

Minutes of the Little Bowden Neighbourhood Forum meeting on Thursday 15th June 2023 at Meadowdale School.

Present: Beverley Brown, Cllr Peter James, Pete Urmston, Kev Millard, Peter... (Ashley Way), John Hill, Lucy Hobbs, Kay Hillier, Janet Lee, Phil Baildon, Tim Nutt, Simon Hobbs.

Apologies: Cllr Stuart Finan, Sally Lax, David Lax, Matthew Bills, Julie Hilliam, Sandra Colver, James Ward, Alex Beltrao, Jan Turner, Jonathan Davies, Alan Denton, John Comont, Cllr Barry Champion.

1. Matters arising from minutes and Action List: (see June '23 table at the end of minutes)
2. Declaration of interest - Cllr James declared that he manages Edna Bowley Court.
3. NPS feedback at Carnival (10th June)

Feedback regarding the priorities at the Carnival stall was very good and the five most popular were as follows (also see chart in Appendix):

First – D - Protect the future of the Sheep field

Second – C - Improve traffic safety by introducing monitoring measures

Third – B – Pursue improvement of cycleways

Fourth – E – Ensure greenspaces are managed and maintained effectively

Fifth – A – Ensure a holistic view of Flood alleviation for Little Bowden

A similar exercise will be carried out for the LB Church fete. PU, JH, JL, PB, SH and LH will attend.

Action 01/0623 SH

Other Post-it notes and priority suggestions from Carnival –see appendix A

4. Working Groups
 - a. Social and Community

JL reported that the Carnival had gone very well and she'd enjoyed meeting with people and discussing the priorities.

- b. Flooding and Greenspaces

MB sent an email informing the group that a Jordan renovation project is on the agenda for East Mercia Rivers Trust. They will produce a suitable project plan that meets EA requirements, ensure all the licences are in place and project manage the improvements.

They will also be able to demonstrate that the effect of the changes on the watercourse do not increase flood risk and provide additional habitat/biodiversity opportunities.

If the environment group want to give any feedback to EMRT they will be welcome to do so. Hopefully the EMRT project officers will be able to meet members of the group to discuss their plans.

Bruce Durham, Flood warden and on Welland Neighbourhood Forum has collected over 30 examples of flooding across Market Harborough and produced a spreadsheet detailing the incidents. These have been reported to LCC and other relevant authorities. Partners include Anglian Water, Environment Agency, Leicestershire County Council, Harborough District Council, East Mercia Rivers Trust, Slow the Flow – Calderdale.

Cllr James reported that he is still pushing for the Jubilee Gardens on Northampton Road.

c. Built environment

PU reported that the planning application for the development at the old Harboro' Rubber works had been accepted by the HDC. Four storey block of flats. Cllr PJ said that it is a site with difficult conditions. There will be six flats in the Old Flour Mill. He has been assured that there will be solar panels on the flat roof. The car park is going to be over the central area that is currently flooded. Cllr James would prefer for there to be more greenspace. The details of the application can be accessed by typing in the ref number 20/00719/LBC on the page link below. The planning application for two houses at 116 Scotland Road can be seen by typing in ref no 23/00809/FUL.

<https://pa2.harborough.gov.uk/online-applications/search.do?action=simple&searchType=Application>

d. Transport

JW had corresponded with Bob Bellm of Harborough Transport Action (HTA) and will attend LCC engagement meeting in Oadby.

With LCC recently announcing that they are encompassing Harborough in this year's LCWIP plan, we are now awaiting clarity on the format and process for liaising with LCC (HTA are leading on this).

JW has asked Cllr Champion to intervene to get some public/LBNF consultation on the Kettering Road cycle way from LCC.

Cllr Champion had contacted David Hunt (LCC) to see if he's available for a meeting to discuss Kettering Road and anything else the LBNF could be doing to aid LCC in its decision making.

Cllr Champion to feedback any response.

