

Lowton East Neighbourhood Development Forum (LENDF)  
Minutes to the Meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at Lowton Social Club.

<http://www.lendf.co.uk>

Present:

- Chairman – Ed Thwaite (Ed T), Secretary – Irene Thomson (IT)
- Cllrs J Grundy, K Houlton and E Houlton

No. of Attendees = 34

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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. LENDF Bank Statement on display during the meeting.

2. **Congratulations to Leigh Centurions**

Leigh Centurions Rugby Team have secured promotion to next year's Super League. Well Done. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/rugby-league/37350474>

3. **ABC Gymnastics & Dance**

Tonight's visitors were from ABC Gymnastics & Dance who are based at Platt Fold Street, Leigh. Tanya Johnson is a former British Gymnastics champion and at the beginning of March opened ABC Gymnastics. Together with her colleague (and former coach Claire) they operate from a warehouse and have equipped it with crash mats, tumbling track and other training facilities. The club has grown to approximately 270 children, ranging from tots to under 16's. Tanya and Claire have plans to enter the children into gymnastics competitions representing our area, initially in the North West finals and then hopefully into the British finals in 2017. The club are seeking donations from the Brighter Borough funding and are approaching the 9 local councillors covering Leigh south, east and west and the 3 councillors covering the Lowton area as these are the representatives in their catchment areas. The club is trying to raise £1,800 in order to purchase leotards and training tops for the children.

Lowton East Councillors have agreed to make contributions via the Brighter Borough funding to help towards their target.

Anyone interested in finding out more about ABC Gymnastics & Dance can contact:

- \* Claire on 07853 859583
- \* Tanya on 07713 928920
- \* Email [abcgym@live.co.uk](mailto:abcgym@live.co.uk)
- \* Facebook [ABC Gymnastics & Dance](#)

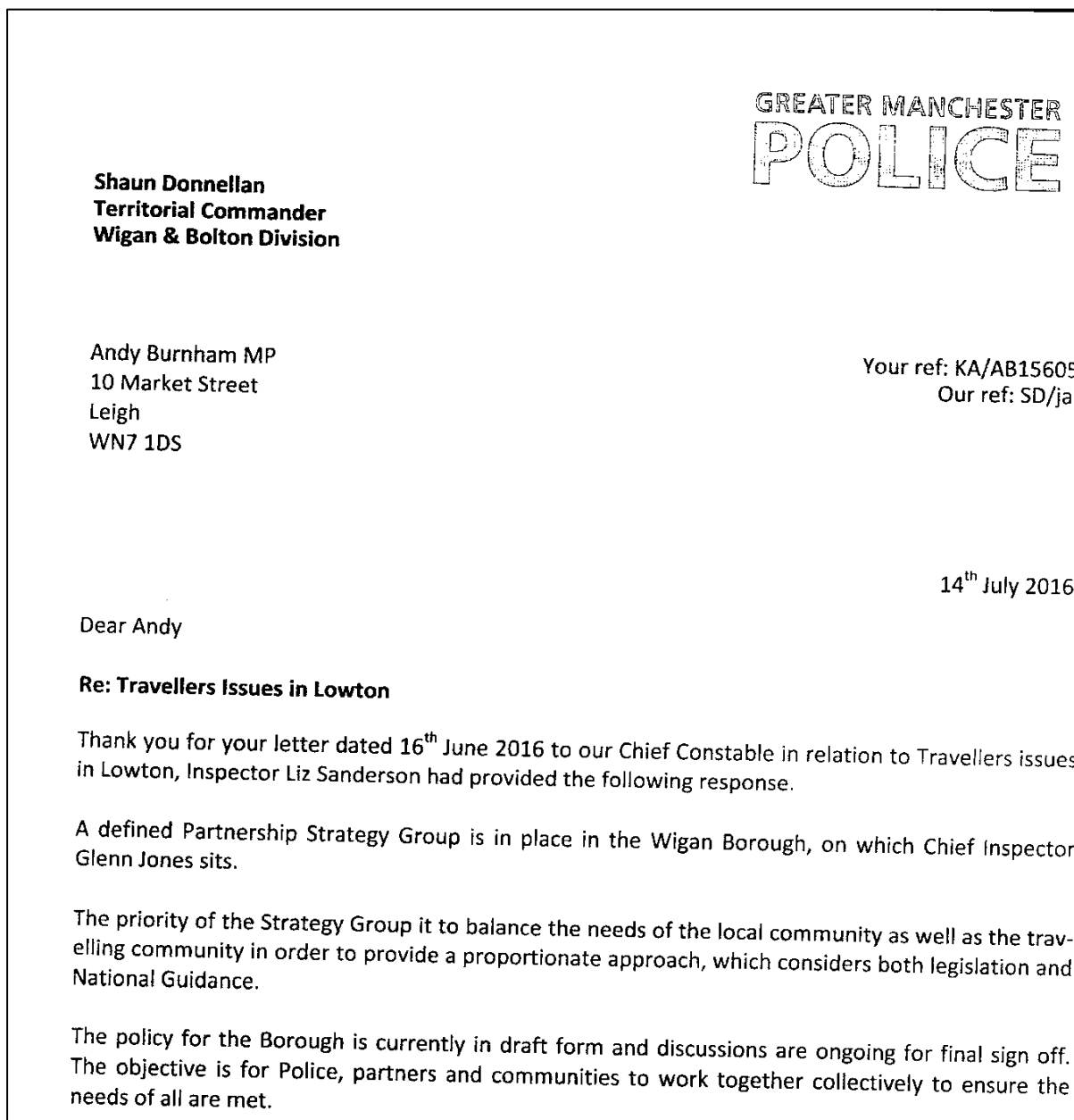
4. **The Deal – Questionnaire sent to Residents**

