

## Welland Neighbourhood Plan Forum (“the Forum”)

### Minutes of Meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at The Royalist, Western Avenue, MH

1. Attendees: Susan Garon (SG) **Chair**, Roy Saint (RS) **Vice chair**, Linda Pentland (LP) **Secretary**, Alan Good (AG), Bruce Durham (BD), Tracey Foster (TF), Catherine Holder (CH), Simon Hobbs (SH), Quentin Bell (QB), Kerry Ward (KW), Bob Bellm (BB), Lesley Morgan (LM), Darren Woodiwiss (DW), Garry Davies (GD), Christine Barrett (CB), Matt Bills (MB), Jaci Cox (JC), Pat Fitt (PF1), Penny Fitt (PF2)

2. **Apologies:** David Notter, Martin King, Nicola Webber

3. **Minutes** of last meeting were agreed.

#### 4. **Matters Arising**

All matters arising are covered under the agenda items below.

#### 5. **Writing of Neighbourhood Plan/Priorities statement**

**SG** circulated copies of Little Bowden NF Neighbourhood Priorities – a first draft which will be refined by consultation at the Carnival and Little Bowden event the following week.

These are examples, some of which will be the same as our NF priorities and is just an example of how we can format our own list.

#### 6. **Updates from sub groups**

**Environment – BD** updated. Not much change from last month. Best practice examples are still being gathered from around the country regarding methods of dealing with some of the issues identified. BD gave the example of the Keep Britain Tidy dog poo initiative which has reduced the issue in some areas by 70%. Progress is also being made on the district wide flood alleviation plans.

**Transport – BB** updated. Two main actions since last meeting.

- 1) Created draft headline statements to identify priorities – see minutes from last Transport meeting.
- 2) Started gathering the sub-ward level information looking at existing facilities for active travel and possible improvements. To be fed back so a list of potential actions can be put together – there may be some S106 monies available for this purpose. Examples given were Airfield Farm site and Kettering Road cycle paths, link between Ashton Rise and Coventry Road, Angell Drive greenway. By mid-July the aim is to have a ward-wide plan.

Harborough Transport Alliance have a stall at Big Green Week to continue to gather evidence.

**KW** reported that vehicles are routinely using Langdale Walk which is a pedestrian-only route used often by schoolchildren who are therefore at risk.

**Social and Community – LP** updated. No progress as yet as the only other member of the group has left the area. **LM** asked to join the group. **LP** to organize this and get the group moving using the already identified priorities.

**Built Environment** – non members present and no report.

**MB** reiterated that the key to making this process work is knowing who/what/how to approach to resolve these issues. And that this group can be a good resource for doing that. For example by using the Report It facility on the LCC website. While in the meeting **MB** reported the Langdale Walk issue to LCC so this process is in progress. (Bruce posted details after the meeting).

#### 7. **Harborough Town Hub update**

**SH** updated the group about the HTH website. HTH have a quote from a web designer and are currently seeking funding to get the site built. However a new opportunity for the Forum websites has been identified – part of the LCC website. We would need someone from the Forum to be trained to operate the site but everything else about it is free and covered by LCC.

**SH** also gave an update on the position of the remaining Forums – Logan now has the required 21+ members and is in the process of adopting a constitution so that it can be put forward for designation. Arden has 10 members so still building. Town Centre has been harder to generate numbers for as it is mainly businesses. SH now meeting with smaller groups of businesses and getting more traction.

#### 8. **AOB**

**SH** updated on postcode database for communication process. HDC can help with this but there may be a cost involved – waiting for more info. **DW** added that from his experience a ward-wide leaflet drop takes 24 man hours and leaflets would cost around £150.

**CB** asked whether a district wide traffic survey had been done, in terms of people's reasons for use of vehicular transport v active transport. **BB** – MH Transport Strategy drawn up about 6 years ago, being updated now (hence recent survey straps across the roads). 25% of all car trips were internal i.e. moving within the town last time this question was asked.

**DW** added that a privately funded air quality survey had shown that despite the levels of traffic we experience, our air pollution levels are still significantly lower than any risk level.

**LP** reminded all that we are still short of volunteers for some roles and will circulate a list with the minutes.

#### 9. **Date of Next Meeting** – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023 5.30 – 7 at The Royalist.

#### **Useful information/actions/requests for info from the meeting:**

**LCC website REPORT IT** - <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/road-maintenance/report-a-road-problem> is an example.

**All** – consider whether you are able to take on a role within the Forum, or even part of a role.

**Website** – consider whether LCC site meets our needs and find a volunteer to update it. See <https://www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/np/harborough?parts=>