

Lowton East Neighbourhood Development Forum (LENDF)

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 14 August 2017, at Lowton Social Club

www.lendf.co.uk

- Chair – Ed Thwaite
 - Cllr Kath Houlton
 - Apologies – Cllr Ed Houlton, Cllr James Grundy
 - Minutes taken by – Gill Turner
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1. Minutes from last meeting – not read at meeting but copies had been sent out by email, posted onto Facebook and paper copies were available.
2. Wigan Council are still supporting HS2 through Lowton.
 - We found out at the HS2 meeting in November there will be no HS2 trains stopping at Wigan that will use the line through Lowton and travelling to London.
 - There is no benefit to Wigan Council now to support it.
 - There will be one train per hour to Birmingham from Scotland.
 - There will be one train per hour down the Westcoast line to Warrington/Crewe, which will pick up the high speed HS2 line at Crewe to London.
 - Wigan Council was asked to oppose the HS2 line through Lowton, a vote was taken. Golborne Councillors asked permission to abstain from the vote and most of the remaining Councillors voted for the line.
 - The Councillors had literature from HS2 and did not accept improving the Westcoast line where there is room for 4 tracks.
 - Wigan Council still think there is chance of a station at Wigan and once the line is in it can get the timetable changed. This is what the Council want.
 - E-mail regarding HS2 a committee is sitting in the House of Lords to discuss scraping the remaining line after Birmingham and to concentrate on the Liverpool to Hull and Newcastle upgrade.
 - Government Ministers appear keen to stop the remaining line being built and most of the new Conservative Leaders want to stop it.
3. Feedback from meeting with Andy Burnham re: Kenyon Junction.
 - This will be discussed at the next meeting.
4. Pocket Nook Lane plan now presented to residents.
 - To widen footpaths and cut back the hedges.
 - Bell bollard replaced at the top of the lane to stop wagons and help pedestrians.

- Cllr Kath Houlton offered to contact the companies on the lane asking for them to ask the drivers of vehicles not to park on the lane and to park elsewhere. It was noted there is a no loading sign – no loading before 09:00.
 - It was reported there is a very deep hole/mark/track in the road opposite Moorefield Crescent where the new build is. There are wagons in and out most of the day from the site.
 - The remaining resurfacing work on Moorefield Crescent will be finished shortly.
 - When will the builders start the new builds on the old scrapyards site – no dates yet?
5. Kath Johnson (Chair of Lane Head South Residents Group) has arranged a meeting with Campaign to Protect Rural England regarding Parkside.
- CPRE representative at the meeting on Friday at 12:00 (Wilf and Carol Lavelle, Winwick Lane). Representatives from Parkside Action Group, LENDF and Councillors will be attending to get professional advice from a Professional/previous Planning Officer to ask what is the best way to present our case against Parkside planning. We need to know only what to say as specific points.
6. The Mayor of Wigan (Steve Dauber) is to attend our Last Night of the Proms concert on Saturday 5 October 2019
7. Traffic lights at Lane Head
- This was reported by Ed (LENDF Chair) and the sequencing had changed. In recent days things seem to have improved.
 - It was reported the lights at Kenyon Lane are not good – Ed to report this now.
8. Diggle Green Press Report
- Details were sent to the group from someone who was reporting everything from times, wind speed, etc, but he has not given up doing this.
 - The press has been contacted and will speak to different people about how it is affecting the community and people's lives with the smell emanating from the site.
 - A copy of a report from the Telegraph newspaper about possible airborne particles from similar sites.
 - A site in Norfolk was closed down, this was dealing with food waste and it became a problem for residents around the site, food waste was stopped here.
 - Wigan and Warrington Council and the Environment Agency are organising a meeting in four to five weeks to discuss all the complaints

from the site. **IT IS THE MOST COMPLAINED ABOUT SITE IN THE ENGLAND.**

If you are affected by any odour at your property, as a Wigan Council resident, please direct these to Wigan and the Environment Agency.

- To report to Wigan Council, email: comm@wigan.gov.uk or by phone 01942 404364
- To report to the Environment Agency, email enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk or by phone 0800 807060
- Perhaps e-mail Dave Watson at Warrington Environment directly dwatson@warrington.gov.uk instead of using the telephone complaints number was suggested.
- The Environment Agency should provide facts and figures of the number of calls/complaints at the meeting. It should be reiterated that some people will no longer complain as they feel they are wasting their time as nothing seems to have been done to improve the issues.
- The Environment Agency are supplying the site with items to improve the smell.
- Perhaps ask Care Quality Commission (CQC) for facts and figures about increased respiratory illnesses through the GP's since the site was started in this area. (Before and after figures).
- KEEP RINGING AND COMPLAINING.

AOB

- ✓ Lowton Village Show – Saturday 31 August 2019 at St Mary's Hall. The lady who organised this in the past is no longer able to therefore Carol Leigh has taken this over. There will be baking, flower arranging and various stalls. Flyers will be given out at the next meeting. People from Laburnum Allotments will be attending to give advice. All monies raised will go towards the improvement of the Church, etc.
- ✓ Laburnum Allotments – you can get compost, fertilizer and plants at reasonable prices. At the next Bank Holiday they are having a plant sale. They also have a community allotment with eco toilets and disability access. Monies from Brighter Boroughs (around £1500) were given to help finish this project.
- ✓ Winick Lane – looks like building work being done. On one section Murphy's are stabilising the earth around the banking. There is a Ménage being made. If planning for stables are submitted ensure they are for wooden stables as if not these could be converted to buildings later on.

- ✓ Circus in Lowton. Cllr Kath Houlton has pushed for this to be moved from previous site and will now be held on Golborne Road, Ashton
- ✓ Parkside site – it looks like work is being done as the gates have been opened. If this is the council they cannot do anything until plans are passed. Could it be exploratory work regarding the link road? This cannot be done legally.
- ✓ 2nd phase of Canaan started. Question about Section 106 money and suggestion to apply to put traffic lights at Mayfield. Traffic is getting worse.
- ✓ St Catherine's – plans not passed yet. No problems with traffic were reported but it was reported that if it was a problem a yellow box could be put there.
- ✓ Question about the Indian Restaurant on Newton Road were asked. Is it possible the plans to convert to a Tesco/mini market could be put forward again? No-one knows about any plans
- ✓ Oakland's – no news on developments here. The trees have been protected.
- ✓ Rothwell's Farm site. A Gypsy site has been refused. Planning was put through for one bungalow and two caravans.
- ✓ Stone Cross and Slag Lane Traffic Action Group has been set up. It has been reported wagons are going up Stone Cross Lane and onto Golborne Road towards Golborne (from the new build sites).

NEXT LENDF monthly meeting

Monday 10 June 2019 @ 19:30 (7:30pm) (Lowton Social Club)