



Hertfordshire Local Access Forum
54th Local Access Forum - Minutes



7th June 2017, Herts Sports Village, Hatfield

LAF Members: Liddy Lawrence (chair), Lynn Myland (vice chair), Russell Huffer, Brian Worrell, Diana Collingridge, Gary O'Leary, Debbie Hougie, Mike Hartley,

Apologies: Paul Christian, Bob Fenton, Jacob Wing, Dunston Walker

Guests: David Kealey

HCC Officers: Richard Cuthbert (RoW)

1 Minutes and matters arising

- RC reported that Paul Christian would be a new member and represents farming and farm management at a working farm (opposite the Royal Veterinary College) but was unable to attend this meeting.
- It is planned to have a winter field trip to his farm specifically to explore access management.
- It was noted that there was still a need to recruit dog walkers and black & minority ethnic reps for access.
- G O'L has spoken with the Herts Association of Parish and Town Councils, and is happy to be a link with the HertsLAF.
- RC will be attending the national LAF Conference in Birmingham as a presenter. Due to the date change, Herts LAF will not be represented for the first time.
- IG will become the new Vice Chairman as this is the last meeting with Lynn Myland, who is moving. Lynn was thanked for her significant contribution to Herts LAF and wished every success.
- Some dates were confirmed as:
Friday 30th June for a field trip to the Lea Valley and dog walking practice.
September LAF will be 11th instead of 12th, and December 6th; both at Herts Sports Village.

	<p>ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC to make contact with potential new members • RC to confirm postponed field trip new dates
2	<p>LAF member updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G O'L advised that a meeting between the LAF and the Green Corridors Group will be held at County Hall on Monday 19th June. RC will ask a RoW Officer to invite Gruff Edwards, Dacorum Environment Forum Steering Group Chairman, to the meeting. The key discussion will be around the need for co-ordination of the delivery of individual district plans as part of the bigger and wider picture of green corridors and infrastructure. • The Ridgeway Delivery Group. BW to provide a copy of his notes of the 26th April meeting to these Minutes (distributed via email). • St Albans SRFI & Country Park mitigation for development (plans for access). A meeting was held at LM's house with the developer's agents and further meeting with SAAF and STADC is planned. • GC Estates requested a meeting with LAF about Symondshyde & Stanboroughbury housing development proposals and RC will contact Michelle Bulger to arrange this. Landscape Plans are being prepared and the intention is to integrate RoW and access into them. Members requested sight of what has been done so far. It was noted that the RoWIP had included what is desired, and it would be beneficial if St Albans and Welwyn & Hatfield plans could pulled together. • The LAF was informed of a planned Lantern Festival on 30th September at a farm in Northaw, and considerable concern was expressed of the dangers this would expose. DC to advise the NFU. • Joint Planning responses. The BHS expressed concern that opportunities were being missed. RC explained that all responses have to be co-ordinated with Highways to ensure an agreed response was published as in the past there were cases where the Highways and RoW response had differed. A meeting

	<p>is being arranged with Highways (and a new team leader) and RC (RoW). It is then planned to invite John Featherstone (BHS) to meet them and include LAF / Ramblers.</p> <p>It was suggested that the LAF should write to the Chief Executive, copy Derek Ashley expressing concern that there are difficulties with RoW receiving information in a timely way and getting responses back - depending on the outcome of the above meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that RoW has been moved into the Transport, Access and Road Safety (TARS) group. • The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is part of the discussion which could include collecting financial contributions from developers. However, some districts still have to set up their local scheme so contributions are being missed. S106 was the predecessor of CIL. • Pre-application advice, which usually involves Highways & increasingly RoW is a valuable part in the getting the process right from the early stages, but both Highways & RoW may now charge for their advice re; planning, which seems to put some applicants off. • DfT CWIS – see Jacobs report (following). Noted that Herts had responded to this. It is ambitious and is a long term strategy leading up to 2040. There is a national (England) fund available and Herts will need to make a bid for any schemes it would like to implement. 'Shared Spaces' is a key part of this strategy. It is looking for a culture shift by starting with children and embracing lessons for life. One outcome is to alleviate the school runs and clogging up of roads. Questions to be circulated by email. (JW). <p>ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC attach JW's notes with these minutes
3	<p>RoWIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RC reported that over 44 responses had been received to the Survey. In addition there were over 25 emails either suggesting new routes or making comments on the RoWIP. They were working their way through all responses and because of the

	<p>number, taking longer than planned (about 50% to date). Therefore, the final version will be delayed going for Panel approval and a new date is TBC.</p> <p>There will be more on the investment strategy, CMS, volunteers, equestrians with carriages, motorised vehicles (in particular splitting the types of motorised user).</p> <p>The final draft RoWIP will be circulated for LAF comment.</p>
4	<p>Strategic Rail Freight Interchange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting held between LM (LAF & BHS), Phil Escritt (SAAF) and RC (RoW) with the developers. <p>Seen to be a productive meeting as no consideration had been taken of linking the proposed paths / RoW with the existing network. The RoWIP will also need updating to take this into consideration.</p> <p>Also parking is considered as inadequate given the experience gained from Heartwood Forest and Panshanger.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint cooperative working was emphasised given the success of the Tyttenhanger Estate positive experience. • St Albans has employed two additional staff to take on the requests for information. <p>ACTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep LAF informed of progress with agenda item at further meetings.
5	<p>Any other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offley BOAT (the subject of a recent field trip) has had the gates installed and locked with permits being available. This has been subject to an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (ETRO) and is being monitored by farmers, land owners and neighbours. Notices have been posted on the approaches and the gate. <p>It is intended that if this is a success, one permit will be used for all similar ETROs in future.</p> <p>Fox's Lane, Welham Green is planned to be the next one (also a recent field trip).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aldenham Country Park <p>Secretary of State has directed that an Order be made following an</p>

	<p>appeal to the original Modification request to add the path round the lake. It was noted it had taken 4 years to get this far, and that evidence had been collected as far back as 1936. An advert regarding the making of the order will be published shortly.</p>
8	<p>Dates of next Public meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 11th Sept 2017• 6th December 2017 <p>Next Business meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• TBC - Oct / Nov 2017 <p>Field Trip</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be rearranged for Sept 2017