



MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 21

28th January 2014

Watling House, Dunstable

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

		ACTION
1	<p><u>Public Questions</u></p> <p>The JLAF secretary had received a question from Vladimir Cejzl regarding walking groups in Luton. It was recommended that he contact the Travel Choices Hub in Dunstable which will be able to help.</p>	JLAF secretary
2	<p><u>Apologies, welcomes and resignations</u></p> <p>Apologies: see above.</p> <p>Welcomes and introductions: Jane Conway was welcomed as a new member to the meeting. She chairs the Friends of Luton Parks and will be representing community groups in Luton.</p> <p>Unfortunately Jason Jordan's membership term has expired and he has informed the</p>	

	<p>JLAF secretary he does not want to continue with his membership. The forum thanked him for his contribution whilst he was a member and wished him well for the future.</p> <p>Post meeting update: Sam Taylor who had joined the forum representing sport and health has decided that he will not be able to commit to the forum due to work and other commitments. He therefore will not be joining the group.</p> <p>It was agreed that we should continue to seek new members especially through word of mouth as this has proved successful in the past.</p>	All
3	<p><u>Health and Wellbeing</u></p> <p>Nicky Sinden, Public Health Co-ordinator for CBC was welcomed to the meeting. Nicky explained that since April 2013, local authorities have taken on the health and wellbeing responsibility which includes the science & promotion of health and the improvement of health. The budget has been ring fenced until 2015/16 and for Bedfordshire is split approx. 1/3 for Bedford Borough and 2/3 for Central Bedfordshire.</p> <p>The aim is for people to live longer and to live well. Nicky's particular area of work is anti-obesity and she took us through her work to prevent obesity and to promote healthy eating. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GP Exercise referral programme - 12 week programme with a mix of gym sessions, swimming and walking to encourage regular exercise. This ties in with JLAF members involvement in Health Walks. - Schools – making the most of me programme for Year 4 children (8-9 year olds) - Change for Life – Government marketing campaign – includes 'swap it don't stop it'! <p>New RAG labelling on food has now been introduced to make it easier to make healthy choices whilst shopping in supermarkets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Travel Choices Hub in 1 Ashton Square, Dunstable has been open for a year and has been very successful; thousands of people have visited and received advice and information on healthier and more sustainable travel choices. Dublin & Bristol are looking at similar schemes. - Nicky also sits on the Leisure Strategy Board; under the new Leisure Centre contract a minimum of 25% of the snacks/drinks in the vending machines/cafes must be healthy ones! - School Games event at Inspire in Luton for top athletes - Planning applications for fast food takeaways within 500m of a school; Nicky seeks to limit the number opening close to schools and if they do get permission seeks to limit their opening hours so that they are not open during the school day. <p>JLAF members also highlighted the benefit that a walk in the fresh air can have on people's mental wellbeing. Nicky recognised this and said that walking is often the first step and once people start to feel more positive they are able to make the other changes to improve their physical wellbeing.</p> <p>It was also highlighted that the Marvellous Maps schools programme gave children a valuable introduction to their local area encouraging them to go out and explore. Unfortunately there is no funding available to continue with this at present.</p> <p>Nicky was thanked for her informative presentation. The JLAF will consider how they can assist with delivering the health agenda in Central Bedfordshire and Luton at a future meeting.</p>	JLAF members
4	<u>Luton Local Plan</u>	

	<p>Keith Dove provided an update on the Luton Local Plan 2015-2031 (see http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/Images/JLAF-LutonLocalPlan-280114_tcm6-51743.pdf#False). This is currently in preparation with public consultation planned on the draft document during April and May 2014.</p> <p>The key issues identified from the various 'Evidence Base' studies are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Luton is built up to its boundary & surrounded by Chilterns AONB/ Green Belt ■ Insufficient land within Luton to meet its own housing needs ■ Affordable housing on Brownfield sites is unviable ■ Greenspace in the town is under pressure, risking health and wellbeing ■ Only three significant employment land allocation sites remaining ■ Attractive to business investment because of its location, but difficult to find modern affordable accommodation ■ Town Centre performs well with good access/public realm but needs to expand to compete with other nearby sub regional centres ■ Lack of east west transport connectivity with limited crossing points of M1 motorway and railway <p>Using the 'Golden Tread' principle, these issues will be translated into the Local Plan objectives and policies wherever possible. Keith to circulate the draft document once it is ready for consultation and JLAF members to provide a response for the JLAF secretary to submit.</p>	<p>Keith Dove & JLAF members & secretary</p>
<p>5</p>	<p><u>Minutes of previous meeting</u></p> <p>a. Approval: The minutes of the November meeting were approved as a true record of the meeting subject to the change of wording on Page 2 from 'Cllr Brian Spurr has persuaded' to 'Cllr Brian Spurr has unfortunately not been able to persuade' a landowner to trial one stile to gate replacement. Also 'public path orders and definitive map modification orders' to 'anomalies'.</p> <p>b. Matters arising: A table showing progress against the actions from the November meeting was circulated to the forum prior to the meeting. Additional discussion took place on the following points:</p> <p>NMU forum for A5-M1 link – Jonathan will send a date out for the meeting w/c 3rd Feb.</p> <p>Trial of stiles to gates/gaps in Chalgrave – David is looking to trial a stile to a gate in one location for each of 4 landowners in Chalgrave. This has met with resistance, but David is persevering. Steve offered to help provide support if necessary and the JLAF is supportive of his endeavours. David to provide an update at the April meeting.</p> <p>Lack of CBC definitive map resource – David has identified 80 anomalies where income could be generated to finance a new post. David is currently exploring the viability i.e. would people actually pay to get them resolved and will report back at the April meeting.</p> <p>Luton – Dunstable Busway cycle path update – The areas behind the bus stops will be treated during February. Also some of the A frame gates will be replaced with other gates. To resurface the whole path will cost approx. £0.5m! Keith to bring usage figures for the Busway to a JLAF meeting once they are available from the operators.</p>	<p>Jonathan Woods</p> <p>David Leverington</p> <p>David Leverington</p> <p>Keith Dove</p>

