

LANE HEAD SOUTH RESIDENTS' GROUP MEETING HELD ON 16TH NOVEMBER 2015

- Chairman – Ann Lowe, Deputy Chairman – Denis Eubank, Secretary – Gill Dickinson, Treasurer – Howard Cooper, Minutes Secretary – Marie Cooper
- Number of attendees 20

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies from Councillor James Grundy, Kathleen & Colin Johnson and Joe Bate had been received. The Chairman then read out a letter from Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham thanking the Group for their donation of £40. Peter Hatfield expressed his sincere thanks to those in the group who had shown him such kindness during his recent illness and enforced stay at the hospital in Birmingham awaiting his heart bypass.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting held on 21st September 2015 had been circulated by email.

MATTERS ARISING:

Proposed Solar Farms: There are two proposals for solar farms, one at Sharpe's farm in Croft which will be dealt with by Warrington Council and is currently in the planning process which should be completed by 27th December. The second is at Dickinson's farm in Lowton which will be dealt with by Wigan Council. A consultation event took place on the 11th November at Lowton Social Club by BELECTRIC and the Adamson family. The Deputy Chairman gave a comprehensive report on the cabling which will run to Golborne Island and the proposed 11000 voltage. The electrical equipment will be sited adjacent to the East Lancs road which will reduce the audible noise from transformers. The site will be enclosed by an 8ft perimeter fence with additional hedges planted to create a screening. Any objections or comments should be sent to LENDF and these will be discussed at their next meeting on 14th December.

It was reported at the meeting that Warrington Council in the past had already refused two such proposals in their area.

UPDATE OF LOCAL ISSUES:

Winwick Lane: Notes of the recent meeting have been sent out to the group. Gill Dickinson gave a resume of the past six meetings which have taken place over the last two years. Currently Warrington Council have received concerns from Croft, Culcheth and Winwick Parish Councillors regarding the use of HGVs on their roads should Winwick Lane be deprived or have a weight restriction imposed on it. Gill has requested a meeting with the Parish Councils and Warrington Council in order that this issue can be fully discussed. With regards to signage and costings this appears to have been resolved with Highways England approving their signage and Wigan approving theirs. Warrington's signage could be covered with Brighter Borough money. Alan Woodcock commented that he felt the Planning Officers should be keeping local people better informed.

Diggle Green: The Chairman has invited Roy Evans to attend our meeting in January, he was unable to attend this meeting. Residents again complained of the size of vehicles going into the farm and also the tractors and trailers which are again speeding and having loads which are not sheeted. This should all be reported to the Police and any smells to the Environment Agency (0800 807060). The Chairman requested that any questions for Roy Evans to answer should be emailed to her.

Kenyon Fruit Farm Roadway: Brian Lobell has written to the Planners but there is an existing access from the Lane to the roadway and it can be used for 28 days a year without having to have planning permission.

HS2: Formal announcements are still awaited and the dates keep being put back. However, the depot which was to be sited at Bamfurlong it is believed, will now be split into two sites, one at Crewe and one at Winsford. A HS2 drop-in session was held recently for those residents who may

be directly affected. The delay of an announcement is having a detrimental effect on those residents wishing to sell their houses.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Treasurer read out the bank balance. All the calendars have been sold and the bank balance is now a bit healthier! More calendars may be ordered.

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

Sunday 6th December at 4.00pm – Carols round the Christmas Tree in Winton Road.

Wednesday 16th December 7.00-8.30pm – Carols at Lowton Independent Methodist Church, Newton Road.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:

Hawthorn Tree Winton Road: The area around the tree and the edging is now much improved and will be planted with winter blooms. A grant has also been received to replace the damaged trees around the play area in Winton Road.

Litter pick: It was decided to leave any litter picks until January.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

101: There is currently a charge of 15p to use the 101 number when reporting incidents to the Police. The Crime Stoppers number (0800555111) is free and if three reports of an incident are received it is acted upon straight away. In an emergency the number is still 999.

Circus: The circus which had been encamped on Grange Farm left a mess on the roads when they left, also grass verges along Stonecross Lane have been damaged with cars parking on them. This was reported to the Council who have been to investigate, they will be writing to the farmer and also requesting that the signs advertising his wares be taken down. There has also been a fire on the farm which has been smouldering for a couple of weeks and this has been reported to the Environment Agency.

Mount Tabor: Kathleen Johnson was unable to attend the meeting but she had remarked to the Chairman that she was very thankful for those who had written in support of the application for Village Green status, she has had 20 responses. Further responses sought.

Hedges: A rota has been put together by Wigan Council and these will be cut regularly. However the Winton Road residents do not wish theirs to be cut, only slightly trimmed.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

Monday 18th January 2016 at 7.30pm in the Red Lion pub.