



## Minutes – HTIAG

7th September 2017, 9 am

### Hightown Community Sports & Arts Centre

1. Attendees, Kevin Poulton, Maureen Allen, Kim Greig, James Hardiman (LBC Enforcement Officer), Ian MacBeveridge, Dave Brown, Gill Berg

Apologies received from Cllr Andy Malcolm, Lyn Bliss, Pete Savage and Philippa Collier

The meeting started with general introductions and James giving an over view of his role and area covered, which encompasses all of the High Town ward, plus Colin Rd, Talbot Street, a small part of Hart Hill area in Round Green.

4. Matters arising from the previous meeting:
  - a. A notice of the meeting had been circulated twice in the previous month by Emma Colougrough to the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, for them to pass onto local contacts. It was agreed that this is as far as we can go, and this closes this agenda item.
  - b. The Paths Estate –
    - i. 51 Berkeley Path

Maureen communicated a summary of Philippa Collier's email, around activities of 51 Berkeley Path, and how it was making residents feel unsafe. It was highlighted that it appears the police were already aware of issues and were gaining intelligence.

James talked through the process of the likely scenario and stressed that it could be a lengthy process, and one of the things he stressed was watching for where the activities relocated to, which could just as easily be a building close by as out of the area.

The question around CCTV movement and recording was again raised, KP agreed to contact LBC CCTV Control room using a number provided by Kim.  
**(KP)**



c. Edward Street -

i. Community litter bins in Edward Street ~ **SUCCESS!!**

Maureen has received emails thanking her for getting the bin installed.

ii. Removal of the phone box in Edward Street – **SUCCESS!!**

Maureen had written to Chief Executive of BT to inform them they were aiding illegal activity. Phone box has now been removed; this has all been achieved within a month, despite the usual waiting time of 12 months.

iii. Anti-Social Behaviour

There have been no further incidents this month, but many of the underlying issues, such as HMO's are still there. Gill raised the tactic of commenting on social media adverts for property in High Town from estate agents such as HAART, around "Buy to Let" to discourage HMO's. It was agreed to keep monitoring the situation in the street. **(MA / KG)**

d. Beds Police 999 Call response stats –

No FOI request has yet been made, KP noted his research suggested that as recently as 2014 Bedfordshire Police were not holding this data and had been unable to complete an FOI request on this topic. **(AM)**

e. Gardening project,

Kim informed the group, that the police had closed the case with no apparent investigation due to it not being a sufficient priority. The LBC internal enquiry as far as she was aware was still underway. She did note that the individual concerned was not from the local community, and she felt as a whole the High Town community had responded very positively to the project and respected the work undertaken.

Kim went onto to explain that grant money to continue the gardening project had been secured, and that work on the other raised planters in the Burr St car park had started, which would include the planting of a number of fruit trees.

Kim informed the group a community event for the Peace Garden was taking place on 16<sup>th</sup> September.

f. Missing Green Flag –

This has now been replaced with a flag representing the new award.



g. Height of plants at junctions –

KP reported that the planters around the school had been cut down, but others within the ward remained an issue. Particularly Kingston Rd / High Town Rd Junction, and Maureen raised the issue of the height of plants on the Junction Burr Street / High Town Rd. **(KP / MA)**

5. Outstanding issues reported to Enforcement Team.

Moulton Court / Crescent Rise.

Kevin Poulton passed on Pete Savages thanks for his efforts. The issue with regards to leaves and overhanging plants from Affinity Water has been passed to Highways and is still awaiting a response.

6. Items from FoHT

a. Kingham Way

Two issues were raised, the faded T-bar to prevent parking and the activities of the record producers including emissions. Whilst both were outside of James direct area of influence, he committed to have a look and report his finding to the correct departments within LBC. **(JH)**

7. October 7<sup>th</sup> Clean-up day

- a. The venue for next event confirmed as 106 Old Bedford Rd, Luton. Signposts HQ
- b. It was felt that a separate meeting to discuss Door Knocking / and organisation of the day should be arranged. It was agreed that **6.30pm on the 12<sup>th</sup> September** would be a good time before the FoHT Meeting. Kevin and Kim expressed the view we needed to encourage a wider selection of FoHT to be involved as a lot of the activities were falling upon the same members time and time again. **(ALL)**

Maureen suggested the Neighbourhood Agreement is something we could look at again in the future.

- c. Kevin presented a copy of the financial statement for the project, and informed the group the invoice to claim the YSYW grant had been submitted and the report completed. A copy of the financial statement is included with the minutes.

8. AOB

- a. Scaffolding has now been erected at the property destroyed by the fatal accident on High Town Rd, and work appears to have started. A question with regards to the plans was raised. Felt this would be better answered at the FoHT meeting. **(FoHT)**
- b. Kevin Poulton commented he had witnessed cigarette butts from employees of shops on High Town Rd being discarded on the street; details were given to James to monitor. **(JH)**

Date and time of next meeting:- 5<sup>th</sup> October, 9 am