



**Minutes of the General Meeting
held at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 13th 2017**

Attendees: David Landau, Chairman
Fiona Morton, Treasurer
Kevin Poulton Media & Marketing Officer (Minute taker)
David Alexander
Trica Smyth
Robert McClennon
Zoe Moran
Nick Berg
Jeremy Williams
Pete Savage
Chris Grabham

1) Apologies: Lyn Bliss (Secretary), Andrew Malcolm, Maahwish Mirza, Maureen Allen, Kim Greig, John Wright, Russell Cartwright.

2) Minutes of the last meeting: No corrections or issued raised, minutes signed off.

3) Matters Arising

a) Treasurers Annual Report. Not presented at this meeting.

b) Conservation Area

- i) **Satellite Dishes.** LBC Enforcement action has been started against 5 Properties in High Town Rd (1,7,19,33,41). **(RC)** to continue to monitor.
- ii) **94-96 High Town.** Response has been received; however it is felt to be inadequate. Agreed to press for procedure change for notification of any change (however minor), for properties within a conservation zone, to be as extensive as original posting. **(DL)**

Conversation regarding change to Chicken Shop near to school was raised, with a notice a historical undertaking by LBC at the Clinical Commissioning Group to prevent being raised. Agreed to challenge CCG and clarify position. **(RM)**

c) Hatton Place, Understanding the legal minimum space requirements is still ongoing. However DL did highlight that planning applications in High Town had been rejected for not providing enough space recently. Agreed to remain an ongoing item **(DL)**



- d) **Red Phone Box.** Process for adoption has been researched; a Consultation Poll has been started on the FoHT Website, with full project plans and costing to be presented at a later meeting. It was agreed this project would be transferred to the High Town Team **(KP)**
- e) **TV Repair Shop.** Attempt to handover cheque failed due to non-attendance at pre-arranged meeting. **(DL)** to continue to resolve. The importance of listing of the business in “HighTownLuton” website was also raised.
- f) **Peoples Park**
- i) **Missing Benches,** Unable to confirm if these have now been replaced, as still missing on 18th May despite assurance they would be in place for Green Flag visit. **(DL)**
- ii) **Toilets in Bell Close** being closed, feedback from LBC stated this was due to drug paraphilia being found by cleaning staff. Ideas for how this could be resolved included
- (1) A Pay to enter turnstile.
 - (2) Replacement with a Pod Style facility closer to Rd
 - (3) Attachment of some commercial type building (Café) to enable their control
- (DL)** to collect views and make representation to LBC on the importance of these facilities.
- iii) **Tree Replacement,**
- (1) After FoHT Meeting sentiments were expressed, LBC are no longer considering cutting down Trees in the Peace Garden.
 - (2) We have been made aware of the possibility of a grant being available to plant trees from Greggs the Bakers foundation.
- Jane Maddock from LBC has been highlighted as someone that may provide assistance with the application.
- (DL)** to forward details onto **(JW)**, who will determine if he can make an application by the deadline of 24th June.
- (KP)** to forward copies of any FoHT policies he has to **(JW)**
- (DL)** to forward examples of previous Applications to **(JW)**



4) Group Feedback

a) High Town Improvement Action Group Feedback.

- i) Reported that the 1st section of the meeting concentrated on Organisational elements for Clean-up day on June 17th
- ii) Movement of July Clean-up day to Sunday 30th July.
- iii) Went through selected matters arising including Neighbourhood Watch Details, extra communal bins within the Paths Estate, creation of HTIAG group email address, and the removal of phone box in Edward St within the next 12 months.
- iv) The community bins and fly tipping around them in the car park on Concorde Street was raised as an issue to present at the next HTIAG Meeting **(KP)**

b) High Town Voice Feedback.

- i) Formal acknowledgement and thanks to Lyn Bliss for initiation and driving of this group over the past 12 Months, who has announced she is stepping down as Chair.
- ii) Kevin Poulton to assume the duty going forward.
- iii) Encouraging seeing so many different organisations represented.
- iv) Creation of a Networking event pre the meeting to be trialled at the next meeting.
- v) Feedback on items including the community centre activities (Badminton Club, Table Tennis Club, Youth Group), the Football Team.

5) High Town Festival General Meeting Feedback

- i) Stall up take looked promising
- ii) Main stage is covered this year
- iii) Issue around the provider of Food Trucks pulling out at Short Notice, DL invites anyone with contact details of potential providers that may be able to help to get in touch.
- iv) Next year's event will need to raise in excess of £2,000 in sponsorship money from external sources
- v) It is hoped OxJam will help source musical acts for next year's festival.
- vi) **(DL)** to deliver fliers to **(PS)** for the communal noticeboards in his block



6) AOB

KP Informed the meeting that the FOHT.co.uk domain name now points towards Friendsofhightown.Org, effectively removing the old website.

7) Notices & Information Exchange

It was felt that both the Clean-up day and the High Town Festival had been covered sufficiently within previous agenda items.

8) Date of Next Meeting was confirmed as :

Tuesday 11th July, commencing at 7PM

The Chair thanked everybody for their attendance and closed the meeting.