



Love's Farm Community Association Meeting
Love's Farm House
20 June 2018
19.30

Minutes

1	<p>Welcome and apologies – Marcus Pickering, chair of the community association opened the meeting</p>
2	<p>The minutes of last meeting were received and a update on actions not covered elsewhere on the agenda noted (see page 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Wells to look at funding sources within town council funds to improve lighting on Fox Brook bridge Action: Cllr Steven Ferguson to discuss with councillors who can lead on issue with St Neots Town Council (SNTC) • CCC report on secondary school planning numbers based on data to inform secondary school places. Action: Eleanor to follow up with Mike Soper at Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) information requested re Secondary School projections for St Neots • Helene Tame and Emma Lovelock to get in touch with Urban & Civic (U&C) to confirm contribution to cost of newsletter and community events such as Big Lunch and Great Get Together Action: Helen to follow up on newsletter funding with Rebecca Britton at U&C once Rebecca returns from holiday • Ben Pitt to work with Cllrs to ensure information about Eastern Expansion is accessible via LFCA /uploaded to the website. Action: Eleanor to get in touch with Ben • Gallagher to be invited to attend a future meeting to present plans for Eastern Expansion Action: Marcus to contact Gallagher and write to Clara at CCC to seek engagement with Gallaghers (copied to HDC councillors).
3	<p>Presentation: Safety of Love's Farm Parks – Katie Boldero</p> <p>Katie Boldero was welcomed to the meeting. She outlined to residents the campaign she has launched for safe fencing at the Pirate Ship park on Loves Farm, St Neots. She updated the group on discussions with Huntingdon District Council (HDC) and her petition to the council to request that the play area around the Pirate Ship is enclosed by fencing. The petition can be found here: https://www.change.org/p/huntingdonshire-district-council-safe-fenced-in-play-areas-for-loves-farm-st-neots</p> <p>Katie outlined her concern that the parks in Love's Farm are not enclosed. She shared her personal experience and said children were being put at risk because the park was not enclosed and therefore they could access the road close by. She added the fencing around the Pirate Ship is of particular concern as both ends of the park are open, the drainage area is not fully fenced and it borders the road. There are a number of families who don't access the park because of safety. An example was given where children can easily run towards the road by the bridge and due to line of sight over the bridge for cars not being clear children are at risk of cars not stopping for them. Pictures were shown to highlight the issue including the black fencing partially enclosing the play area but gaps and low wooden fencing by the road. The pictures highlighted the lack of a physical barrier across the park which would help with contain children and keeping them safe.</p> <p>It was noted there were no parks on Love's Farm which were contained unlike parks in other parts of St Neots. Residents commented the issue at the Pirate Ship felt like an accident waiting to happen.</p> <p>Katie shared her proposal to enclose the Pirate Ship park fully. She highlighted her petition to Huntingdon District Council which to date had 326 signatures. She said this showed the level of need. Katie added she had spoken to HDC who have been supportive. HDC shared a quote for the additional fencing required to enclose the pirate ship. It was noted the proposal would cut across the seating/picnic area which was not ideal. The cost for the additional fencing is £5,209.60. Katie said HDC had quoted for the work and only the HDC approved supplier could fit the fencing. The barrier to this was cost. She confirmed there was no opposition to the scheme from HDC.</p> <p>Katie said she had contacted Rotary and St Neots Round Table for funding. Tesco and Waitrose coin scheme will also be contacted. Katie asked LFCA for support of her proposal which was discussed:</p> <p>It was noted the park was built by the HDC with funding from Gallagher Estates.</p>

Cllr Nik Johnson highlighted a document which he had found on HDC website which stated that all play areas should be gated as part of dog management. The document set out a standard by HDC which planners should adhere to therefore he suggested HDC had failed in their duty to follow guidelines. Nik said as a representative for the local community he would be an advocate and seek a response from officials.

Cllr Julie Wisson asked if there was an obligation to have play areas inspected. Marcus added that changes have been made to the Indian camp playpark as a result of inspections. It was suggested that requesting an inspection of the park by HDC would be helpful. Residents highlighted that the number of children using the park and increased traffic on the estate as well as commuter parking added to the hazards for children and the risk from these had increased as the estate completed.

