

Lowton East Neighbourhood Development Forum (LENDF)
Minutes to the Meeting held on Monday 9th November 2015 at Lowton Social Club.
<http://www.lendf.co.uk>

Present:

- Chairman – Ed Thwaite (Ed T), Secretary – Irene Thomson (IT)
- Cllr Ed Houlton and Cllr Kath Houlton and Cllr James Grundy
- Welcome to members, visitors and guests
Apologies – Cllr Ed Houlton and Graham Wardle

No. of Attendees = 26

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. **101** - Use to report crime, etc, plus a police reference number will be given to you. But there is a cost for the call – 15p, and it's been reported that no one even looks at these logs. Therefore it is better to use Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111 which is free and you don't have to give your name. We have been informed the police will response if 3 or more calls are registered regarding the same crime. If you need urgent police assistance still Ring 999.

3. **Persimmon Homes – Land to the south of Poplars Estate**

Planning Committee 10th November.

Members of the committee are to visit the location and then hold their meeting in the afternoon. A local resident from the estate will be speak on behalf of those residents and as there is only 4 minutes allowed the moment will be ceased to point out the main objections to the proposal.

[Post Meeting Note: Ray Poulton spoke on behalf of the residents and did a great job however the Planning Committee voted to [approve](#) Persimmon's outline application]

Big thanks goes to Ray.

4. **Wainhomes – Stone Cross Lane**

The application is expected to be before the Planning Committee next year as the land ownership issues have now been resolved. It does now seem that the road through the development from Church Lane to Stone Cross Lane will be built before any development commences. The design and types of properties is still to be put through the planning permission process.

5. **Lowton Solar Panel Farm – Dickenson's Farm, Kenyon Lane**

Consultation event at Lowton Social Club – Wednesday 11th November 3pm till 8pm.

Family issued a [statement](#) regarding their proposal and this was read out at the meeting. Two family members present at LENDF's meeting tonight and a few questions regarding the proposal.

Q. How tall will the panels be?

A. The panels are 8ft tall but a perimeter fence will be same height with additional hedges planting to create screening.

Q. Currently the land is in Green Belt, will this proposal change this.

A. At the moment this is unclear but the technical experts at the consultation will be able to clarify this.

Q. Is that land being sold?

A. No, it will be rented to the solar company.

Q. When will it be built?

A. If pass by planning it will be built by April 2016. After 30 years it will be returned back to agricultural/grazing use.

Chairman asked people to attend consultation and then tell LENDF what they want us to do at the next meeting.

6. **Lowton Civic Hall**

Still waiting for news on the application submitted to register the hall as a Asset of Community Value.

[Post Meeting Note: ACV now granted by Wigan Council]

7. **Wigan Council's 'The Deal for the Future'**

“The Deal for the Future is the next phase of the council's journey, setting out where we want to be by 2020. It replaces the current corporate strategy. It ties together all the other deals we have, including The Deal for Residents, The Deal for Children and Young People, The Deal for Adult Social Care and The Deal for Communities to name a few.”

The Council want communities to take pride in the borough and partner up with various organisations. Their documents relating to the 'Deal for the Future' can be viewed by clicking [here](#)

It is important that you read this link. It's your life that will be affected by this Deal.

LENDF's Chairman pointed out just how little the Council will be doing in the future, they are to move away from providing traditional services and become an enabler.

Another recently publish document is the [Economic Prospectus](#).

8. **Pensioners' Party** – 11th November – all tickets now gone.

This event will specifically raise monies for Heart Transplant Project, especially for local resident Peter Hatfield who recently underwent such a procedure which was extremely successful.

These parties are supported by local councillors and donations have been received from local individuals and business people. Wigan and Leigh Housing has also provided funding and together with these monies the parties will continue to be held each month until Spring.

9. Lancashire Aero Club, Winwick Lane

It was reported that the Committee of the Club are still undecided on the contents of their proposal which was due this year. Awaiting further news on this.

10. HS2 Drop In Session

Proved to be useful for those residents who may be directly affected by the proposed line. Approximately 25 residents had 1 to 1 meetings with representatives of HS2. It is now known that the depot at Golborne will not go ahead as 2 depots are proposed, one in Crewe and the other in Winsford.

11. AOB

- Lowton Social Club – LENDF received a letter of thanks for processing the Brighter Borough monies to purchase new items for the club. Wednesday 11th November the Club is holding an AGM and one item of discussion will be the re-opening of the back room and car park.
- *[Post Meeting Note: It was voted on at the AGM to keep the back room of the social club and promote it better to the local community.]*
- Landscaping Maintenance by Wigan Leisure Culture Trust – Their hedge cutting machinery has been out of order and waiting for a new part. A new rota has been devised which will fall in line with the grass cutting rota for next year.
- Circus at Grange Farm – Traffic chaos during the event and many grass verges damaged by vehicles which then transferred mud to the roads. Wigan Council to be asked to view the damage.
- Guided Hollins School – Has been closed for the last few months and will probably remain closed until Christmas. Investigations into smells continuing.

12. Next Meeting:

Monday 15th December.

Should you find any omissions or discrepancies in these minutes please contact me on lendf99@gmail.com and let me know as soon as possible and the errors will be rectified.
Irene Thomson – Secretary, LENDF