



# Joint Local Access Forum (JLAF)

for Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol City and South Gloucestershire

## Draft Minutes of meeting, Friday 10 March 2017

Date: Friday, 10 March 2017  
 Time: 2:00pm  
 Venue: Community Room, Keynsham Library, Market Walk, Keynsham, BS31 1FS  
 Present: JLAF Members: Mark O’Sullivan – Acting Chair of the JLAF (MO), Ann Fay (AF), Robert Davies (RD), Ken Mills (KM), Rennie Dickins (RD), Chris Barrable (CB), Kate Chubb (KC), Robert Killen (RK), Peter Bird (PB), Bernadette Macey (BM), Keith Weller (KW), Andrew Gough (AG), Chris Simpson (CS), John Gunnery (JG), Michael Bell for Keith Burchell (MB)

Also in attendance: Nicola Chidley - South Gloucestershire Council (NC), Christine Pouncett - Bristol City Council (CP), Sheila Petherbridge - Bath & North East Somerset Council and Interim Secretary to the JLAF (SP), Hayley Barker- Bath and North East Somerset Council.

		<b>Action</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>INTRODUCTIONS</b>	
<b>A1</b>	<b>Introductions</b> All members introduced themselves. The JLAF Secretary role would be carried out for this meeting by Sheila Petherbridge and, from the next meeting onwards, by Hayley Barker.	
<b>A2</b>	<b>Apologies</b> Richard Watson (Cotswold Way National Trail Officer) (non JLAF Member): Graeme Stark (Bath and North East Somerset Council)	
<b>A3</b>	<b>Declarations of interest</b> None.	
<b>A4</b>	<b>Minutes of the last meeting on Friday 11 November 2016.</b> The draft minutes from the November 2016 meeting, having been circulated to all JLAF Members, were approved and signed as a true and correct record.	
<b>A5</b>	<b>Minutes of the meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016.</b> The draft minutes from the July 2016 meeting, having been circulated to all JLAF members, were approved and signed as a true and correct record.	
<b>A6</b>	<b>Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda</b> The Bathscape Project continued to move forward and a representative was hoping to come to a JLAF meeting soon.	
<b>B</b>	<b><u>MAIN BUSINESS</u></b>	
<b>B1</b>	<b>Election of new JLAF Chair.</b> MO agreed to stand as Chair for the remainder of the year. Proposed KW, seconded KC, all in favour.	

<p><b>B2</b></p>	<p><b>Gating Orders &amp; Public Space Protection Orders Hanover Street PSPO</b></p> <p>There had been informal consultation by email with JLAF members about this proposed Order. Nine had replied, of whom five had favoured opposing the Order and two supporting it. There was considerable discussion, in the course of which it was clarified that the Order would last only three years and would then have to be renewed, so that there would be no permanent closure of the right of way at this stage. KW proposed by KW and RD seconded a proposal to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Express concern at the proposal,</li> <li>• Recognise the problem being addressed,</li> <li>• Express a division of views in the JLAF,</li> <li>• Warn that closure might move problems elsewhere,</li> <li>• Note with approval the requirement to review in 3 years,</li> </ul> <p>MO to draft response.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MO</b></p>
<p><b>B3</b></p>	<p><b>News from the Public Rights of Way (PROW) teams</b></p> <p><b>Bristol City Council</b></p> <p>CP reported the PROW maintenance budget and capital budgets were to remain unchanged, subject to confirmation.</p> <p><i>Recently completed or nearing completion footpath improvement works included:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renovating of Cutler Road to Highridge Green public footpath.</li> <li>- Significant engineering works to improve steps at Clay Bottom.</li> <li>- Installation and improvement of steps at Shirehampton Cricket Club.</li> </ul> <p><i>Planned schemes for 2017-18</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Installation of footbridge over rhyne adjacent to Kings Weston Lane, allowing the inland route of the Severn Way to avoid a dangerous section of Kings Weston Lane, connecting an existing bridleway to a newly installed cycleway and a current public footpath.</li> <li>- Diversion of footpath at Lawrence Weston Moor Nature Reserve and Avon Riding Centre, to use walked routes and improve accessibility for all.</li> <li>- Installation / upgrading of appropriate gates where necessary.</li> <li>- Improvement to St Mathias footpath, Fishponds, under s106 funding.</li> <li>- Upgrade of stiles to kissing gates at North Somerset boundary, north of Highridge Farm.</li> </ul> <p><i>Public Path Diversion Order:</i></p> <p>Footpath off Bishport Avenue, Hartcliffe is about to be confirmed.</p> <p><i>Definitive Map Modification Orders:</i></p> <p>4<sup>th</sup> footpath claim on South Purdown and footpath claim from Sates Way to Golden Hill, Henleaze.</p> <p><b>South Gloucestershire Council</b></p> <p>A written report was provided in the background papers. KM asked about the progress of the Aust/Severn Bridge area path. Landowner agreements were required. The JLAF was to be consulted.</p> <p><b>Bath and North East Somerset Council</b></p> <p>A written report was provided in the background papers. SP updated on the staffing situation and how the workload has been absorbed within the team with the use of volunteer groups to help with the practical tasks.</p>	

