

Minutes of LHSRG 19.03.18

Apologies: Terry Hewitt, Denis Eubank, Howard and Marie Cooper, Lorraine Nordmann (post meeting)

1. The minutes of Jan 22nd 2018 were proposed and seconded as a true record.
2. **Parkside** Phase 1 of the planning application was lodged with St Helens Council last month. This was the old colliery site- for warehousing (no manufacturing, no rail freight.) Traffic would use A49 and most likely Southworth Road/Newton Road to gain access to the A580. The application for the Link road across green belt feeding onto Winwick Lane is to be lodged shortly.

According to St Helens this will take traffic off the A49 and direct traffic on to the motorway at Junction 22. In practice, however, HGV and other traffic travelling north or north east will traverse Winwick Lane and Lane Head. It would be beneficial to liaise with both Warrington and St Helens representatives as well as Wigan Council.

It is anticipated that Phases 2 and 3, East of Parkside, covering what are at present farmed fields, will attract more warehouses/distribution centres along its route i.e. the fields to the north of Winwick Lane.

The link road is key to the rest of the plan. It is absolutely necessary for the larger development envisaged. Without it the rest will not be worthwhile.

The application is being presented as a major distribution hub which will contribute to St. Helens and the Merseyside economy and the people of Newton le Willows. We do not believe this to be the case.

Lane Head will lose yet more green space in return for more traffic. It is not a brown field site as St Helens have claimed in the past.

The Parkside group need support and welcome any help available of any kind. Contact Parkside Action Group: help@parksideactiongroup.org.uk

This development will seriously affect Lowton. We need our own council to defend our area so please ask, phone, email, write to as many as possible. to work for us. It is believed there could be a conflict of interest over St Helen's role in agreeing to their own plans. A total of 672 acres (272 hectares) of Green Belt will be affected.

It is believed that a similar recycling plant to Diggle Green has been applied for on the A49. Further details to be sourced.

3. Winwick Lane

The 7.5 tonne weight restriction signs are due to be installed by the end of March. Warrington have asked for a traffic survey to be carried out to determine if there is an impact on their roads - due to HGV'S being diverted south bound from Winwick Lane.

4. Delamere Avenue/Winton Road

In Terry's absence, Ann gave an update. The legal process for Restricted access has started and if all goes well could be implemented by the summer. Concern was expressed that residents on Kenyon Lane might be inconvenienced by this.

5. Planning application regarding Kenyon Lane Nursery

Re the last meeting, there is still some confusion over whether housing is to be developed adjacent to Kenyon Nursery. It appears that the planning application was not accepted.

6. Dates for diary

Spring Walk in Byrom Wood, possibly May.

7. Environmental issues

Litter pick date tba.

Mt. Tabor working party initially postponed due to inclement weather, but then 5 people did some cutting back/strimming. An Acer was planted by Colin Waddington in memory of his wife Ann. Further work was carried out

the following week, cutting back raspberry canes and planting English bluebells

8. Air Pollution

Plan to start work with sub -committee, to meet Tuesday 10th April. Accurate and up to date air quality statistics are required rather than the modelled statistics which are usually quoted. Methods of keeping traffic flowing and shrub planting should be sought. Anyone wishing to contribute most welcome.

9. AOB

- Newton Station 2 months behind schedule. New more frequent services will be introduced by 2020 or as new trains become available. 420 car parking spaces making the station more attractive to commuters.
- Five Acres development still live, developing the footprint rather than the garden which is Green Belt.
- It was suggested that the Church bell from St Catherine's could be included as a memorial for the church. Arch diocese to be approached.

Next Meeting 21st May