

Minutes of the Carholme Community Forum held on Tuesday 3rd December 2019

in Lincoln City Hall, Committee Room 4 from 5.30 pm

Apologies

Apologies had been received from Sandra Lewis, Jacqueline Mayer, Mark Wrigley, Pete Davies, Susie Parry, Francesca Bell and Laura McWilliams.

Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

Rob Parker had received an email from Joanne Johnson, the Team Leader for Street Lighting, Signs and Lines, relating to the York Avenue no entry sign issue. She had written:

The Street Lighting Team Contractor will be attending site to see if the sign can be angled better for approaching vehicles. Regrettably I cannot provide you with a date for this work to take place as it will be carried out when the contractor has other works in the area; this helps create efficiencies in the work programme.

I would like to review the effectiveness of angling the sign before considering whether to lay supplementary 'No Entry' legend on the carriageway.

Neil Murray reported that the first meeting of the Derek Miller Court residents' group had gone very well and been very productive. Susie Parry was the chair and would report back at the next meeting. He explained that one of the issues for residents was ASB.

Francesca Bell was not able to be at the meeting. She had emailed Lucinda Preston with her apologies and said that she had checked the Public Health England website and couldn't see that anything had been produced yet about solid fuel burner. However, she will keep checking back.

Action: Francesca Bell

Regarding CCTV, Steve Bird had suggested that Forum members go the CCTV suite for a visit and then meet afterwards to discuss the issues. Robert suggested and it was agreed by Forum members that it would be preferable to have the visit and then meet with Steve or another officer about CCTV. Lucinda would circulate potential dates for members to pick from in January so that they could be fed back as possible dates to Steve.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Laura McWilliams had discussed a possible motion regarding fireworks to be brought before the City Council. Francesca had said in her email that she and Simon Walters had been looking at the practicalities of the RSPCA fireworks charter. She was of the view that it could be implemented however "this will need to be scheduled on the work programme for next year as we don't currently have any spare resource to implement it". She said she would update the group as to when this could be done and keep the group updated of progress.

Action: Francesca Bell

A discussion on cycling would be moved to the main part of the meeting although there was an acknowledgement that it was difficult to discuss as the new transport plan had still not yet been published. Lucinda would add the subject to the next agenda.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Jacqueline Mayer had forwarded the university term dates to Lucinda that day and these would be circulated.

Action: Lucinda Preston

There was a discussion of the parking issues on Belle View Terrace/Carline Road. Kay Rowntree reported that three vehicles had been damaged. Following Rob's action there had been immediate ticketing of vehicles.

Rob would send Lucinda a link to the County Council parking ticket information, for circulation.

Action: Rob Parker

The discussion of streetlighting would be forwarded to the next meeting.

Action: Laura McWilliams

Cycling

There was a further discussion of issues in relation to cycling. Robert underlined the importance of the new transport strategy in terms of steps to be taken

Kay underlined some of the problems associated with enforcement and cycling. Often it was virtually impossible to physically catch poor cyclists. Whilst an increase in cycling lanes would be helpful, Rob noted that it would be impossible to put in a cycle lane on streets such as Yarborough Road. Lucinda discussed the difficulties relating to young people and cycling, as did Neil Murray. Neil noted the problems with cyclists with headphones. Julie discussed some of the ongoing issues on Carholme Road.

Rob said he would write to Richard Davies for an official response re: policy he would also write to the police and to Lincoln's MP, post-election.

Action: Rob Parker

Long Leys

Jon had forwarded the LLRA brief for an upgrade to Whitton's Park. It was concerned with making a case for the City Council to spend £120,000 on an upgrade of the Park. A small group of residents had been looking at this and met with City Council officers.

Although some ideas were contained in the brief the hope was that council officers would go to suppliers who themselves would have ideas for equipment/resources for the park. The LLRA was also keen to discuss cycling and pedestrian access to the park: a cycle path from St George's to the park was desirable.

Neil underlined the positive response that the group was likely to get from the council. Lucinda had met with two parents from the group following an invitation from Jon.

In relation to the developing neighbourhood plan, Jon had also pencilled in a meeting with the Planning Policy manager about housing. Rob commented that housing was not just a planning issue and was very much linked to the outcome of the forthcoming general election.

