

Minutes of the Carholme Community Forum held on Tuesday 26th March 2019

in Lincoln City Hall, Committee Room 2 from 5.30 pm

Apologies

Apologies had been received from Neil Murray, Laura McWilliams, Gary Stimson, Alison Griffiths, Grace Corn, Julie Wearing and Heather Woodlock.

Jackie Ward from LLRA was attending in Gary's place.

Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

At the last meeting, the Forum had heard from Mike Reed of Lincolnshire County Council and Matt Moore of Anglian Water regarding the Carholme flooding and the work being done to remedy the problem.

Robert Parker reported that he had been down to Roman Wharf and couldn't see that any work had been done. He had e-mailed Mike Reed to ask for information but had not yet heard back.

Action: Rob Parker

A leaflet was being produced around drug issues. Francesca Bell had requested an update from Lincolnshire County Council but she said it had "gone quiet" and she hadn't heard anything back. She would continue to look into this.

Action: Francesca Bell

There was further discussion around the lane closures around Newland. Sandra Lewis expressed the feelings of many Forum members when she said that she felt that it was a disgrace. George Woolfenden discussed how difficult it was to cross the road in that area. Jon Davies expressed the view that the Highways department doesn't always fully consider the needs of pedestrians and disabled people. Robert commented that re-opening the right turn at the Newland traffic lights might alleviate the traffic problem. Kay Rowntree suggested that different traffic phasing might help and Robert asked that she sent that suggestion to him. Susie Parry asked when the work was estimated to finish: Rob said it was meant to be completed in June. Sandra asked if the contractors could be fined past the end date but Robert said they couldn't. Robert said he would invite Mike Reed back to the next meeting to discuss the situation.

Action: Kay Rowntree and Rob Parker

Rob informed the Forum that the request to do something about parking on Depot Street was 'in the system' but was not a high priority for the County Council. He would speak with Mike Reed about it and it could be discussed if Mike was able to come to the next meeting.

Action: Rob Parker

Rob had asked at the Council how many tickets had been given to motorcycles. He was awaiting a reply and would report back at the next meeting.

Action: Rob Parker

Neil Murray was not able to report back on the exteriors of the Bond lettings as he was away but hopefully he would be able to give a reply for the next meeting.

Action: Neil Murray

Sandra asked when exactly the 'To Let' sign ban would come into effect. Lucinda Preston explained that she'd not been able to ask Neil due to him being away. She would ask him on his return.

Action: Lucinda Preston/Neil Murray

David Mitchell had previously expressed concern about the fading box marking at the junction of West Parade/The Avenue. Robert fed back to the Forum that the request was 'in the system' and to expect a timescale of two months from when it was reported (a month ago) in terms of expectations of the work being carried out. Robert would ask the County Council whether the markings were mandatory.

Action: Rob Parker

Jacqueline Mayer had emailed Lucinda about the university's actions regarding encouraging student voter registration. JIS gave advice to HEIS on this issue. She noted that the Office for Students requires universities to facilitate student registration.

Highways

There is an issue with water flowing down Long Leys Road, near Travis Perkins. Kay noted that Anglian Water kept coming and digging up the road and then coming back again. . . . Jon commented that it did keep being reported but then the problem seemed to reappear. Robert said he would speak to Highways about it so they could contact Anglian Water about it.

Action: Rob Parker

Gretchen Fixter discussed the traffic problem at the bottom of Upper Long Leys Road, where logjams seem to occur. She asked if there could be two lanes. Rob said he would approach Highways about the issue.

Action: Rob Parker

Jon asked about the notes from the Forum's Lincoln Transport Plan meeting. Rob said he had sent our submission in. Lucinda would re-circulate the Long Leys contribution to the Forum meeting and Rob would circulate the Forum's contribution.

Action: Lucinda Preston and Rob Parker

Long Leys

Jon thanked the City Council for cleaning off the graffiti near Long Leys. Lucinda talked about the problems around graffiti removal and said she would continue to chase the council on this issue.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Jon noted that there is still a man living in a tent on the West Common. Kay reported that the man is being supported by P3 and other organisations. He keeps his tent clean and gets showers at friends' houses. The problem is not that he is refusing help but that he can't rent his own home as he is not entitled to benefits. There was some discussion about the need to be compassionate whilst protecting the Common (there is a by-law preventing camping on the Common and the danger is that more people will seek to camp on the Common). Jon also highlighted rubbish near the man's tent. Kay replied that the rubbish does not belong to the man. The Council doesn't take the rubbish away and it doesn't want to disturb the man's tent. Lucinda said she would e-mail the council regarding both the man's tent and the rubbish issue. She said she would contact Steve Bird.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Jon reported that the SID is up and running; he is already receiving interesting data from it showing some vehicles speeding. Jon agreed to bring some data to the next meeting.

