

Lowton East Neighbourhood Development Forum (LENDF)  
Minutes to the Meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August 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

*Apologies:*

*Brian and Audrey Lobell, Anne Lowe*

No. of Attendees = 31

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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. **Bloor Homes – Heath Lane**

The application was withdrawn by the council as it is to be reviewed along with other applications for housing throughout the Borough. There is a question mark over the Council's 5 year supply and how many permissions have been given but no building has taken place.

Other councils in the country are also having issues with permission and no builds. The Government wants houses to be built so it could be that things may move forward quickly with existing permissions and all other will be hold.

3. **Bellway Homes – Pocket Nook**

Building work may start at the end of this month. Cllr Grundy has a meeting arranged with Raj from HS2 Ltd to discuss the implication of this development in respect of how close it is to the proposed rail line. The Council's Transport Dept are though still reviewing Bellway's plans, and traffic figures to be generated by the development.

4. **Seddon Homes – Sandy Lane**

No date has yet been received for this application to go before the Planning Committee.

5. **Andy Burnham Meeting**

Andy provided a response (see next page) following the 10<sup>th</sup> June meeting regarding 'travellers'. He has had a meeting with the Chief Constable of Manchester and Chief Superintendent Shaun Donnellan, Division Commander, GMP Wigan.

**Re: Travellers Issues in Lowton**

Thank you for your letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016 to our Chief Constable in relation to Travellers issues in Lowton, Inspector Liz Sanderson had provided the following response.

A defined Partnership Strategy Group is in place in the Wigan Borough, on which Chief Inspector Glenn Jones sits.

The priority of the Strategy Group is to balance the needs of the local community as well as the travelling community in order to provide a proportionate approach, which considers both legislation and National Guidance.

The policy for the Borough is currently in draft form and discussions are ongoing for final sign off. The objective is for Police, partners and communities to work together collectively to ensure the needs of all are met.

Your correspondence also references the unpleasant encounter Cllr Edward Houlton experienced with his daughter. Police Sergeant Justine Topping visited Cllr Houlton at his home address in relation to the incident. Cllr Houlton confirmed he did not wish to pursue any charges in relation to the incidents and on reflection acknowledged his actions had been disproportionate.

I will keep you updated in relation to Borough's policy as soon as the draft is agreed and signed off, however if you have any queries or any further issues, please do not hesitate to contact me or Chief Inspector Jones.

Andy's response does not adequately address the concerns raised and so LENDF will write back asking for further clarification.

**6. Mount Tabor, Newton Road**

Three new posts have been installed on the entrance track to prevent vehicle/tractor access to the site. The Village Green application for the site is still with the Council being reviewed.

The application to have the site recognised as an 'Asset of Community Value' has been accepted.

**7. Lancashire Aero Club – Application to increase use from 28 days to 365 days**

Wigan planners have recommended to the Planning Committee that this application be passed. The application includes amendments to the entrance track from Winwick Lane to the airfield.

Certain areas on the application plans are on 'common land' and therefore should not have any alterations done to them. Richard Ward has been diligently scrutinising the application and feels that it should be reviewed by a Government Inspector.

*[The application was granted permission – It has been requested that a Government Inspector review it via a 'call-in' process]*

**8. Diggle Green**

The applicant is preparing further documentation and evidence to support his application to increase the tonnage processed at the Waste Treatment Facility on Wilton Lane.

**9. Persimmon Homes – South of Poplars Ave Estate**

Ray Poulson, a resident of the estate, has monitored, collated data and taken photographs of the congestion and over-parking situation at the entrance roads to the estate. He has knowledge and experience of the construction industry and has written

many detailed letters to Wigan Council officers (and Lord Peter Smith) that the proposals by Persimmon for amendments to the entrance to the estate are not sufficient for construction traffic – and once on the estate itself these vehicles will encounter issues which could disrupt the building process. Wigan Council have forwarded Ray's letters to Adele Snook, project manager, at Persimmon Homes.

Residents are still hopeful that the access will be via a link to the bypass which is also what the Council would prefer.

#### 10. **Any Other Business**

- *Asylum Seekers.* There is a walk-in centre at Leigh (open Tues 12-3pm). Sue Rigby has begun to volunteer with walk-in centre and the attached 'note' to these minutes gives more information. Some Asylum Seekers are being housed within the Wigan Borough i.e. Leigh, Golborne and a few in Lowton. For more information please contact [suerigby@live.com](mailto:suerigby@live.com)
- *Syria Conflict.* 12.2 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance. Gill Dickenson from the Epiphany Trust (Tel. 01925 220999 or 07545 782608) is organising a delivery of much needed items for mums and babies. They need the following:
  - Baby milk (preferably ready-made)
  - Baby wipes (Aldi packs are cheap & resealable)
  - Hand gel 100ml (Aldi 49p)
  - Baby hats (important for keeping little heads warm)
  - Nappy sacks (supermarket own brand are very cheap)
  - Newborn nappies (supermarket own brand are just as good)
  - Sanitary towels (again supermarket own brands will do nicely)
  - Baby blankets
  - Baby vest (newborn)
  - Sleep suits & sleeping bags for newborns
  - Baby clothes (newborn)It would be a great help if the goods could be dropped off either at 9 Winwick Lane (please call 07545 782608 in advance) or to the Epiphany Trust office behind St David's Church, Park Road South, Newton le Willows, WA12 8EY during the week of 22nd August. Happy to receive goods up until 15th September.
- *Lowton Social Club* – Refurbishment of the back room (concert room) has begun with the help of funding from the Councillor's Brighter Borough monies.
- *Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September* – Commemoration Event for WW1 – Free event for local adults. You don't need to be a pensioner. Artist and buffet. Lowton Social Club – start time 1pm.

## **World War One Special**

Wednesday 14Th Sept 2016

Lowton Social Club  
Newton Rd  
Lowton  
WA3 2AQ

Tickets are limited so if you can't attend please pass your ticket on to a pensioner who can.

Thank You

If you already have the tickets so please come otherwise a lot of food will be wasted. Anyone wanting tickets call - Ed Thwaite 07803145805.

- *Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October* – Pensioners’ Party. March tickets valid for this party. To be held at Lowton Social Club – start time 1pm.
- *Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October* – Last Night of the Proms Concert. Tickets will be available at the next LENDF meeting. Concert to be held at Lowton Civic Hall (Rose Centre).

#### **11. Next LENDF Monthly Meeting**

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2016 @ 7.30pm (Lowton Social Club)**

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Should you find any omissions or discrepancies in these minutes please contact me on [lendf99@gmail.com](mailto:lendf99@gmail.com) and let me know as soon as possible and the errors will be rectified.

Irene Thomson – Secretary, LENDF