

MINUTES OF LHSRG MEETING ON 17th JULY 2023 AT THE TRAVEL LODGE CONFERENCE ROOM

APOLOGIES: Howard Cooper, Edward Houlton, Terry Hewitt, Jeannette Reffell, Councillors Gregory and Lloyd,

Kathleen Johnson welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for coming especially Luke Brown who will be giving a talk about Lowton Hub.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of 15th May 2023 which have been circulated were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Balance £1771.79

LOWTON HUB: Luke Brown from Lowton Community Hub Ltd spoke regarding the rebuilding work which is taking place and explained that he is a founder and trustee of the organisation. The background to the building is that it was taken over in 2015 and was funded by volunteers. However the building through storm damage and leakage needed replacing. A number of grants were applied for and eventually via Sports England a funding of £150,000 was agreed, however, this had to be match funded. The match funding was requested from Wigan Council and through the S106 monies raised from the new housing in the area, this was finally agreed. The building started in November 2022 and is due to be completed at the end of July with a launch in mid-August. There are facilities for judo and martial arts, changing rooms, toilets, a café, medical rooms as well as facilities for pregnant mothers, babies, toddlers, school children and adults. Giving accessibility to everyone in the area.

Luke was thanked for his talk and we are all looking forward to the opening and being able to visit the Hub. A guided tour will be organised.

PRESENTATION ON ATHERLEIGH WAY BYPASS

Gareth Edwards talked to the slide presentation was given at a meeting held on 19th June which had been organised by Andy Burnham. To talk about how to resolve the traffic congestion and air pollution in Winwick Lane/Newton Road and the area in general. The meeting was held on 'Teams' and included James Grundy MP and a Government Traffic Minister. Extending the Atherleigh Bypass could be a potential solution to the traffic. The action from the meeting was that Peter Bolton from Transport for Greater Manchester will form a working group which should report back by October. Residents should have a say in the working group and our representative will be Gareth. The first meeting led by TfGM will be held on 24th July, this will be Council officers only from Wigan, St. Helens and Warrington. This will be followed by a Steering Group meeting which will include residents and Councillors and will feed into the feasibility Group within a timescale to meet and report back. The result should meet everyone's needs including the landowners.

(Copies of the presentation are attached to these minutes. The slides have been updated since the 19th June to include the 2022 NO2 figure for Winwick Lane of 45.3ug/m3. Compared with 2021 figure 44.6ug/m3. Legal limit 40ug/m3. It will continue to be updated as more information becomes available.)

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Kenyon Lane Traffic: The issue was raised regarding the number of lorries using Kenyon Lane travelling to the businesses which have been allowed to operate by Warrington Council. These include Opus, Waste Wave, Diggle Green and Orica munitions and explosive depot. As a result of recent traffic surveys there should be a breakdown of vehicle classes using the Lane. Discussions

took place regarding what residents could do to object and if possible, minimise these HGVs especially when travelling in the early morning and late at night.

Highfield Moss: The issue of motorbike scrambling taking place on the Moss has been reported to the Council and also Network Rail. The only reply has been from National Rail saying they could close the footpaths. It was reported that a number of trees have been set on fire and pulled down. Councillor Houlton will contact the Council again and request that Mark Purcell do a site visit, she will also contact the Police to request the area be the subject of Blue Fin.

Air Strip: The planning for four hangers has gone to Appeal but this is still with the Planning Inspectorate.

Land at Dolly's Bridge: Objections have been written to the Council regarding Dolly's Stud and the occupants of the land have resubmitted a planning application. The results are still awaited.

Litter pick: To be organised

Next Meeting will be held on 18th September at 7.15pm in the Travel Lodge Conference Room.