	<p><b>Rights of Way Improvement Plan</b>  MO asked for an update on the Rights of Way Improvement Plan that was subject to a statutory requirement for review in 2016. He noted the increased house building within the 3 authorities, and the perceived implications on the network. NC stated that requests had been received regarding the accessibility section and it would be a 'lighter touch' plan. A fuller report would be made to the next meeting.</p>	
<b>B4</b>	<p><b>Role of the JLAF</b>  MO to draw up a draft outline strategy to cover all areas. AF suggested a list of 'things to do'. MOS agreed to write to the new 'Metro Mayor' after the elections introducing the JLAF, and that invitations to the JLAF should be sent to Councillors on Rights of Way Committees.</p>	<b>MO</b>
<b>B5</b>	<p><b>Post Brexit Payments.</b>  RK explained that it was unknown how CAP payments would be paid post Brexit. It was feared that Pillar 1 was vulnerable, but hoped that Pillar 2 might continue in some form, enabling payments in some circumstances to fund conservation and access work.</p>	
<b>B6</b>	<p><b>List of Streets. – Adding and removing routes</b>  Martin Laker (who maintained B&amp;NES's List of streets) stated that B&amp;NES add and remove routes in the following circumstances:  <i>"Streets are added when:</i>  - They are adopted through a Section 38 agreement or other process under the Highways Act. This accounts for pretty much all of the new streets these days.  - They are created by a legal order, such as a S247 order or a side roads order, or act of parliament  - Evidence comes to light that they are in fact publicly-maintainable highways (for example an adoption plan is rediscovered)  - Evidence comes to light that they were once publicly maintainable and there is no evidence that the rights have been legally removed  <i>Streets are removed when:</i>  - They are stopped up through a legal order at the Magistrates Court or from the DfT, or through legislation  - Evidence comes to light that they are in fact not publicly-maintainable highways (for example, a historic stopping up order is rediscovered)  - Evidence comes to light that there was a colouring error during recopying in the era of paper maps  <i>Streets are not added or taken away for the convenience of highways maintenance.</i>  <i>We also keep, although there is no requirement to do so,</i>  - List of stopped up streets  - List of streets under S35 walkways agreement  - List of Streets under S38 agreement"  It should be noted that there was no statutory procedure in the same way that there was for modifying the Definitive Map.</p>	
<b>C</b>	<b><u>ITEMS FOR RATIFICATION</u></b>	
<b>C1</b>	<p><b>Joint Spatial Plan : Towards the Emerging Spatial Strategy</b>  The comments made were proposed by RD and seconded by KM. All in favour.</p>	

<b>D</b>	<b><u>ITEMS FOR REPORT/ FOR INFORMATION</u></b>	
<b>D1</b>	<p><b>JLAF Recruitment</b></p> <p>Those members who were due for re-appointment had been emailed and unless GS were to hear otherwise from members he would assume they were happy to stand for a further term and there would be no need to submit a new application.</p> <p>RK had decided not to continue because of work commitments. He had been a very valuable and committed member of the JLAF since the Forum's inception in 2003. RK was thanked for all his hard work throughout the years.</p> <p>JLAF members were encouraged to let people know that the JLAF was recruiting and to approach anyone that they thought might be interested in applying. GS would be sending details of how to apply to all JLAF members towards the end of March.</p>	
<b>E</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>Keynsham <i>Walkers Are Welcome</i> were holding the 2<sup>nd</sup> Keynsham Walking Festival on the weekend of 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April. Details were available on the B&amp;NES website</p>	
<b>F</b>	<p><b>Next meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the JLAF would be at 2pm on 7 July 2017 in the Community Room at Keynsham Library.</p>	
<b>G</b>	<p><b>Proposed Autumn JLAF meeting</b></p> <p>The autumn meeting would be at 2pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 in the Community Room at Keynsham Library.</p>	
	<b>Close 16.05pm</b>	