



Minutes – HTIAG

3RD AUGUST 2017, 9 am

1. Cllr Andy Malcolm, Lyn Bliss (Facilitator), Kevin Poulton (Note Taker), Pete Savage, Philippa Collier, Kim Grieg, Maureen Allen, Kate Donnellan (LBC Neighbourhood Enforcement Team)
 2. Agenda additions/order/timing
 - a. Proposal for aspiration on procedure for minutes accepted (document attached)
 - b. Confirmation the person doing minutes will also produce draft agenda
 - c. Paths Estate Regeneration to discussed under 3B
 3. Matters arising from the previous meeting:
 - a. An email to Emma sending out an invite to this group to her known Neighbourhood Local contacts will satisfy this matter arising **(KP)**
 - b. **The Paths Estate** – litter problem has improved general with extra bins, however the contractors are now generating extra litter, in the forms of netting, polythene sheets etc. Philippa to raise with Andrew Campion **(PC)**

A lot of concern around the regeneration project in the Paths Estate was expressed, a few major points of concern include:

 - Works are significantly different to plans that were consulted on.
 - Quality of materials used, especially in Lighting, Turf.
 - The use of wood that will not be easy to maintain, and may have short life.
 - Weeds that have replaced grass along fencing
 - A question was raised if Land Registry had been notified, as property boundaries are being altered in various locations.
 - Philippa had distributed a form to other residents to garner views, on the strength of the feedback (10 forms returned), a community meeting has been arranged on 7th August with the project co-ordinator Andrew Campion. Philippa to report back to this group. **(PC)**
- Success!** The creation of an anti-social space, with the new fencing to the bin store, is reported as being corrected, this needs to be verified. **(AM)**
- c. **TV shop update** , pressure continues to be exerted for building work to commence to restore the property, and to bring the temporary fencing closer to the boundaries of the property. The design for Wellbeck Square has been updated and re-issued, with Andy Malcolm, hoping to get a schedule for starting work in the near future. The revised plan was shown to the group.



d. Edward Street

i. Community litter bins in Edward Street –

Andy had received confirmation a new bin had been delivered. The group felt maybe some confusion, and they were seeking a permanent fixed, black public bin. Maureen to check that a new bin hasn't been installed and report back to Andy Malcolm **(MA/AM)**

ii. Removal of the phone box in Edward Street -

Maureen had been in contact with BT and been told this wouldn't be considered for removal even if the Police backed her request. Maureen to send email BT Chairman. **(MA)**

Success! Pete reported the telephone box on Moulton Rise has been removed.

iii. Edward Street – a new agent has taken over the property. There are however a number still a large number of incidents being caused by a few properties. Recently two issues of significance

- a.** 26th July, Number 7, required an Armed Police response with a large collection of knives being confiscated
- b.** 24th July, Kicking of black bin disturbing sleep, when challenged verbal abuse.
- c.** Fight breaking out.
- d.** It was also recorded RSPCA were contacted regards flat full of Cats, being kept in unsatisfactory conditions.

Kate has taken note and will pass onto the Enforcement Team to monitor.
(KD)

A discussion around the lack of response on 999 calls and how this compared to the countries statistics was raised, suggested a FOI request
(AM)

**e. Hinged bollards to prevent parking in front of garages in Paths Estate, it was thought this may form part of re-generation plan. Philippa to raise with Andrew Campion
(PC)**

f. Street cleaning

- i.** Laura Church had recently done a walk around, her report will be combined with Andy's, for action plan going forward. Andy did point out the Street Cleaning team has seen a reduction in number.



- ii. Suggested the cleaning operatives were aware when their work was due to be inspected, and some spot / random checking may be beneficial.

g. Lack of response from the enforcement team –

The group welcomed the representative from the Neighbourhood Enforcement Team and the commitment made going forward.

Agreed this item would be changed to Outstanding Issues reported to Enforcement requiring response, and become a standing item on the Agenda.

h. Gardening project –

The group was saddened to learn the raised community bed, adjacent to NOAH, had plants stolen, and that when these were replaced, they were taken again. A discussion around a possible perpetrator, that had been reported to the police, and follow up with their employer (LBC) pursued. Agreed that Philippa and Kim would email summary of details to Andy **(PC/KG/AM)**

4. Report back on Clean-up day – July 30th

Felt the event had been a success, with involvement of new community groups, particularly the inclusion of the Hindu Temple and individuals not seen before. The contribution of Signposts was highlighted as a particular positive. The group felt the time after the event during refreshment helped form community cohesion.

The turnout from leafletting it was felt was poor, and that members from previous clean-ups were also low. Some of this may have been explained by the timing of the event.

5. More community days.

7th October was agreed as the next date for Clean-up day.

Two possible locations for venue were proposed, the 7th Day Adventist Church on North Street and Signposts premises on Old Bedford Road. Kevin agreed to approach to confirm **(KP)**

Old Bedford Road (up to Stockingstone Rd) and roads off it confirmed as area to be cleaned.

Suggested more Brooms and dustpan and brushes would be beneficial, and that a deeper clean / community activity to leave a more lasting result be considered for future events.



6. New Items / AOB

- a. Flag in People's Park, now missing, possibly been removed due to fault. Andy to chase **(AM)**
- b. A post box had been knocked down, but had now been corrected
- c. Rough Sleeper in People's Park, advised by Andy to contact Streetlink on 0300 500 0914 to report any rough sleepers. (All)
- d. The good work and approach of Highways team, who were cutting back some overhanging bushes themselves to deal with a problem quickly was given.
- e. The number of beggars in the Town Centre, Maureen reported being asked for money 5 times in the span of a few hours. Discussion around people being shipped in from other locations (especially London), due to difference in housing costs, resulted in individuals with greater needs being passed onto Luton. Kate to report Maureen's experience back to enforcement team. **(KD)**
- f. Height of plants at junctions was raised, details of locations to be sent to Andy **(KP)**

Date & Time of Next Meeting confirmed as

7th September, 9 am

Andy Malcolm and Lyn Bliss have given prior notice that they are unable to attend.