

- Chairman Pro Tem - Denis Eubank
 - Cllr Kath Houlton
 - Cllr Edward Houlton
- Apologies: Cllr James Grundy, Ed Thwaite.

No. of attendees = 33

1. **Minutes from the previous meeting**

Not read out at meeting but copies have been sent out by email and posted onto facebook.

2. **Meeting with the local MP - Jo Platt**

Ed Thwaite and Denis Eubank had a meeting in Leigh with Jo Platt and they discussed a number of on-going concerns including:

- By-pass for Lowton
- Station at Kenyon Junction
- Lowton civic hall
- Volume of traffic through Lowton
- Travellers
- HS2
- Winwick Lane
- St. Helens' Plans for Development.

LENDF's views were given and the MP seemed to be sympathetic. Lane Head South Residents Group also had a similar meeting with the MP, mainly to discuss Winwick Lane.

3. **Local Information**

- a) Asbestos has been removed from St. Catherine's Church and the church is ready for demolition. Plans are to be put in place once the demolition is complete to prevent travellers from occupying the site.
- b) The Civic Hall is closed but it has not been sold off and is still owned by Eighth Wonder. Plans are proposed for 36 houses to be built on the site. Should they be built they cannot attract compensation from HS2. The Hall contains asbestos but the Wigan metro expert, Mr Garnett, says there is only white asbestos in the Hall which is not notifiable. Cllr. Kath Houlton is pressing for a survey into the verification of the amount and type of asbestos. It was suggested that a local expert, Wayne Bagnall, could be contacted if required.
- c) Pocket Nook Lane - as well as the proposed Bellway development, a further planning application has been passed for 32 houses on the site of the existing scrapyard. It was suggested that any monies received from these sites should be used to improve the junction with Newton Road, possibly traffic lights. This development will only increase traffic congestion similar to the junction of the Poplars onto Newton Road. Wigan Council are aware but have as yet no plans to resolve the situation.
- d) Leigh Market Hall - in a letter from Carl Battersby (Wigan Metro) he says the Council are carrying out a review possibly leading to sell to a private buyer. They are consulting with the stall holders suggesting that they take over the management of the market hall.

- e) A Brighter Borough grant of £7,000 has been passed over for the upgrade of the war memorial at Lowton St. Marys.
- f) Andy Burnham has suggested that the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework to be reworked.
- g) HS2 meeting at Parkside Club was held in September. The next local meeting is at the Daten Club in Culcheth on Friday 15th September. Surveys have been taken around the woods at Byrom Hall leading to rumours that it runs through. The present plans show it to skirt the woods.

4. Peter Astles – Chair of OLV – Parkside

Peter outlined the fact that the development of the Parkside site will be carried out by St Helens Council and Langtree. St Helens paid £6million for the site which has been revalued at £2.5million less.

Langtree are a small company capable of developing sites at around the £1-2million mark. Parkside is a vast area to be developed approximately 200 acres. The plans at present do not provide a link road to the motorway but traffic egresses onto existing roads. Parkside Action Group and OLV have proposed a link road. For more information please visit OLV's website <http://ourlocalvoice.co.uk/olv-news> Parkside Action Group are a small number of persons who have petitioned St.Helens Council, done leaflet drops, and put signs in prominent positions. However, they need more people to be on board. Peter feels that Wigan, St.Helens, Warrington and Highways for England should work together.

A letter from Karl Battersby (Wigan Council) to the leader of St. Helens Council was read out at tonight's meeting giving Wigan's perspective on the St. Helens developments. They realise that as well as Parkside the green belt land at Haydock, Florida Farm and Haydock Point will impact upon the A580 and M6. Though it will provide employment there is a need to be sure the development is good and that the local councils need to work together.

5. Mount Tabor

Initially one horse was on the land but this has increased to four horses. Wigan Council are dealing with the matter but may take a while to sort out the situation.

6. Last Night of the Proms

This will be held at Lowton Social Club on Saturday 14th October, tickets are £5 each, available from Cllr Kath Houlton tel. 07375 661910, and also Kathleen Johnson tel. 01925 224659. Monies raised will be split between the charity (Meningitis Research) and local issues. The chairs and tables purchased from the Civic Hall and donated to the Lowton Social Club will be funded by LENDF. The choir will be from The Three Towns Operatic Society and Golborne Brass Band will be in attendance.

7. Lowton Civic Hall

The hall is being slowly vandalised and a lot of fly tipping is happening at the rear of the hall. The present owners cannot be contacted. There seems to be an absence of police and security.

8. Travellers

At present they are on Pennington Flash, Crankwood and on the Screwfix car park at the Greyhound. The locks were cut at the barriers of the Flash. Greater Manchester Police do not seem to react as other authorities do.

9. A.O.B

- a) Lowton Airport – Report of low flying aeroplane around Kenyon Lane. This was reported and it seems that the same plane crashed on landing.
- b) Red Lion – Free bowling sessions each Friday 3-5pm. Last one for this season will be Friday 29th September.
- c) Red Lion – October 7th. Open bowls social occasion 1:30-4:30pm.
- d) Golborne Sports and Social Club – November 14th at 7:30pm talk and quiz. The talk will be on the Kenyon Junction Murder.

10. Next Meeting – 9th October 2017.