



General meeting 10.09.19 7.15pm-8.30pm

High Town Methodist Church,

High Town Road (rear hall)

1. Present = 10 residents. DL chair and GB minutes. Cllrs Hopkins and Malcolm present. Guest speaker -Paul Hammond
2. Apologies-NB
3. Minutes of last meeting agreed
4. 4. Matters arising- People's Café – slow progress – speaking to LBC this week – **if anyone wants to be involved please contact SW**  
Speed Watch – GB provided update for residents present – **interested residents urged to register with Speed Watch and complete online training.**
5. Paul Hammond's address-chair of Luton Heritage Forum -LBC are concentrating on area called Plaiters 'Lea first – important to establish sense of heritage within town as it is poor at present – is linked with cultural heritage and will be important for gaining City of Culture status. Within short distance of Hat Factory there are breaches committed on historical legacy of the town .Important to tackle deficit from top down (e.g strategic level) as well as bottom up. LBC are reportedly keen to develop heritage strategy. LBC have commissioned report that has come up with a number of recommendations, identifying properties at are “at risk” and a lack of investment. Would there be any advantage in expanding the HT conservation area? LBC seems to be on the “backfoot” with developers and builders who do little to maintain exteriors of buildings e.g former public houses in the town and victories tend to be piecemeal. Consultation regarding Plaiters Lea is due to start on 10<sup>th</sup> October.  
**Agreed- it will be useful for members of F of HT to become involved in consultation and have input in process**  
**Encourage HT to be second on the list, stressing the historic high street and the potential to expand the conservation area- to include St Matthews Church, Dudley Street and Midland Road and possibly houses in Frederick and Reginald Streets and Claredon Road.**  
Residents in favour of maintaining and restoring high street.  
Important to remember that heritage is driver of progress.  
Heritage Lottery Forum keen to give Luton money for a plausible bid.  
Paul thanked for his attendance and input to the meeting.



6. Planning applications. Development on Hitchin Road – beside Irish Forum. 3 story building with 3 one bedroomed flats and three 2 bedroomed flats. No objections.
7. HMO petition- about 40 signatures short. SW to send out link for petition.
8. Events- street party at Edward Street – to be discussed at EHT steering group tomorrow.  
Half Marathon- to be held on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October from 8.00am to 12,30pm. **If you are interested in being a marshall at this event please contact GB asap**  
Living Advent Calendar – will be made up of four main events instead of 24. More details to follow.
9. Sub groups – EHT – NOAH is now running a gardening course and will be looking after plot in Wenlock Street. Conservation and HTIAG groups – nothing else to report.
10. A.O.B- Marjorie's is up for sale along with the rest of the property in that section.
- 11. Next meeting – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 7.00pm for 7.15pm.**