Jon also flagged up an issue with van drivers going up Albion Crescent, mistakenly thinking it would lead them back up to Burton Road. Rob suggested that Jon write to the County Council about the issue.

Action: Jon Davies

Policing

Kay noted the three damaged vehicles on Belle View Terrace and also informed the Forum of damage to cars on Tennyson Road.

There was a discussion around reports of drug dealing on Hewson Road. There was also discussion about drug dealing down the Drake Street alleyway. Issues with 175 Hewson Road were noted.

Kay emphasised the importance of reporting incidents and knowledge to the police: such information was passed to the intelligence unit and ultimately meant that the problems could be addressed. There was frustration that members of the public did not always report what they knew.

Rob suggested that something should be written about reporting crime in the next edition of the Parish Focus magazine. This could also be referenced in the next Labour newsletter.

Action: Kay Rowntree/councillors

ASB

Not many incidents had been reported. Jacqueline had said that she had not had many complaints from residents about students.

Community issues

David asked about 168 West Parade. Rob said that it was advertised as sold in the latest Parish Focus magazine.

David Mitchell congratulated Alison Griffiths on her interview on Radio Lincolnshire. She had also been on Look North.

With reference to recent events in Bolton, Lucinda asked Jane about fire safety and privately owned blocks of student flats. Jane said that the Vice-Chancellor had made a statement on this and that there had been an audit post-Grenfell. Lucinda agreed to email Jacqueline regarding this issue.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Kay informed Forum members about an app called What3words. It is a geocode system for the communication of locations with a resolution of 3 metres. It encodes geographic coordinates into three dictionary words: the encoding is permanently fixed and covers the world. She said she would send Lucinda further details and that Lucinda would circulate the details.

Action: Kay Rowntree/Lucinda Preston

There was further discussion of traffic issues and pollution in the West End, in particular Carholme Road. Lucinda said she would contact the officer responsible for the overseeing of pollution data at the council regarding gathering new readings.

Action: Lucinda Preston

There was a discussion of the Newland development and the traffic issue associated with that. Rob said he would get an update for the next meeting.

Action: Rob Parker

Rob updated the Forum regarding a possible new bus service. As a result of the GP closure in Skellingthorpe and residents needing to travel to Saxilby for the doctor, there was a proposal for a new bus service to run Lincoln-Birchwood-Skellingthorpe-Saxilby. This could be routed through Long Leys and there could possibly be a seven day a week service. Rob said he'd report any further news on this at the next Forum meeting.

Action: Rob Parker

Sandra had spoken to David about the ongoing problems with the overflow pipe at 75 Carholme Road. Lucinda said she would report this to the City Council.

Action: Lucinda Preston

David commented that students were trying to push down large cardboard boxes into their recycling bins. Jane said she would speak to Jacqueline about doing some comms around this to try and reduce the problem.

Action: Jane Kilby

There was discussion around what had happened to Neighbourhood Watch. Kay said she would look into this

Action: Kay Rowntree

Rudgard Lane development

Work had commenced on this development. Lucinda had reported that there had been some work on a Saturday. Work on the site would be monitored. Lucinda to add as an agenda item.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Street Scene

There was increased dog mess around parts of the ward, namely Carholme Road, Newland Street West and near the entrance to the West Common. Lucinda will speak with the council about this

Action: Lucinda Preston

Kay had noticed a lot of water near to the West Common gate. George Woolfenden explained that this was due to an old underground spring.

Any Other Business

David reported that a company, Adept, had a skip on Whitehall Grove and appeared to have parking 'waivers'.

David suggested that people take down the number for Matt Jones, the County Council's parking manager. He is an excellent officer. His number is 01522 552110.

George asked about 173 Carholme Road: it appears to be being converted into six flats. The Forum did not know anything about the planning application. Lucinda said she would investigate.

Action: Lucinda Preston

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 21st January 2020 at 5.30 pm

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Present:

David Mitchell	WERA/Small Business Action Group
Jon Davies	LLRA
Gary Stimson	LLRA
Jane Kilby	UoL Student Union
Emma Blackburn	UoL Student Union
Kay Rowntree	Lincolnshire Police
Alison Griffiths	Liquorice Park
Rev Julie Wearing	St. Faith's Church
Rob Parker	County Councillor
Neil Murray	City Councillor
Lucinda Preston	City Councillor/Secretary