Local Access Forum







18th January 2012

Priory House, Chicksands

Members	
Steve Bumstead – Chair	David Simkins
Andrew Pym	Andy Knight
Tom Chevalier	Brian Golby
Tony Welch	Pauline Hey
John Tyler	Rosalyn Whisker
Secretariat	
Caroline Romans - Central Bedfordshire	
Council	
<u>Apologies</u>	
Jon Balaam	Andy Gerrard
Gillian Sharp	Cllr Dave Taylor
Jason Jordan	Angela Kirby
Cllr Angela Barker	Marion Mustoe
Julian Clark-Lowes	
<u>Observers</u>	
Jonathan Woods – Central Bedfordshire	Keith Dove – Luton Borough Council
Council	

		ACTION
1.	Public Questions	
	There were no public questions.	
2.	Apologies and Resignations	
	For apologies see above. Unfortunately a letter of resignation had been received from Jon Balaam who is no longer able to commit the time required following the birth of his son. The forum thanked Jon for his involvement and valuable contributions to the group	
	and wished him and his family well for the future.	
3.	Minutes of previous meeting	

3.1. Approval

The minutes of the November meeting were approved as a true record of the meeting.

3.2 Matters arising

All actions were completed except:

<u>Vacancies on Forum for young people and tourism & rural business</u> – <u>Young people</u>: Look to go back to youth parliament once their elections have taken place and the new representatives are in place. JLAF Secretary to contact Alli Guiton for dates.

JLAF Secretary

Tourism and rural business: JLAF secretary contacted James Parrish by letter, but has not received a response. Andrew Pym provided James' phone number in the meeting so JLAF Secretary will phone him to see whether he would be interested in joining the forum. Alexandra Day of BRCC who is working on the Greensand RDPE project also suggested Moggerhanger House and the Jordan Trust. JLAF secretary to contact them.

JLAF Secretary

<u>Luton cycle route map</u> – produced by Vivian Haestier. Members to contact her if there are any errors. As part of the personalised journey planning work, Luton cycling and walking maps will be put online. Rosalyn asked why routes for horseriders were not being included as well.

Rosalyn

Rosalyn has a meeting with Luton BC Officers to discuss a Pegasus crossing on Hitchin Road (near Barnfield Road/Cannon Lane) – will feedback to forum on how it goes as is an issue for cyclists as well.

CBC will be producing similar travel choice maps in 2012. Tom asked to ensure that it includes the Icknield Way & Trail which it will – either on the map or in the text on the back.

<u>Rushmere consultation</u> – Framework document is almost complete (just requires a cover and 2 maps); JLAF Secretary to send out link once finalised.

JLAF Secretary

<u>Digital copy of the list of streets</u> – Reply received from Highways states that the gazetteer is the digital record of the list of streets which is available to view at the Amey office in Manton Lane (Bedford). JLAF secretary to respond stating that this is a long way for the majority of Central Bedfordshire residents to travel, but welcoming their proposal to make it available on the website when the budget allows.

JLAF Secretary

Mapping of Luton excluded area – Luton officers have looked at the historic maps and made a decision that they will not pursue the creation of a definitive map for the excluded area as if an order is published there could be significant objections which will necessitate a lengthy inquiry to get a decision. It was suggested that it is easier to make a number of orders; the simple, non-objected to ones get added to the map, whilst the objected to ones can be left/pursued as the council sees fit. The definitive map produced for Luton before it became a unitary authority in 1997 only contains a few ROW which are all outside the urban area. Keith to check whether Luton's gazetteer includes ROW and alleyways that would be on a definitive map.

Keith Dove

<u>S106 contributions</u> – JLAF secretary had sent a letter requesting greater

	transparency of s106 contributions and an increased profile for monies for ROW and greenspace to the planning manager at CBC, but had not received a response. A similar letter will be sent to John Maple at Luton BC.	JLAF secretary
4.	Huddle Users	
	Concern had been raised about the lack of a landowner/manager within the first three Huddle users to be trained. No landowner/manager wished to be trained initially as they did not feel that they had the time to give to it. The three members to be trained initially will be Pauline, Brian and Tom. A demo of the Huddle to be provided at a future JLAF meeting.	JLAF secretary
5.	Definitive map issues – current snapshot	
	David had circulated a paper to the forum prior to the meeting as he was unable to attend the meeting due to his legs being in plaster. The forum wished to thank David for his paper and wished him a speedy recovery.	
	The forum was concerned about the backlog of Definitive Map orders which will not decrease as there is only a single Definitive Map officer working for CBC. The forum requested that the dates that applications were received be added to the list to give a true reflection of the scale of the backlog. The forum was also concerned that there have been issues in other authority areas where pending DMMO's (Modification Orders) have affected owners' abilities to sell their houses.	
	The forum wished to send a letter to Paul Cook (Head of Transport Strategy and Countryside Services) at CBC expressing their appreciation that CBC is under budget constraints, but the authority has a legal duty to determine applications in a timely manner and this is unlikely to happen with only a single definitive map officer post.	JLAF secretary
6.	CBC OAIP progress	
	Jonathan presented an update on the new CBC OAIP for 2012-17. A copy of the presentation is saved on the website at http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/environment/countryside/jlaf/default.aspx The following points arose: - Link to Natural Choices document to be circulated to the forum - Place making meetings are now taking place for all areas of the authority	JLAF secretary
	bringing together key officers from different teams to work together to create and deliver a coordinated plan for the areas. - The forum would like to understand what the BVPI survey measures and how this is measured. To be brought to a future JLAF meeting. - OAIP to be put on the agenda for the March JLAF meeting. - The forum would like the OAIP to be a concise document. If necessary the full document could be published on the website with a short, simple summary made available to the public. Any consultation questionnaire should be able to be answered from this simple summary document.	David Leverington JLAF secretary
7.	<u>Consultations</u>	
	7.1 Totternhoe Vision Plan	

	Lots of people have attended the consultation events, but only 18 completed questionnaires have been received to date. Rosalyn fed back that the questionnaire was difficult to complete and the view was that most people are supportive as long as too much doesn't change within the area so they would not completed the questionnaire. The forum is supportive of the document. Rosalyn to collate and submit a general response on behalf of the JLAF. 7.2 Draft CBC Local Area Transport Plans – the forum decided not to submit a response to the consultation.	Rosalyn
8.	Any other notified business	
	- LAF National Conferences in Bristol and Newcastle. No members were keen to attend. Andy Knight may be able to attend the Bristol one; he will let the JLAF secretary know if he can.	Andy Knight
9.	Dates of future meetings	
	Wednesday 21 st March from 7.00pm – 9.00pm at Dunstable Fire Station. Sandwiches will be available from 6.30pm.	
	Tuesday 8 th May from 7.00pm – 9.00pm at Lower Stondon Golf Club. Sandwiches will be available from 6.30pm with a short walk around the course prior to this for those that are interested.	