The LFCA agreed to support Katie in her campaign.

A number of actions were suggested:

- Grant bodies and charities (Rotary are at Great Get Together, Round Table and Black Cat) should be contacted for funding.
- Cllr Nik Johnson to discuss with officials and consider funding sources from i) repairs and maintenance ii) highways and iii) parks and open spaces budgets.
- HDC development officer to be contacted to re assess the Love's Farm open spaces
- Once the petition reaches 500 signatures it will trigger debate at HDC which Cllrs agreed to support.
- Committees to present petition to would be explored. It was suggested these might be i) parks and open spaces and ii) highways
- LFCA agreed to provide a letter of support if needed
- Emma Lovelock add the petition to the community FaceBook page
- Suggestion of Hunts Post being contacted to highlight issue
- LFCA confirmed it would be happy to host tokens to raise money as the Tesco scheme could not be offered to an individual for example
- Round House Capacity Campaign also offered to share campaign ideas

Building great relationships in our community.

4 Committee Governance

i) Councillors update

St Neots Town Council (SNTC) and Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) Councillors for Love's Farm updated the group on issues that may impact our residents.

SNTC Cllr Steven Ferguson advised:

Grass cutting: issue had been raised at SNTC and each main area of the town now has three cuts a year across the town but resources are tight. Marcus asked if weed control was part of the contract as areas of the development including Stone Hill were very untidy. It was noted CCC had delegated responsibility to SNTC but CCC Highways still had responsibility for verges and road sides. It was noted that line of sight at Stone Hill/Pirate ship road junction was a concern.

Local Highways funding initiative: applications for this fund are due by 31 July. This is for a grant for up to £10K which is matched by the council. The application process must be evidenced. This was the fund that was accessed for the Love's Farm Parking scheme for example.

HDC Cllr Nik Johnson advised that:

Development in Huntingdon and Little Paxton: The Development and Management Committee met recently to discuss local development and planning issues. Little Paxton development and agreement of 199 homes was raised. The application was refused by HDC. The application fell on issues around education provision across St Neots. Nik advised he would pay particular interest and be open to all applications for Huntingdonshire but particularly for St Neots.

CCC Cllr Julie Wisson advised that:

A428 upgrade: it was noted that the preferred route announcement was due by the end of the calendar year. Environment Impact Assessments and local knowledge are being taken into consideration. Once announcements is made there will be 4 months between preferred route announcement and statutory consultation with detailed information being shared with the public. Consultation will take 6-8 weeks then a year for Highways England to consider and for SofS for Transport to provide authorisation. Unlikely to start until 2021 at the earliest.

Designated funds from Highways England which communities can put in applications for to access funds for communities impacted by A14 was highlighted. It was suggested this could be accessed for the Pirate Ship.

Action: Street reps to be asked to get in touch with developers Gallaghers and about weed control in areas of concern across the estate.

Action: Marcus to get in touch with Breheny (contractors) re lack of visibility at junction of Stone Hill and Pirate Ship.

Action: Julie Wisson to share email address for Designated Funds from Highways England.

ii) Small Grants application

It was noted a request has been made by Love's Farm Runners to fund training of two male run leaders. LFCA agreed it should support the application and consider it for the small grants fund if an application for £100 is received. It was agreed that each application should be considered on its own merit. In confirming to successful bidders it was suggest a line would be added about sustainability of groups to ensure that it was clear recurrent grant allocations would not normally be made. It was agreed the policy did not need to be updated as 'not normally' would enable the LFCA to approve applications.

Action: Letters confirming successful grants to include line about sustainability of groups who apply for funding.

