

Minutes of the Carholme Community Forum held on Tuesday 8th January 2019

In Lincoln City Hall, Committee Room 3 from 5.30pm

Apologies

Jacqueline Mayer – University of Lincoln.

ASB (Graffiti)

This item moved to top of agenda due to Lucinda Preston needing to leave to attend a Council committee meeting.

Lucinda explained to the forum about a spate of graffiti across the ward, hotspots included the West Common, Aldermans Walk, Queen Crescent, Carholme Road and Roseberry Avenue. The “Dobs” tag had been sprayed across signage, electricity boxes, bus shelters, trees and private property. Lucinda Preston and Laura McWilliams had walked around the ward and taken pictures. Lucinda reported to the cleansing department and has been liaising with Steve Bird, Assistant Director Communities and Street Scene. Work has started on cleansing the areas targeted and is on a work programme for removal over the coming weeks.

The forum queried the Council including private properties as part of the clean up work programme and Francesca Bell confirmed on this occasion that the Council will include private property on the cleansing programme.

PCSO Kay Rowntree had investigated and commented that this tag has been seen in other areas of the city and as far as Welton. Lines of enquiry are being followed up. It was recommended that residents report any further graffiti to city councillors.

The forum discussed the idea to have a proactive approach to prevent graffiti in the ward including education within schools, using university channels to encouraging reporting and communications from the City Council.

Gretchen Fixer asked if there was a way to link cleansing with the probation service with community service work parties. Francesca explained that whilst there was no current mechanism for this it could certainly be explored for the future.

David Mitchell enquired that should someone want to clean graffiti from their private property would the city council recommend the best way to do this. Francesca confirmed that you can contact cleansing services and they will advise.

Action: Lucinda Preston/Kay Rowntree/Francesca Bell

Welcome

Robert welcomed Gretchen Fixter from the Lincoln Commons Horse Association to the forum and the forum introduced themselves individually.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on Tuesday 13th November were accepted.

Matters arising from the minutes of previous meeting

Neil Murray reported that he had a promise that a robust bollard will be placed at Hampton Street garage and that the current vacant garage will be allocated to the first person on the waiting list.

In terms of the latest on the flooding in Carholme Road, Robert Parker explained that a press release has not yet been released and this was due to the legal notice in place by Anglican Water. The legal notice runs out next week Robert and Rev. Julie Wearing will chase and organise a meeting with Anglican Water.

George Woolfenden and Rev Julie voiced concerns that the flooding is now reaching further up Carhome Road and is worse when raining, taking 24 to 48 hours to clear. There were worries brought up about the ice this will create on a busy road as the weather gets colder.

Action: Robert Parker/ Rev. Julie Wearing

Francesca updated on ASB issues with work soon to begin on plans for this year's fresher fortnight.

Francesca confirmed to the forum as discussed at the last meeting that the leaflet around drug issues "Spice Advice" has been produced and is awaiting sign off. This will be available on both printed and digital format. She could not yet confirm how these will be distributed, suggesting public places such as local business and shared via social media. Grace Corn offered to organise giving out on Campus and the forum asked for all members to receive via PDF to distribute to their associations and bodies accordingly.

Action: Francesca Bell

Robert followed up on the Highways' discussion from the previous forum meeting and was pleased to confirm that the Carholme Road closure would not be going ahead. Robert will investigate an update regarding the works and lane closures on Newland.

Action: Robert Parker

Neil gave an update on the building works at Alexandra Terrace. The new wall of concrete will keep the hill up which can then be built on. Once the building of the houses is complete then Lincolnshire County Council can replace the sunken pavement. This method of building has been agreed with the City Council Planning Department. Neil shared that the same developer now owns the entire site and we can be assured that means that a method that works will take place across the whole site. Robert voiced concerns that the actual building work will take some time and will enquire if any work to the pavement can take place before all building work is completed. He will circulate what the Highways department say about this.

Action: Robert Parker

Robert shared Lucinda's update on the dog fouling within the ward. She has requested more stickers to display where the problems have been identified. With budgets tight, she suggested a social media campaign to proactively campaign and highlight the issue. It was questioned if dog waste is ok to go into general waste bins and Francesca confirmed that it is.

All the ward councillors had met with Grace Corn to discuss the campaign group within the University around street lighting and safety at night. Grace and Jane Kilby have met with the police and had a positive response, will be meeting with the Deputy Chief Constable next for further discussions. Robert asked if the Carholme Community Forum would endorse the campaign and this was agreed.

Action: Grace Corn

The Commons Advisory panel had a lively meeting and agreed on the new signage for the common, making it clear that cycling is allowed and dogs to be kept controlled during bird season. Also benches to be put in the common to enable visitors to have somewhere to sit.

Neil explained that due to issues with non-residents leaving their cars parked all day in Derek Miller Court, with some car users being abusive to residents when queried, the car park would be residents only and will be patrolled. A bike store is being erected and due to ASB around the back of the court security is being improved.

Long Leys issues

In terms of the SIDs, the devices have been purchased and LCC need to just audit the lampposts to check they are compatible. Once this has been carried out then the device can be put up with the first location being on Long Leys Road. Jon Davies explained that as well as flashing up the speed to motorists you can obtain a lot of statistics from a SID, including the numbers of speeding cars.

