

Lowton East Neighbourhood Development Forum (LEPDF)
Minutes to the meeting held on Monday 12th February 2018 at Lowton Social Club
<http://www.lendf.co.uk>

Chairman – Ed.Thwaite
Cllr James Grundy, Cllr Kath Houlton, Cllr Ed.Houlton

No. of attendees = 36

1. Minutes from last meeting:

Not read out at meeting but copies have been sent out by email and posted on Facebook.

2. HS2 and 106 money:

Money is available from HS2 to areas affected by the construction of the line, also money is available from the companies who are presently constructing houses. Our three local councillors have had a meeting with the Deputy Director of Wigan Metro (Marie Bentley) regarding the money.

HS2 Money - the following could happen:

- The by-pass could be constructed.
- The Youth Club could be re-built.
- The fields behind the Youth Club could be developed for sports and parking.
- The Civic Hall fields could be developed and parking created.

106 Money – the following could happen:

- St Mary's Hall could be re-conditioned and the car park re-surfaced.
- Local schools could be enlarged and developed.
- Local road improvements.
- Pond Street and Braithwaite Road Play Park upgraded (not Oakland's Road).
- Improved drainage to Oakland's Road Park.

3. Civic Hall site:

A car park is to be constructed on the orchard. This is a late change to the plans by Wigan council

4. Transport for the North Plans:

Proposed new rail lines from Liverpool to Manchester Airport and Manchester to Bradford and Leeds. Local M.P. Jo Platt has confirmed plans for Kenyon Junction to reopen are to be considered by Transport for GT Manchester.

5. St Catherine's Church Site:

The site is to be temporary landscaped. Adactus Housing is rumoured to have shown an interest in the site. They are a company who specialise in homes for sheltered living; this would be a good option for the site.

6. Winwick Lane:

As from the 12th February 2018 a 7.5 tonne weight limit is on the carriageway going from Lane Head to the motorway. It will not be policed until the necessary signs go up in the next few weeks; it has taken the residents years to achieve this status.

7. A.Burnham:

As the Mayor of Greater Manchester he is proposing that brownfield sites be built on before any Greenfield sites. He also proposes to regenerate the town centres; Leigh has been selected as being one for development. Mills and other large town centre buildings could perhaps be converted into flats. Local taxes are to be increased to cover this as well as supporting social care. This is great news and we support his thinking.

8. New road – Leigh North:

A 10 million pledge by Wigan Metro to build a link road from Leigh Road to WestLeigh Lane onto the by-pass at the top of Atherleigh Way. This is to provide relief to the roads around Hindley when 2,000 houses are built around it.

9. Building sites road cleaning:

As stated previously at our meetings, the roads adjacent to the new house building sites are experiencing all kinds of nuisance and dirt from site traffic. Previously our three local councillors have met Wigan Metro officials on site and have gained certain promises that haven't been kept. A Mr Phil Massey complained in writing to the Metro and he received an answer, which he emailed to LENDF. K.Battersby re-iterated that all previous promises had been carried out but this is not the case, our three councillors will again look into the complaints.

10. Phase 1 – Parkside:

Plans have been produced showing the proposals for building. It is not a large development and doesn't seem large enough to produce 3,000 jobs, which Langtree Development are stating. The date for objections hasn't yet been fixed; Historic Battlefields are due to raise an objection to the site.

11. Gary Lloyd:

The prospective labour candidate in the forthcoming local election has replied to our invitation to attend our meetings, he requested copies of the minutes.

12. Police:

There is a spate of incidents wherein persons are about in the early hours of the morning endeavouring to gain access into houses and cars, make sure that all are secured.

13. Traffic Lights:

Requests were made at the meeting for the lights at Winwick Road junction be filtered for traffic turning right into Winwick Lane when coming from the Newton direction. Similarly when turning right onto the by-pass when coming from the Lowton direction.

Next Meeting – 12th March 2018