Action: Community to be (re)invited to apply for grants.

iii) Funding and sustainability of LFCA

The group considered an update on LFCA finance and ideas for an annual fund raising event which had been discussed when officers met recently. LFCA are short of approx. £1800 to enable the committee to run. There is a grant from SNTC however funding has been lost from developers and BPHA. It was suggested that the SNTC fund should be used by the committee for running costs but a this should only make up half of the short fall. It was suggested an annual fund raising even could take place to raise money for the LFCA. An auction of promises was suggested at the AGM. Other ideas included comedy night, fashion show or race night. Suggested also buckets for fundraising. It was agreed that charging for events would be not be a good idea.

Emma Stevens is in touch with BlackCat and Rotary to look at funding through this route. Agreed that auction of promises would take place at AGM in October.

Action: Emma Lovelock to follow up with BPHA funds from their new housing officer for LFCA

Action: Emma Lovelock to seek ideas for promises and prizes for auction of promises and Jennie to provide text for October AGM.

5 Events – The Great Get Together 23 June

Helene Tame provided an update on the Great Get Together which she was organising on 23 June.

Helene updated the group on the arrangements and shared the programme for the afternoon. She said there was involvement from a wide range of groups engaged with the community; Keela will narrate the day, Ben is dealing with PA system, Love's Farm runners are helping transfer group to community centre for the BBQ and Jam session after. Helen confirmed she was responsible for the school site.

It was noted in Emma Steven's absence that she had kindly agreed to lead the LFCA stall which would include information about LFCA and the Farm House and have games for residents to play. Helen added there would also be a church community hub and a Love's Farm canvas would be created for the community centre which would be an outline of tree and residents would be encouraged to leave thumb prints to 'leave a mark'.

Helene was thanked for her work in co-ordinating the event on behalf of the community.

5 Working Groups

i) Events – Emma Lovelock

Events were noted and residents reminded to look for updates on the community websites/groups.

ii) Street reps – Emma Stevens/Elle Gray

Reps were thanks for their help in distributing parking consultation leaflets.

Developing and managing shared resources and spaces

6 Working Groups:

i) SMART – Helene Tame

The date of the next SMART day in July has yet to be set.

ii) Love's Farm Blooms - Phyllis Hooper

No update was received

7 Northern access update

Cllr Julie Wisson advised that she met with East of England Ambulance Service recently as there was conflicting information about access to Love's Farm by emergency vehicles through the northern access. Julie said that East of England Ambulance Service had now notified all emergency personnel and handlers that there was no access through the northern access route. It was noted that there had been no reports of ambulance vehicles turning around at the northern access for the past month which may be as a result of this communication. It was however noted that the access was intended for emergency vehicles, ambulances

included, and whilst the notification was helpful in that vehicles without the access code to the locked gate would no longer try and access and then turn around the gate was supposed to be available and accessible.

It was noted that there was no update on:

- outcome of the consultation on the temporary prohibition of driving notice which closed on 26 January
- scope of feasibility study which Cambridgeshire County Council have commissioned
- Date of the Highways and Infrastructure meeting which residents could attend.

Cllr David Wells was asked if the new Butterfly bus route would go through the Love's Farm northern access or not.

Action: update on northern access consultation outcome, scope of feasibility study and date of CCC Highways and Infrastructure meeting to be shared at next meeting.

8 Cambridge Road Crossing

Cllr Ben Pitt provided an update on the Cambridge Road crossing for residents of Love's Farm to access Wintringham development and Wintringham School safely.

He said a group met with Highways officers from CCC about the crossing to Wintringham estate recently. Plans for infrastructure have already been approved so the next step will be to look at opportunity the School Planning Application for transport assessment (travel plan) may provide to make changes or additions to road crossings. It was noted the planning application for the school is current and the planning process next steps are for it to go through CCC Planning committee. Ben advised that Cllr Iain Gardener is on the planning committee and is supportive of the proposals. .

Ben advised there was still a lack of understanding about S106 money and what this could be used for. It was noted this had yet to be agreed between Gallagher, Urban and Civic and CCC.

Ben was thanked for his work and LFCA agreed to support the proposals for improved crossings and safety on Cambridge Road for Love's Farm and Wintringham residents.

9 Parking scheme for Love's Farm

Cllr David Wells provided an update on progress of scheme for parking restrictions and the consultation process which Cambridgeshire County Council are leading.

