

Lowton East Neighbourhood Development Forum (LENDF)
Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 11 November 2019, at Lowton Social Club
<http://www.lendf.co.uk>

- Chair – Ed Thwaite
- Cllr James Grundy, Cllr Edward Houlton
- Minutes taken by – Gill Turner
- Apologies: Cllr Kath Houlton

No. of attendees - **21**

Minutes from last meeting – not read at meeting but copies had been sent out by email, posted onto Facebook and paper copies were available.

Welcome to Guests and New Visitors

1. £212.71 Donation to Willow Project

- Proceeds from donations (bucket passed around) from the Last Night of the Proms Night made £212.71. This will be donated to the Willow Project that help families from Golborne and Atherton who have had a bad time and help them get back on the right track.

2. Government to take action over Travellers

- They would like to consult on measures to criminalise the act of trespassing when setting up an unauthorised encampment in England and Wales. They would also like to consult on what an alternative approach to this could be:
- amending section 62A of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 to permit the Police to direct trespassers to suitable authorised sites located in neighbouring local authority areas. There is a site at Bickershaw but it was reported the Travellers did not want to go there.
- amending sections 61 and 62A of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 to increase the period of time in which trespassers directed from land would be unable to return from 3 months to 12 months
- amending section 61 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 to lower the number of vehicles needing to be involved in an unauthorised encampment before Police powers can be exercised from six to two or more vehicles.
- amending section 61 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 to enable the police to remove trespassers from land that forms part of the highway.
- Full details on Gov.uk website
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7644395/Police-powers-arrest-travellers-seize-caravans-set-illegalcampsites.html>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/strengthening-police-powers-to-tackle-unauthorised-encampments>

3. Stocks at St Luke's

- After a search of the archives by Peter Hatfield it was found that it was the Council's responsibility to look after them. Councillors have a meeting with the Council in early December regarding fixing/refurbishing these.

4. Winwick Lane

- A discussion took place regarding the weight limit on this road and the future plans regarding this.
- Lane Head is the third busiest junction in Manchester. Air quality was discussed is being pushed and the Government reports 40 as a safe reading for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂). In January the level was 80, February 70. Pollution levels in London City Centre are reported to be 70-80 and the latest figures were reported at Lane Head are between 80-84. This is more than double the stated safe reading by Government.

5. Traffic Lights at Lane Head

- It was reported that the SCOOT timings has been turned off automatic flow. This had been addressed by Wigan Council and they were being checked Thursday and Friday last week and possibly tweaked. It was reported the traffic was actually better this morning (9th Nov).

6. Five Acres

- No update on planning permission.

AOB

- ✓ Questions about the application for a new junction on the Bypass behind the Fire Station. It was reported that this is on hold at the present.
- ✓ Timings of the traffic lights at Lane Head from Kenyon Lane were discussed. It was reported that about 2 vehicles get through these lights and tonight there were queues from 14:30 to after 19:00. Is this the normal timings and flow?
- ✓ Question asked about delivery vehicles around St Catherine's site at peak rush hour times. Time restriction can be put on these sites to help with traffic. Councillors to contact the Council regarding the possibility of this.
- ✓ A discussion took place regarding a possible extension of the Bypass avoiding Lane Head and possibility of opening Kenyon Junction. This will be put on the agenda again for the next meeting. Questions asked about why this station and Golborne were closed and if opening them would be viable. The Beeching Cuts/Report was discussed.

- ✓ Diggle Green - advice is to keep reporting any issues to the Environment Agency on: 0800 807 060. Some people reported they had done this over the last couple of weeks. Odours have been occurring late at night recently.
- ✓ Lowton West Residence Group mentioned they had been notified that Hs2 has been holding little meetings in churches but no one were aware of this. Councillors will look into this. It was suggested that LENDF write to Hs2 and invite them back for a meeting to see if there is any more information that needs to be shared. The report on the future of Hs2 has been put on hold until after the General Election.

Upcoming events



Carols around the Christmas Tree (with brass band)

1 December 16:00 (4 pm) junction of Winton Road and Newton Road

Everyone welcome



Annual Hospice Carol Service

Thursday 5 December 19:30 (7:30 pm) at Heath Street Methodist Church, Golborne.



Roberts Baker Championship Brass Band

Thursday 11 December 19:30 (7:30pm) at St Peters Church, Newton-Le-Willows

Tickets £7.00



Annual Epiphany Trust Community Carol Service

Wednesday 18 December 19:00 (7pm) Independent Methodist Church, Newton Road

NEXT LENDF next monthly meeting:

Monday 9 December 2019 @ 19:30 (7:30pm)

Lowton Social Club

All welcome