

## **Minutes of Lane Head South Residents' Group**

**Held in the Conference Room, Travel Lodge , Lane Head,**

**Monday November 15<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 7.15 p.m.**

Kathleen welcomed everyone to the meeting including new members from other areas in Lowton. 16 present. Apologies for absence received from 11 people.

Minutes of the last meeting on 20.09.21 approved as a correct record.

The chair acknowledged the many contributions of the late Ed Thwaite. He will be much missed by all Lowton residents.

### **Updates**

- A lack of police resources has not allowed a monitoring of HGV traffic on Winwick Lane as envisaged. Only one prosecution to our knowledge. Inspector Smith has agreed to monitor more fully when resources allow, but by sending out warning letters initially. We consider prosecutions are necessary to act as a deterrent. Counc. Ed Houlton commented on the lack of police presence.
- It was suggested that an automatic number plate recognition camera (ANPR) would cut police time as offending vehicles would be monitored automatically. Andy Burnham to be approached to ascertain if it could be possible to link this with the Clean Air Zone (CAZ) cameras to be installed by the end of May 2022. LHSRG are hopeful that the CAZ will have a positive effect on Lane Head. We will also approach James Grundy.
- (It was reported that the position of a CAZ sign on Parkside Road forces pedestrians/Wheelchair users/prams onto the road.)
- A sign warning of traffic enforcement has been erected on Winwick Lane, but whilst there has been some decreases of HGV 's, many drivers ignore the restriction. LHSRG to ascertain whether Google maps/sat navs can encourage drivers not to use the Lane Head area.

- There is concern that HGV's will continue down Newton Road A572 and a request for a weight restriction on A572 is awaiting a response from Wigan.
- Warrington's roads have been ring fenced to prevent any HGV entering rural areas without any de-priming and no facility to turnround. LHSRG have repeatedly asked for this. Wigan have been asked to comment on this. As yet no response.
- Residents on Newton Road, Winton Road and Winwick Lane have complained to Highways England about the recent continual night-time traffic caused by traffic diversions to upgrade M6 to a SMART motorway. These have been left in place after the diversions have ended encouraging all traffic to use Newton Road/Winwick Lane causing sleep disturbance throughout the night. HE have stated their intention to utilise the A49 as a diversion route when possible.
- We await a report of a Wigan meeting with Warrington and St Helens, proposed last spring.
- We also await the pending decision on S106 money. Concern was expressed that this is time limited and will be returned to developers if not spent. St Mary's Community Hall already in receipt of £24,000 for rewiring, glazing and heating.
- The request for S106 money for the Judo Club on Newton Road welcomed.
- LHSRG committee to reconvene discussions with Graham Wardle chair of LaGTAG to progress an TfGM Integrated Transport Plan for Lowton and Golborne as suggested by Andy Burnham.
- Counc. Marie Cooper commented on Wigan's "Streets for all" strategy which prioritises taking cars away from our roads by engaging with communities. It was acknowledged that the Atherleigh bypass from A572 to A580 was designed with no pedestrian access.
- Counc. Cooper has requested that footpath signs in the area are numbered. Wigan are unable to do this at the present time. Friends of Wildlife Trust can apply for funding. Counc. Cooper also reported on "the wilding of the peat moss" around Edge Green. It is a site of

biological importance. The intention is to restore rare bog land and specialised wild- life to the area. Wild - flowers are lacking in the area. They need to be carefully propagated.

- Counc. Kath Houlton reported that the houses on the former 'Oaklands' site at the corner of Hesketh Meadow Lane is to be known as Green Lawns Close after the original owner of the house.
- Personal and group objections have been made to the Greater Manchester Strategy. (Mr Adamson's land is in jeopardy at Pocket Nook)
- Treasurer's report: Balance £2,167. Our thanks to Howard Cooper our Treasurer.

### **Events**

- "Carols 'round the tree" at Winton Rd. Sun. Dec 5th at 4.00pm. Carols from Epiphany Brass, Father Christmas, mulled wine and mince pies.
- Darts and dominoes evening arranged for Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 2022 at Golborne Sports and Social Club. Tickets? from Committee.
- Litter Pick - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec. 10-00 a.m. Our most grateful thanks to Terry for his huge contribution in keeping our streets litter free.
- Terry reported the difficulty in turning right out of Delamere Avenue onto Kenyon Lane. Group will ask Council to look at a solution before an accident occurs.
- Similarly, it is very difficult to cross Newton Road between Winwick Lane and Kenyon Lane. Could S106 money be used to find a solution...
- Visit to Houses of Parliament - James Grundy M.P. has issued an invitation to interested LHSRG members to visit the Houses of Parliament on a date to be arranged (2022.) If you would be interested, please let us know so that we can give James an idea of numbers. Approximately 10 people have shown an interest.
- Kathleen thanked Ann and Colin Lowe for their huge contribution to the life of Lane Head over recent years. They were instrumental in organising the refurbishment of Winton Road playground and the

planting of Christmas tree on Winton/Newton Road amongst many other things. The group wish them every happiness in their new home (away from traffic!)

- Kathleen informed the meeting of a recent break in on Newton Road. Residents to be warned to be vigilant.

### **Parkside**

- The group are disappointed but not surprised by the Government decision to pass the Parkside application Phase 1 and the Link Road. It was strongly felt that community involvement was not taken into account when making the decision and that Wigan did not serve their residents well by being absent at the Inquiry. The task now is to mitigate the effects of the warehouse development and Link Road. Wigan Council has been asked to respond to the decision. We have asked to meet with Julie Middlehurst Assistant Director – Infrastructure and Regulatory Services. It is hoped that lessons will be learnt from previous warehouse developments where driver facilities are lacking, and drivers often have to queue on local roads.