

Lowton East Neighbourhood Development Forum (LENDF)  
Minutes to the Meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014 at Lowton Social Club.  
<http://www.lendf.co.uk>

- Chairman – Ed Thwaite (Ed T), Secretary – Irene Thomson (IT)
- Cllrs Grundy and Houlton
- Welcome to members, visitors and guests

*Apologies – Ann Lowe, Pat Grundy*

No. of Attendees = 45

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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.

2. **Bank Balance**

Not prepared for display due to lack of time.

3. **Apologies for Email Spam**

The email which was sent out with the Agenda for tonight's meeting appeared to have been hacked and a number of residents reported spam emails coming through. The rule of thumb with anything you receive and don't recognise is 'don't click on it' and delete it straightaway. Keep your anti-virus packages up to date and run a full scan after you receive anything 'unusual'. If anyone needs an additional anti-virus package then please contact Ed T.

4. **Kenyon Airfield**

Many thanks to those who submitted comments to Wigan Council regarding the Planning Application by LAC. We have also received confirmation from a number of large organisations who also have concerns about the application. Thank you also to Mr Ward who submitted a substantial document which contains thorough research and material evidence. The Independent Airfield Watch Group are grateful for the time and effort that residents have shown with regards to this matter.

Cllr Grundy reported that at this moment in time it was unclear whether the application would be going before the Planning Committee.

5. **Diggle Green**

The recent hot weather does not seem to have brought with it any increase in smells from Diggle Green. There has only been the occasional incident and Mr Broster always contacts Ed T with regard to any activity, for example UU were recently working on slurry close to the East Lancs Road.

6. **HS2**

We have been contacted by HS2AA who had been informed by Government that they can not represent community groups. They wanted LENDF to write a letter giving them support, and even though they have been very active in 'creating waves' with HS2 Ed T felt that to tie LENDF with them could cause an issue in future negotiations.

We have also been contacted by Charlotte Bowen who is the HS2 Community and Stakeholder Engagement Advisor. She was part of the HS2 team who gave a presentation at Lowton Social Club following the event at Leigh Sports Village.

Her email requested an opportunity to come to the next LENDF meeting as..... "The new Chairman, Sir David Higgins, launched HS2+ report in March and we would like the

opportunity to talk through that report and what it means to communities along the proposed route and also some of the other work that has been going on since we last met, including analysis of consultation responses.”

All those present at tonight’s meeting agreed to invite her to the August 11th meeting.

## **7. Parkside, Newton le Willows**

Article published in the St Helens Star on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July ....

GEORGE OSBORNE will today announce a £14.4m cash injection to improve public transport connections and car parking rail interchange. The money will be used to create a park and ride facility at Newton rail station – as well as major station improvements. Lifts will be installed to carry passengers from the platforms to the bus station at ground level.

The current programme to electrify the Manchester to Liverpool railway line will cut journey times – and the new bus links will make it easier for people to access the line.”

Please see the website of Our Local Voice for updates of Parkside’s history and current position. [www.ourlocalvoice.co.uk](http://www.ourlocalvoice.co.uk) Peter Astles from OLV was present at tonight’s meeting and predicts that there will be a public consultation this summer with an application being submitted next year.

## **8. Brighter Borough Funding**

- Strimmer to be obtained which can then be used by all community groups.
- The Three Towns Operatic Society - grant issued.
- Cllr Houlton has organised 20 Cherry Trees for Lime Grove (to replace dead ones); 3 Willow trees for boggy land at Winton Lane; and 3 Giant Redwoods near the children’s play park (also Winton Lane). Cllr Houlton is also liaising with the Council for a section of the East Lancs Road to be planted with wildflowers.

## **9. Senior Citizen’s Events**

More events to be planned which will occur monthly. First one in October. Details to be given at next meeting.

## **10. Family Fun Day – August 10th**

OMRA has obtained funding for the Family Fun Day and LENDF will be supporting. Event is to take place at Lowton Social Club with activities inside and on the car park which this year includes a climbing wall from Mountain Monkeys ☺

Volunteers are required to help with the setting up of the marquee (and decamp), assisting with the children’s crafts, and to keep the buckets full of water for the wet sponges to be thrown at whoever is in the stocks! Other activities include bouncy castles, face painting, children’s entertainer, Zumba, dance troupe, and fire engine. Refreshments available from ice cream van, burger van, and of course the Social Club’s bar.

If you wish to volunteer on the day please contact either [omralowton@gmail.com](mailto:omralowton@gmail.com) or [lendf99@gmail.com](mailto:lendf99@gmail.com)

## **11. Last Night of the Proms – October 18th**

Lowton Golborne Newton Choir and Golborne Brass Band are busy rehearsing and the Civic Hall is booked. More details to be given at the next meeting.

## 12. LENDF Environment Group

- Mile/Boundary stones – there are 6 in Lowton and they need a clean and a spruce up with paint. Kath Johnson and Irene Thomson will do this to each one by using guidelines from the Milestone Society [www.milestonesociety.co.uk](http://www.milestonesociety.co.uk) This website contains a database (and map) of all known stones and is actually an interesting read. Irene had noted that they only have 5 for this area - as it seems they do not have the Kenyon Lane one, (also they keep referencing this area as Golborne!)
- LHSRG are organising their first litter pick on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July and LENDF will give them support together with the use of litter pickers, gloves and hi-viz jackets.

## 13. St Catherine's Church

We expect to be able to give further details at next meeting.

## 14. Local Events

- Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July @ 7.30pm - Epiphany Trust Free Summer Concert at Civic Hall, Contact [gill@epiphany.org.uk](mailto:gill@epiphany.org.uk) as Admission is by Ticket.
- Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July - Winwick Carnival, with RAF flyover and Civil War Re-enactment.
- August (date to be confirmed). Richard Ward takes groups on a Battlefield Walk following the conflict which involved Oliver Cromwell at sites between Newton and Winwick. Contact [Our Local Voice](#) for details.



## 15. Any Other Business

- Cllr Houlton reported that off-road motorbikes have been causing concerns to residents as they ride on footpaths. Cllr have organised 'kissing gates' on the path between Maple Ave and Newton Road.
- 'No coldcallers' stickers had been brought to the meeting by the Councillors and were available for anyone who wanted one.
- LHSRG Sub-Group re Winwick Lane Traffic Survey – Dennis Eubank reported that the results were not in yet. Another meeting with Andy Burnham has been requested.

- Civic Hall car park – the fire brigade recently attended a car that was on fire but they had to cut the padlock on the gate to gain access. This means the area is now unsecure but hopefully will be fixed soon. Ed T to contact the owners of Civic Hall to follow this up.
- Lowton J&I School – The Council are going to pay for a ‘barrier/gate’ to the field at the back in order to prevent ‘unauthorised’ access. [Post Meeting Note: These have now been fitted.]
- Prospective purchasers of property in the Lowton and Golborne areas are finding that HS2 shows up on Solicitor’s searches!

#### **16. Next LENDF Monthly Meeting**

Monday August 11<sup>th</sup> 2014 @ 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