Action: Jon Davies

Policing

Kay explained that Pete Davies was off after having an operation and that Mark Wrigley covers two areas so she had a lot more of the Carholme work herself.

She reported that there had been three burglaries since the last meeting, all of them from student properties. A thief had been caught trying to take the stolen goods into Cash Converters. She also said that some cycles had been stolen.

There had been reports of young men riding around on quad bikes.

Kay thanked the university and the PPASB team for their work in tackling student noise. Jacqueline reiterated the importance of residents reporting noise. She said that the university kept working on refining the process for dealing with student noise. She was going to be meeting with Francesca's team again in a few weeks time. She informed the Forum about the new residential wardens that would be in university accommodation, partly to help first year students prepare for moving into the community. The university works closely with the SU.

Sandra commented that the noise problems have reduced and the situation has been much better this year. David mentioned a recent problem but that overall the situation was better. George said that Carholme Road is better than it was.

Lucinda asked Kay if she knew of whether anyone had been charged in relation to the shop robberies the previous month. Kay said she would look into this and e-mail Lucinda back.

David asked about the windows smashed in the city centre. Although this is not strictly a Carholme issue, Kay discussed the measures being taken to combat this sort of criminal behaviour such as the CCTV monitors and the extra patrols at the weekend. The city centre intervention team is supporting. Susie mentioned that a brick had been thrown at Derek Miller Court. Kay said she would look into this.

Action: Kay Rowntree

ASB

It was agreed that this subject had been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

Community issues

Rob reported that the West End Play Park would be re-opening on the morning of Sunday 28th April. He thanked everyone who had helped make this happen. There would be a plaque with details of the sponsors on. Lucinda commented on just how much hard work had gone into renovating the park by all the people involved.

Jane discussed the Make a Difference Week that the Student Union had co-ordinated. Students had taken part in two projects in Carholme: working in Liquorice Park and helping with the litter. Lucinda noted how hard the students had worked on the litter pick and how well they worked alongside residents.

There was a reminder about the Gala in September. Sandra asked George about hard hats for children riding the ponies. Gretchen noted that children under 12 must wear hard hats. She said that cycling helmets did not necessarily meet the same regulations but that she would find out for certain. She said that student could not wear protective head coverings under the hats as it would mean that the hats wouldn't fit properly.

There was a discussion about asking different religious communities if they would like to come to the Gala. Sandra said she had asked a representative of the mosque several times. Jacqueline said she would approach the chaplains and faith advisors at the university. Rob noted that the scouts would be involved with the gala again.

Sandra said that the Big Lunch would be taking place again this summer. There was no date for the calendar yet but she would let the Forum know.

Action: Gretchen Fixter/Sandra Lewis

Street Scene

Sandra said that the streets were looking good: a warden had reported that she hadn't had to help take any bins in! There had been another meeting at the university about end of academic year rubbish.

Lucinda had discussed painting the electric boxes as had been done in other parts of the city and would investigate this. She would like to see the university involved. Sandra had suggested a hanging basket competition as Highways did not want baskets strung from lamp posts. Sandra said there was a small amount of money available for prizes.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Jane noted that there was going to be a big car boot-style sale at the university which members of the public could go to, as well as students.

Any Other Business

Jon asked about the city planners co-ordinating their work with the neighbourhood plans. Lucinda suggested he e-mailed the councillors details and said she and other councillors would be happy to take it up.

Action: Jon Davies

David asked about two hour parking bays and drivers overstaying their time in them. Rob said he would speak to Highways about this.

Action: Rob Parker

David thanked Lucinda for sharing details of the climate change talk and Lucinda in turn thanked Grace, in her absence, for sharing it with her. Alison had thanked the students for their help in Liquorice Park.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 7th May at 5.30 pm.

Kay sent her apologies for that meeting.

Carholme Community Forum, Tuesday 19th February 2019

Present:

Sandra Lewis	WERA
David Mitchell	WERA/Small Business Action Group
George Woolfenden	WERA/Open Spaces
Jon Davies	LLRA
Jackie Ward	LLRA
Kay Rowntree	Lincolnshire Police
Jacqueline Mayer	University of Lincoln
Jane Kilby	UoL Students Union
Gretchen Fixter	Lincoln Commons Horse Association
Susie Parry	Derek Miller Court
Francesca Bell	Lincoln City Council
Rob Parker	County Councillor/Chair
Lucinda Preston	City Councillor/Secretary