



Minutes – HTIAG

5th October 2017, 9 am

Hightown Community Sports & Arts Centre

1. Attendees, Kevin Poulton, Maureen Allen, Kim Greig, James Hardiman (LBC Enforcement Officer), Pete Savage, Cllr Andy Malcolm, Gill Berg, PCSO Duane Atkins, David Landau (for part of the meeting). We were also joined by two PC's for part of the meeting.

Apologies received from Lyn Bliss, and Philippa Collier

4. Matters arising from the previous meeting:

- a. James had raised both issues (faded T-bar to prevent parking and the activities of the record producers including emissions) with the relevant departments within LBC, he will chase if no feedback within the next month. **(JH)**

- b. The Paths Estate – (Philippa had provided a written update, and asked we raise some questions)

- i. *I am awaiting Andrew Campion (interim project manager) to come back to me with a 2nd meeting date. His latest communication of 12th Sept “There is an officers meeting scheduled for the 22nd September, after which I plan to arrange the promised follow up meeting for the residents to pick up the points raised at our last meeting, including the fencing.”*

*I intend to investigate Right To Information resources to establish how much funding has been allocated to The Paths Regeneration Project. I have yet to do this. **If anyone has done this previously for council projects I would appreciate any advice/guidance.***

- ii. The group were informed that drop bollards had been installed in front of garages ~ **Success**

- iii. 51 Berkeley Path

There are rumours circulating around the residents of the Paths that the tenants who were evicted during the Property Closure Order recently will be permitted to return after a few months. I would be very interested to know whether this is true. Also interested to know how long the property has to be boarded up for before it is cleaned and issued to (hopefully) new, respectable tenants. The property on Albion Court (Number 7?) that was



closed months ago is still boarded up. Seems like a huge waste of property resource.

Group informed permanent eviction process had been commenced on the current tenants and it is was hoped this would be completed before the temporary order expired.

(7?) Albion Court , would be investigated as to why this was still boarded up and unused. **(AM)**

Group informed that a suspected vulnerable adult on the paths, had been checked at multiple times to ensure they were not being coerced into their property being used for illegal activity.

Discussion around Operation Sentinel and how with the introduction of fencing in the paths had encouraged an increase in prostitution, particularly in the day. **(PC & PCSO to report this back)**

Gill informed the group that the new service for Drug & Alcohol, was based out of Liverpool St doctors surgery and was called resolutions.

c. Edward Street -

i. Anti-Social Behaviour

Maureen raised the issue of an attempted break-in next door, and the perceived lack of police response, this lead to a discussion on police numbers; the group were informed that only 12 officers cover the three major towns in Bedfordshire at peak times. Incorporating the agenda item around Call response stats, Andy Malcolm suggested that this may be more effective taken up at a Council level. **(AM)**

Group informed that the police had been pro-active in shutting down a suspected drugs den that had started to establish itself in old garage on Midland Rd.

Maureen thanked the police for their efforts in moving on drinkers in the town centre, when TV cameras were present, helping to portray a better image of Luton in the media.

d. Moulton Court / Crescent Rise.

The issue of plants overhanging from Affinity Water, had been looked at by Highways team, but doesn't currently meet the criteria for action. Pete advised to keep monitoring and reporting the issue. **(PS)**



f. Gardening project,

The suspected theft of plants from community garden is currently still with the LBC HR Team.

14th October for next community gardening day at Burr St Car park.

g. Height of plants at junctions –

Burr St junction have now been cut down, however Kingston Rd / High Town Rd Junction remain an issue. **(AM / KP)**

David joined the meeting at this point.

5. Outstanding issues reported to Enforcement Team.

No actions that had already been reported, need to raised

James was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting at this point

New issues

No 22 Edward St, Sewage Pipe

Kim raised the issue of Sewage overflow finding its way onto the road from this property, Kim advised by David that it was his understanding Thames Water were responsible for Sewage and Grey Water pipes under these properties. **(KG)** to contact Thames Water and LBC.

David raised a Fridge in front garden of property on corner of Edward St & Kingston Rd, the fridge had been there for numerous months.

6. Items from FoHT

Traffic / Parking on Kingston Rd & Ridgeway.

Discussion of the problem was discussed; it was confirmed that neither PCSO or Neighbourhoods Enforcement Officers had the power to ticket cars.

Question around the provision of Yellow lines was raised. Andy agreed to also follow up. **(AM)**

Andy Malcolm left the meeting at this point.

The PC's and PCSO were thanked for their attendance and left the meeting at this point.



7. October 7th Clean-up day

Kevin informed the group over 900 flyers had been distributed, Diverse FM , Inspire FM & BBC 3 counties had plugged the event. Inspire FM may send a reporter down on the day. The event was also on the Luton council homepage. A wide range of community groups had been contacted. It was hoped to achieve a turn out of around 25-30 volunteers.

Details around the organisation of the day were agreed.

Andy Malcolm rejoined the meeting at this point.

8. AOB

- a. Kevin asked if the schedule for maintenance of the drains could be requested, a he had witnessed a number of blocked drains on High Town road, and was concerned with winter coming **(AM)**

Date and time of next meeting:- 2nd November, 9 am