The Neighbourhood Plan is now a registered forum with the first meeting this week. The Neighbourhood Plan can apply for grants up to 20k. A community consultation will start in May. Jon has spoken to other areas with existing neighbourhood plans in place in Hykeham, Saxilby and Nettleham. Advice given was to have a plan for housing where you can influence when, where and how. The plan is to contact land owners in the area and enquire what they would like to do with the land as an input.

St. George's hospital did not get funding for moving two hospital wards to the site. The future seems to be a smaller scale plan. LLRA suggestion was the front wall with the post box facing out to Long Leys Road and Gervas house to be retained.

Ten bollards have been installed at the hospital entrance on Benbow Way. These can be lifted from the ground then secured. The hospital is ensuring all users of this road are fully aware before the bollards are used.

Jon enquired about winter path cleaning on the common and Neil will look into this. The LLRA requested that the West Common path between Long Leys Road and West Parade is swept clear of debris at least monthly during the January to March period.

The issue of tents on the common was also raised through local forums and what should the community do about it. Kay commented she was aware of the owner of the tent who was currently residing in the YMCA due to SWEP. However, this is only a measure during the cold weather. There are a few spots across the common with discarded items and rubbish. Neil will chase up to get this completed and it should be communicated to residents to not attempt to clean up themselves due to risk of needles.

Action: Neil Murray

Highways (County)

Robert explained to forum that consultation for the Lincoln Transport Plan started yesterday. The Plans are mapped out every 15 years, with the last plan instrumental for the Eastern bypass. This time the plan will look to the southern bypass (Hykeham/Bracebridge). The plan sets the frame work not only for car and road use but bus services, train networks and mobile shift. There will be eight public meetings where residents can drop in and ask questions. Two of which will take place at Ruddock's on the High Street. Robert will send out further information on this and suggested we work as a forum on submissions. It was agreed that local associations and groups can bring their submissions to a special forum meeting that will take place on Monday 25th February 5.30pm. If Associations can plan to meet before then and submit their submissions by Monday 18th February.

Action: Forum Associations/Robert Parker

Policing

Kay was pleased to report that overall crime was down within the ward. Three burglaries, a few bike thefts and then the graffiti mentioned. Kay went on to share the Mini Police scheme with the forum. 119 schools across the county are signed up including St. Faiths and St. Martins. Pupils vote in ten Mini Police representatives across years 5 and 6. They then set a priority for each term. There are five local and five national areas such as anti-bullying, speeding, parking at schools and random acts of kindness. The scheme gets pupils community orientated and having the children out on a speed patrol gives drivers something to think about when a child explains the possible impact of their speed.

The Carholme Neighbourhood policing team are now working out of city hall.

David raised with Kay that he had spotted and removed anti-Jewish stickers from areas such as the bus timetable opposite the chip shop on Carholme Road. Kay asked for people to report if they see any further stickers in the ward.

Parking on the pavement on Depot Street has also been raised and will be investigated.

Action: Robert Parker

Community issues

Sandra asked if motorbikes need permits to park in resident parking spaces. Neil will follow up on this.

There is no update in regard to the flat site on West Parade as there are now new owners.

Sandra asked if the dentist on the Avenue had planning for works and Neil confirmed that it did not.

Sandra also brought up the blue lighting on the exterior of all Bond letting properties. Many residents have commented on the garish look and wondered if anything could be done about it. Neil will see what he can find out.

Action: Neil Murray

Neil confirmed the closing date for the parking survey was the end of this month.

David enquired that if a property without a HMO licence doesn't sell in a year can they then apply for one. Neil assured this was not the case and the Council are wise to the idea of people over valuing properties so they don't sell as a way around Article 4.

Francesca showed the leaflet that her team had delivered that has reminder of bin collection dates, what can go in which bin and a reminder of when a bin should be taken back in again.

Rev. Julie mentioned the large numbers of "choose me" to let signs in the area. The City Council is still awaiting sign from the Secretary of State before they can go ahead on the plans to tackle this.

Robert will circulate an email to Gala committee members to canvass for a dates for the next meeting.

Action: Robert Parker

Sandra informed the forum that the York Avenue sign was still missing and this is causing issues and danger with vehicles driving the wrong way. Kay shared that if you can take down a registration plate of cars driving the wrong way and report this to the local police team a letter will be sent out as a warning.

Work has been done on the Brayford for points for the swans to use to get in and out.

AOB

George asked if there was any way for those forum members who use the car park to get a permit for meetings. Neil will report back on this.

Action: Neil Murray

Alison Griffiths shared details for the open meeting for Liquorice Park's new management plan, Monday 21st January, 7.30 pm at the Joiners Arms.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 19th February.

Transport Plan forum meeting: Monday 25th February.

Carholme Community Forum, Tuesday 8th January 2019

Present:

George Woolfenden	WERA/Open Spaces
David Mitchell	WERA
Sandra Lewis	WERA
Gretchen Fixter	Lincoln Commons Horse Association
Alison Griffiths	Liquorice Park
Rev Julie Wearing	St. Faith's Church
Gary Stimson	LLRA
Jon Davies	LLRA
Jane Kilby	UoL Students Union
Grace Corn	UoL Students Union
Francesca Bell	Lincoln City Council
Kay Rowntree	Lincolnshire Police
Neil Murray	City Councillor
Laura McWilliams	City Councillor
Robert Parker	County Councillor/Chair
Lucinda Preston	City Councillor (part of meeting)