

Minutes of the Little Bowden Forum Neighbourhood Forum meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 6.30pm Meadowdale Primary School. Chaired by Beverley Brown

Present: Beverley Brown, Simon Hobbs, Cllr Peter James, Phil Baildon, Julie Hilliam, James Ward, Ron Counte, Cllr Barry Champion, Sally Lax, David Lax, Janet Lee, Lucy Hobbs, Pete Urmston, Mike Davies, Kev Millard.

Apologies: Jonathan Davies, Matt Bills, Neil Hadkiss, Maggie Hadkiss, Wendy Savill, John Comont, Christine Herrick.

Previous meetings minutes were approved as a true record.

1. BB gave brief introduction and described how the working groups had been meeting and found that there is cross-over between them.
2. **Transport** – Jan, Phil, Kev and James had met (apologies from Amanda). Amended minutes attached.

Kev also commented regarding advanced stop lines. Parking on Coventry Road cycle lanes where there are solid white lines can be dealt with by parking enforcement officer.

Cllr Barry Champion responded. No news regarding North or South cycle route on Kettering Rd.

James to send amended minutes to Cllr Champion on behalf of TG.

Aldi application – highways not considered S106 for cycleways yet. Report will be online Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Feb. Pete U to send details to Cllr Champion and on to Nicola Parry in Planning.

Pete U showed the group the cycle route report by Alex and will circulate to Cllr Champion.

Integrate with other groups but early stages for the forum.

3. **Social and Community** – Wendy, Janet, Alex and Kay. Notes attached.

What positive actions can be taken to stop the problems being caused in the first place?

Could schools become involved with the Forums? Could the Forum representatives go into schools. Community group to engage with schools? Exchange of ideas from school groups to Forum. Could there be activities in Little Bowden Recreation Ground? How to reduce Anti-social behaviour. Skateboard park display? Graffiti near Tesco's and Rail footbridge – can be reported on Fixmystreet.com

4. **Wet and green spaces** – Sally, Lucy, Clair and John (apologies from Jonathan)

Aim is to create a plan. Obtain Community input and provide evidence to write a plan. Need to consider greenspaces Green infrastructure plan – should have a country park within 45 minutes. Community groups could have more of a say in their immediate neighbourhood greenspaces whether they're managed by HDC or not. Should have common maintenance standard. A Green spaces strategy required which could include assessment of Flora and Fauna. Peter James happy to walk round regarding flooding. Tree Preservation Orders. Archaeological and historical reports also considered. Harborough has B-lines (by Buglife.org). How to protect the greenspaces as Community Assets. Multi-layered map required for presentations. Views and scenery needs consideration.

PJ commented on the flooding of Little Bowden. Multi-agency flood group have met. Statement from council expected. Nothing has physically been done to alleviate the flood risk by EA, but they have agreed to allocate some funding. The relevant bodies are now involved.

5. **Built environment** - Pete, Alex, Ron and Christine met. (Notes attached)

Pete outlined the subjects discussed and how they can be included in the Neighbourhood Priorities Statement. Pete wishes to undertake a survey of the Built Environment (old and new) in Little Bowden. Community Facility at Overstone Park will require management committee. Built Environment group to discuss further with Sarah Smyth of Market Harborough Story Centre. Here is the link to [Overstone Park Phase 4](#) Application number 22/00302/REM

6. AOB – PJ let the group know about a meeting on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March at the Methodist Church at 2pm to discuss the reopening of the Northampton Railway Line. KM asked about the website – still awaiting a meeting with Bob Morris. JW suggested that the Forum could ultimately (once Neighbourhood Plan has been adopted) become a Parish Council. SH to circulate link from JW. [Formation of Parish council](#)

Meeting ended 8.38