A questionnaire was recently sent to residents in the Wigan Borough but not everyone received a copy. LENDF's chairman though did receive one and noticed a very concerning statement that by 2020 the Council will receive no central government grants they will only be allowed to keep local rates including business rates.

So the Council's plan is to encourage business to start up in the area and build lots of houses. No part of Lowton will be safe, they are already stating that Peter Adamson's land alongside the A580 will become an industrial estate, this is despite Mr Adamson writing to them and asking for the land to be removed from their plans as it is not for sale.

## 5. Andy Burnham Correspondence re Travellers

The following letter/email was read out at the meeting.



Email to Andy Burnham's secretary:

Dear Karen

Would you please inform Andy that our residents are not happy with this response? We were aware of this information before we held our meeting, in fact Andy commented that based on this information there was no policy in place. It still looks like no policy is in place.

What we want to know is why the law is not applied as detailed in this government paper [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/7837/143582.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/7837/143582.pdf)

How can it be ok for people to roll up in any town and rob shops, break onto land, run untaxed vans, break into property like the Rose Centre and destroy it, pinch electric from the street lamps, and last but not least use public open land to do their ablutions?

Any one of these actions and normal law binding citizens would have been arrested.

Now Andy is very likely to be the new mayor of Gt Manchester he will already have power he never had before. We ask that this situation is given priority throughout Gt Manchester and put right, so people don't have to suffer like the people of Lowton have over this past year.

Regards  
LENDF

## 6. **HS2**

With so much media speculation regarding the 'future' of HS2, together with one of the executives recently resigning, we are continuing to keep in contact with Raj so that any 'announcements' can be reported on. The final route is due to be decided on in the Autumn.

## 7. **Bloor Homes – Heath Lane**

The Council still have this application on hold. The 'housing land supply' is still being reviewed and all 3 councillors from Lowton East have a meeting with Karl Battersby to discuss this.

## 8. **Bellway Homes – Pocket Nook**

Cllr Grundy has an arranged meeting with Raj from HS2 to discuss the possible implications of this development.

## 9. **Diggle Green**

Planning permission granted by Warrington Borough Council for the waste composting business to increase the amount that it can process on site. At the planning committee meeting (which took 3 hours) there was opportunity for both objectors and supports to put their case forward. Following this the council officers, and their legal team, debated the many issues presented and then took the decision to pass the application with a long set of conditions applied to the permission which must be adhered to including:

- *All compost resulting from the recycling, processing and/or treatment of organic waste imported onto the land by virtue of this planning permission shall only be spread on land farmed by the applicant and/or his successors in title. None of the compost produced shall be sold for profit to any third party.*
- *TONNAGE LIMIT: The cumulative total of waste input for the facility shall not exceed 72,000 metric tonnes per calendar year. All waste to be composted on site shall pass over the weighbridge and a record kept of all such wastes brought onto the land under this planning permission. The records shall be made available for inspection by the LPA within 28 days of a request being made in writing by the Council.*
- *WORKING HOURS: Unless otherwise agreed in writing with the LPA, the open windrow composting activities shall only take place during the following times: Monday to Friday between 07:00 and 19:00 and Saturdays between 07:00 and 16:00. There shall be no activity relating to the turning or processing of material in the windrows on Sundays or Bank Holidays other than where required for emergency management of odours as set out on an approved Environmental Management Strategy.*
- *WORKING HOURS: Organic waste for composting shall not be brought onto the site other than between the following hours: 09:00 to 17:00 hours on Mondays to Fridays; and 08:00 to 16:00 hours on Saturdays. There shall be no deliveries of waste to the site for composting operations on Sundays or Bank Holidays other than for the exception of a maximum of 10 instances per year to allow the deposit of materials arising from Local Authority municipal waste contracts and Civic Amenity sites. A record of such instances shall be maintained by the operator and be made available for inspection by the LPA within 28 days of a request being made in writing.*
- *VEHICLE MOVEMENTS: The number of HGVs entering the site shall not exceed 20 in total on any day. The total number of HGVs leaving the site shall not exceed 20 in total on any day. For the purpose of this planning permission, an HGV is defined as a non-agricultural vehicle having an un-laden gross combination mass equal to or more than 3,500 kilograms which is carrying or where it is empty, was last used for carrying organic waste destined for composting on the*

site. This definition does not include rear-loaded refuse vehicles making kerbside collections and operated by Warrington Borough Council.

