentation and Keith Dove valiantly stepped in to take the form through it. For a copy of the	

	<p>presentation see http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/environment/countryside/jlaf/.</p> <p>Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) have been subsumed within the Local Authorities who have set up Health and Wellbeing Boards to focus on preventative health care.</p> <p>Two key forms of exercise which are mainly free and available to all members of the community are walking and cycling. One of the key areas of focus of the Health and Wellbeing boards are encouraging people to walk/cycle due to the significant health benefits that this can provide. LAFs can help by selling these benefits to local communities and promoting the opportunities that are available to undertake these activities within the forum area. LAFs could also provide monitoring and become facilitators for delivery.</p> <p>Sustrans had received funding for increasing walking and cycling activity by undertaking Personal Journey Planning (PJP) within some of the more deprived areas of Luton, but funding for this ran out about 18 months ago. More recently funding has been obtained for PJP work from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund. In the first year (2012-13) the focus was on areas where quick wins could be gained. This year the focus is on communities and businesses around the Busway corridor. Next year, the final year, the focus will return to the more deprived communities which were targeted with the Sustrans funding a few years ago. Analysis of the first year results have shown that more than 10% of people, in the areas targeted, have moved from using a car to walking/cycling/using public transport. A travel choices hub has been opened in Dunstable to provide people with information on sustainable travel choices, and a new travel centre is being planned at Luton station.</p> <p>JLAF secretary to establish who the Health and Wellbeing contact is for Central Bedfordshire Council.</p>	<p>JLAF secretary</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>Minutes of previous meeting</u></p> <p>4.1. Approval The minutes of the June meeting were approved as a true record of the meeting.</p> <p>4.2 Matters arising</p> <p>A table showing progress against the actions from the June meeting was circulated to the forum prior to the meeting (copy attached).</p> <p>Additional discussion took place on the following points:</p> <p>NMU forum – A5-M1 link – It has still not been possible to get this forum established with the Highways Agency. It was suggested that the scope for this forum should increase to include the proposed housing developments north of Houghton Regis. The forum requested that Jonathan set up a meeting at which representatives from the Highways Agency, the developers, CBC countryside access, CBC planning and JLAF sub group members are able to get together to discuss the issues and ensure that access requirements are included within any plans.</p> <p>CBC ROW summary spreadsheet – this was circulated to parishes but little feedback was received. A Totternhoe P3 group member is surveying the stiles in</p>	<p>Jonathan Woods</p>

	<p>his parish. Cllr Brian Spurr, with David, will be meeting farmers in Chalgrave who are reluctant to have their stiles removed. He is confident that he can persuade them to do a trial with stiles being replaced by gates/gaps. David will keep the JLAF updated.</p> <p>Luton recruitment – JLAF Secretary reported that Sam Taylor, a Luton resident, had been recruited to the forum which was very welcome news. Keith Dove will talk to Jane Conway to see whether we can seek new members from the Friends of Luton Parks.</p> <p>Definitive map excluded areas and lost ways: the British Horse Society AGM is in October. David Leverington and Adam Maciejewski will attend the meeting and will gauge the level of interest amongst horseriders for doing the research on bridleways themselves. Training would be offered at the County Records Office to enable horseriders to find the relevant historical documents.</p> <p>Biggleswade excluded area mapping: CBC are currently recruiting a new researcher. It is hoped that the research will be completed in 2013/14 and consultation will take place in 2014/15.</p> <p>Lost ways: it is hoped that this can continue in parallel with the excluded area mapping, but there is the continuing issue of lack of resource. JLAF Chair to write to Cllr Brian Spurr to highlight the JLAF concern about lack of definitive map resource.</p> <p>Cllr Brian Spurr (Executive member for Sustainable Communities – Services) will be invited to attend the November meeting.</p>	<p>David Leverington</p> <p>Keith Dove</p> <p>JLAFChair JLAF Secretary</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>CBC Outdoor Access Improvement Plan</u></p> <p>The forum welcomed the Highlight Report that Jonathan had produced and circulated to the JLAF, Cllr Brian Spurr and Cllr Ian Dalgarno (deputy Executive member).</p> <p>The document will be saved on the JLAF webpages and a link posted on facebook.</p> <p>The following points were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog training leaflets to be circulated within parishes when dog training events are planned. This will be done where sufficient numbers haven't been obtained from on site recruitment. • Sundon and Streatley Greenspace Vision Plan – who is leading on this? (Paul Burgess) • The P3 AGM will be taking place at the Greensand Trust offices on Deadmans Hill with a theme of ROW surveying. JLAF secretary to circulate the date once it is available. • The Greensand Ridge Cycle Route is currently being signed. It is on minor roads from Leighton Buzzard station to Sandy station. There is an aspiration for some off road sections e.g. through Rushmere. 	<p>JLAF secretary</p> <p>JLAF secretary</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><u>Cycle path alongside Luton Dunstable Busway</u></p> <p>The formal opening of the Guided Busway will take place on Tuesday 24th September, with the first services operating on Wednesday 25th September.</p> <p>Initial comments received have raised concerns about the surface and structures on the cyclepath alongside the Busway. Keith said the path on the west side of the M1 was originally designed as a service track for the Busway.</p>	

	<p>Part of the issue appears to be due to the different surfaces that are used along the route. The section alongside Hatters Way and short lengths at bridges are tarmac while crushed limestone has been used in the other sections of the route, most of which passes through environmentally sensitive areas. Some of these sections have only been laid recently so have not had time to compact. Fines will be rolled into these sections to improve the surface.</p> <p>CBC and LBC have committed to review the surfacing along the entire route once the Busway is open to ensure that a long term solution is found. Keith to update the JLAF in March 2014.</p>	Keith Dove
7.	<p><u>JLAF Annual Review</u></p> <p>The forum approved the submission of the JLAF Annual Review (which had previously been circulated) to Natural England subject to the addition of some final comments from the Chair.</p>	JLAF Chair & secretary
8.	<p><u>Huddle – current topics</u></p> <p>The JLAF secretary circulated the list of current topics on Huddle (copy attached).</p> <p>JLAF secretary to obtain a Huddle login for Rosalyn Whisker.</p>	JLAF Secretary
9.	<p><u>AONB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> M1 J10A improvements; Keith Dove reported that the contractor is due to be appointed by Luton Borough Council Executive Committee on 23/9/13. It is expected that construction will start before Christmas 2013. 	
10.	<p><u>Dates of future meetings</u></p> <p>10th Anniversary joint meeting with the Borough of Bedford LAF, 1st October 2013 from 7.00pm – 9.00pm at the Forest Centre, Marston Moretaine. Sandwiches will be available from 6.30pm</p> <p>Central Bedfordshire and Luton JLAF – Wednesday 20th November 2013 from 7.00pm – 9.00pm at Priory House, Chicksands. Sandwiches will be available from 6.30pm.</p>	