5. Website Update

LH reported that she had been trained by Nik Green at LCC to build a website as part of the Leicestershire Communities website. LCC host and set up the pages which can include documents, images and sub-pages. This could go live by mid-July.

6. AOB

PU raised the lighting and ramps on Gores Lane railway footbridge. **Action 02/0623 SH to speak to Steve Jones of Rail Transport Users group.**

PU to ask Alex to make additions to cycling review map to include footbridge. **Action 03/0623 PU**

Peter (from Ashley Way) highlighted increased amount of graffiti near Ashley Way plus Dog mess and litter. SH suggested 'Love Cleans Streets' or 'Fix my street' Apps were useful in reporting this. Also the 'Report it' [site](#) on the LCC website where it gives a list from Street lighting to potholes of anything that needs to be reported to LCC.

TN reported that access to Eady Road/Blackberry Grange estate from Brampton Valley Way was not made up properly for walking or wheeling. Need to check that planning agreements are enforced. **Action 04/0623 SH to investigate**

Cllr James updated the LBNF on the legally set up coalition leadership of HDC. Cllr James sits on the Scrutiny Commission – Communities and wishes to involve all Harborough communities where possible.

Date of next meeting – Thurs 20th July (**changed to 27th July**) Venue TBA

Meeting closed 8.12

April meeting actions

Action	What	Who	By when	Comment/outcome
3/0423	Check land registry on ownership of riverbank.	Jonathan Davies	18/5	Environment Agency Complete
7/0423	Arrange a website for the LBNF	Lucy Hobbs	18/5	Leicestershire Communities (see minutes) Ongoing

May meeting actions

Action	What	Who	By when	Comment/outcome
2/0523	Circulate email about Teams Channels	Simon Hobbs	01/06	Ongoing
3/0523	Check defib locations in Little Bowden	Simon Hobbs	15/6	Meeting with Community Heart beat Trust Charity
4/0523	Investigate skatepark event organisation	All S&C group	15/6	Ongoing
5/0523	Work with Alex, BB and Cllr Champion on cycle walking review	James Ward	15/6	Complete
6/0523	Write to Cllr Champion re Kettering Rd cyclepath	James Ward	15/6	Complete
7/0523	Arrange visits to community groups in LB	Julie Hilliam	15/6	Complete
8/0523	Make contact with unelected candidates (where poss)	Simon Hobbs	15/6	Tried but not possible Complete

June meeting actions

Action	What	Who	By when	Comment/outcome
1/0623	Little Bowden Church Fete	BB/JH/PB etc	17 June 23	Complete
2/0623	Speak to Steve Jones of RTU about lighting and ramps on footbridge	SH/PU	Next meeting	Ongoing
3/0623	Ask Alex to amend Cycling review map	PU	Next meeting	Ongoing
4/0623	Investigate access to Blackberry Grange from BVW	SH	Next meeting	Ongoing

Appendix A

Carnival 10th June 2023

Cycle route from Braybrooke to the Brampton Valley Way (over the fields from church) is on the Braybrooke Neighbourhood Plan.

Delivery drivers' parking

Cycle routes on new developments

Dog mess in Ashley Way area

Open the footpath at top of Kettering Road to allow access to public footpath to Braybrooke as the A6 is dangerous.

CCTV in places like Little Bowden Park

No commercial businesses in residential areas (such as Swim Gym in garden).

I'd like to see a walking/bicycle bridge across the river near the station (but I can see this on the plan!). I'd love this to go ahead.

Develop further green spaces particularly with tree planting like the space behind Page Road down to the railway line

Safety for pedestrians, pushchairs and pets on the cycleway (shared with pedestrians) between Little Bowden Rec and Britannia Walk, narrow and should state cyclists dismount.

By-pass required to avoid 'rat-run'. Enhance more varied use of Little Bowden Rec

Priorities to be sorted into:

Subject	Issues identified	Action required	Lead	Partners	Resources	Priority (H/M/L)
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