- *VEHICLE MOVEMENTS: No more than 5 HGVs shall be allowed to enter the site between the hours of 09:00-09:30 (Monday to Friday); and no more than 5 HGVs shall be allowed to enter the site between the hours of 16:00-17:00 (Monday to Friday). An HGV has the same definition as that given in the above condition.*
- *VEHICLE MOVEMENTS: The site operator shall refuse to accept on site, any vehicle whose loads and/or carrying compartments arrive uncovered. All HGVs shall be securely covered or sheeted before they reach the public highway. An HGV has the same definition as that given in the above conditions.*
- *VEHICLE MOVEMENTS: HGVs travelling to or from the site in relation to the waste composting activities approved under this permission shall travel exclusively via the approved vehicle route as detailed in document ref. HGV ROUTES FOR DIGGLE GREEN FARM, CULCHETH – JUNE 2016. An HGV has the same definition as that given in the above conditions.*
- *VEHICLE MOVEMENTS: A record of all waste deliveries to the site, including the origin of the waste; type/category of the waste by reference to the relevant EWC code in accordance with The List of Wastes (LOW) Regulations 2005; the Vehicle Registration Mark (number plate) of the delivery vehicles; and time of delivery shall be maintained by the operator and be made available for inspection by the LPA within 28 days of a request being made in writing by the Council.*
- *ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: Development shall be carried out in strict accordance with the submitted Environmental Management Strategy (EMS) dated received by the LPA on 22nd August 2016, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the LPA. Reason: In order to ensure that emissions associated with the site are contained and do not affect the amenities of the locality and in the interests of highway safety. The condition satisfies policies QE6 of the Core Strategy.*
- *LANDSCAPING AND SCREENING: Earth bunds to screen the waste composting operations on the site shall be constructed in accordance with plan ref. ML/DB/4925 and permanently so maintained throughout the duration of the development hereby approved. The height of the composting windrows shall not exceed the height of the adjacent earth bunds.*
- *LANDSCAPING AND SCREENING: Tree planting and landscaping shown in the submitted Landscape and Master Plan (November 2010) shall be undertaken in accordance with the submitted method statement within the first available planting season following the commencement of development. A planting season is between 1st October and 30th April each year during a period of free of ground frost or significantly wet ground conditions. Any trees or planting which are dead, diseased or drying within the first 5 years following completion of the planting/landscaping scheme shall be replaced with an equivalent species during the next available planting season.*
- *LANDSCAPING AND SCREENING: Within 3 months of the development hereby approved commencing, details of a greenway route across the applicant's land shall be submitted to the LPA for consideration. The greenway scheme shall include a description of the materials; method of construction; and define the start and end points of the greenway route. Thereafter a greenway route shall be provided and carried out in accordance with an approved scheme.*

Lowton/Pennington residents are requested to continue to report any incidents noticed which are outside of these conditions i.e. uncovered HGVs, speeding HGVs, working outside permitted hours/days and most of all the reporting of 'odour' to the Environment Agency (Tel 0800 807060) who will continue to monitor the processing systems which take place on site.

**It's also important to keep our own council informed on Wigan 01942 489007. They are the people responsible for our area, and we will need them to back us up to get these smells under control.**

Can you also email LENDF ([lendf99@gmail.com](mailto:lendf99@gmail.com)) once a month with how many times you have complained with the time and dates. This will allow us to build a full report on the effects this process is having on our area.

**10. Lancashire Aero Club**

Permission granted by Wigan Council for the club to increase their use of the site from 28 days to 365 days. This permission is only for 12 months and the club will have to reapply next year.

**11. Any Other Business**

- *Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September – WW1 Event.* Thank you to the volunteers who have stepped forward to decorate the concert room of the Social Club. Tickets all gone and will be success.
- *Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September – Our Local Voice (OLV)* to hold a meeting at Winwick Leisure Centre, WA2 8LQ (7.30 pm start) for updates/discussion on St Helens Council possible proposals for Haydock and Newton i.e. Distribution and Warehouse Hub.
- *Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Pensioners' Party.* To be held at Lowton Social Club – start time 1pm.
- **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October – Last Night of the Proms Concert. Tickets £4 – please call 07803 145805 or 07950 933410. Concert to be held at Lowton Civic Hall (Rose Centre).**
- The Pensioners' Party in November will have a special recipient of the funds raised from the raffle. Irene (as some of you know) runs a hedgehog rescue from her home and funds everything herself. Even with help from volunteers and occasional donations, it can be quite costly and she requires additional equipment to help her treat the very poorly ones and bring them back to full health ready for release into the wild. Irene responded to this news, firstly with a big smile ☺ and then a very heart-felt thanks to Ed (LENDF's Chairman) and Malcolm (OMRA's Chairman).

**12. Next LENDF Monthly Meeting**

**Monday 10th October 2016 @ 7.30pm (Lowton Social Club)**