



Friends of High Town general meeting

14th January 2020 7.00pm for 7.15pm

High Town Methodist Church (rear hall)

High Town Road

Luton

1. Apologies -6 received. Cllr Malcolm may attend later. Four residents present with committee members DL,SB,SW and GB. Cllr Malcolm arrived at 8.25pm. DL wished those present a happy new year.
2. Minutes of last meeting approved.
3. Matters arising- GB gave meeting update re work at Burr Street car park. DL has emailed comments regarding airport expansion in time and to appropriate address. KP- now awaiting for Police to appoint special investigator to contact F of HT.
4. Police matters – no police representative at meeting. DL reported instances of petty theft in Kingston Road area. Meeting noted general improvement in response times from Police.
5. Burr Street car park – SW added to update -due to protests from residents at last meeting most of the beds will be higher. Area make over will be a bit of a compromise. No news as to what will happen to former toilet block- **Action- DL to enquire via email.**
6. Planning applications- 82 Old Bedford Road-planning permission sought to turn house into 8 bed HMO. Query as to whether house had communal lounge (no) and advantages if present. Query as to whether the adaptations will reduce amount of garden space for tenants. Objection about no of HMOs in area already. Dudley House- proposal to to another floor on top to make a three bed roomed flat. Space proposed is smaller than regulations permit and proposed adaptations are not in keeping with industrial feel and style of rest of building. Is also not in keeping with buildings nearby. **Action- DL to object on behalf of F of HT re grounds outlined.**
7. HMO petition- to be considered by LBC on Monday 27th January at 6pm.Cllr Malcolm or DL may be able to speak to petition on the day.

8. Email for resident- HT to be one of trial areas for landlord licencing scheme. Penalties will be invoked for landlords who do not sign up.
9. Airport expansion- LBC exec have rejected objection by Scrutiny Committee re road works planned in area, partic at round about in Round Green. Work to go ahead this month.
10. Event for January 2020- Concert for People's Cafe-25th January 2020. Tickets to include street food on sale until 17/01/20. Afterwards, entry to event only.
11. Reports- EHT- Peace Garden -aim is to soften appearance of railings with planting.

Villa Road – bid underway to improve this substantial piece of land. If you would like to volunteer for EHT the main gardening sessions are on Weds 10-1 or Sat 10-12. Timings can be flexible – see member of committee to discuss further.

HTIAG- noted that partners Signposts undergoing reorganisation

Conservation area- Marjorie's and adjoining building undergoing redecoration- **inform LBC or DL if witness any alteration to exterior of building other than painting.**

Eagle Hotel- used to be Freeholder- now coffee lounge and hotel.

People's cafe- trying to get together 7,000 pounds by end of month for funding bid.

12. AOB. Havelock Road- fly tipping still an issue outside HMO. Enforcement Team have engaged with landlord in discussions re ways of creating storage for rubbish.

Action- DL suggested setting up of WhatsApp group to monitor reporting of fly tipping etc to Fixmystreet as morale booster and monitoring.

Charles Street – request from resident for crossing over Hitchin Road as it intersects with Charles Street

Action- DL to forward email from resident to Cllr Malcolm

13. Next meeting - 11th February 2020 at 7pm for 7.15pm start