Cllr Julie Wisson advised she had spoken with CCC who had received 520 emails in response to the survey a week before the consultation end date. Julie advised CCC were committed to bringing the response back to LFCA for discussion. Those residents and councillors involved in the consultation process suggested there would not be a great lead from officers in terms of next steps so the LFCA would need to steer this.

It was noted the consultation sessions had gone well with good engagement however the behaviour of some residents was a cause for concern although this was recognised as a small minority. It was reiterated that Cambridgeshire County Council are leading the plans and LFCA offered the opportunity for the council to meet with residents to enable the plans to be presented to the community.

David advised that a resident Peter Boyce was developing a proposal for a counter plan to CCC. He added that the two chicanes on the estate and areas around Dramsell rise and Hogsden Leys would be looked at more closely as there were not enough places for residents to park – the possibility of creating additional parking bays was also being considered but this would need additional funding.

It was noted that the consultation may not have reached everyone on the estate and of particular note was how to ensure harder to reach and more mobile groups had their views incorporated in to the consultation. It was suggested BPHA could include the survey in their communications with residents and the community newsletter could also carry an update at this goes to every home.

David was thanked for his tenacity.

Action: CCC to be invited to present parking consultation results to LFCA and community meeting (date tbc)

10 Farm House update

There was no news noted from the Farmhouse trustees

11 AOB

PCSO provided an update on policing matters:

- Policing team and BPHA were working with families to address the antisocial behaviour by youths on Belland Hill.
- There have been a number of arson incidents in Aunties Wood by the Railway fence line which British Transport Police were managing.
- Recent shop lifting at Tesco was noted as was a report of a group of men wandering the estate touting for

gardening business.

Actions from previous meetings and updates

	Action	Update	LFCA lead
1.	David Wells to look at funding sources within town council funds to improve lighting on Fox Brook bridge	Cllr Stephen Ferguson to discuss with SNTC to see who will lead on this and report back	David Wells/Stephen Ferguson
2.	CCC to be invited to present parking consultation results to LFCA and community meeting (date tbc)	Update needed at July meeting on when CCC will present to LFCA	David Wells
3.	Community to be (re)invited to apply for small grants and letters confirming successful grants to include line about sustainability of groups who apply for funding.	Via next newsletter	Ben Pitt
4.	<p>a) Julie Wisson to share scope of northern access feasibility study and confirm next steps following consultation on northern access closing on 26/1.</p> <p>b) Residents to be encouraged to complain to East of England Ambulance service if they have concerns about traffic blocking the roads on the estate or the northern access gate not being used to access them in an emergency.</p> <p>c) Example of impact of northern access being closed to be shared with Cllr Julie Wisson, Cllr Mathew Shuter, Head of Highways and Infrastructure Committee and Graham Hughes, Chair of Economy and Growth Committee at Cambridgeshire County Council.</p> <p>d) Committee officers and residents to be invited to attend the Highways and Infrastructure meeting</p>	<p>Update at July meeting</p> <p>Email circulated via street reps. New examples requested to go direct to Cllr Wisson</p> <p>On going – John Gerrard presented to Town Council</p> <p>Update needed on attending next meeting – July?</p>	Julie Wisson
5.	Love's Farm household survey (CCC) Mike to work with David Wells to report on secondary school planning numbers based on data to inform secondary school places.	Eleanor contacted Mike for data on secondary school places	Eleanor Gray/David Wells
6.	<p>Share list with Gallagher lights not sure about. Form on website to identify location of lights</p> <p>Clark Drive to be asked to nominate a new street rep</p> <p>Street reps to be asked to get in touch with developers Gallaghers and about weed control in areas of concern across the estate.</p> <p>Marcus to get in touch with Breheny (contractors) re lack of visibility at junction of Stone Hill and Pirate Ship.</p> <p>Julie Wisson to share email address for Designated Funds from Highways England.</p>	<p>On going – plan needed for street lights</p> <p>Update needed</p> <p>Included in Street reps update</p> <p>Update needed</p> <p>Update needed</p>	<p>Emma Stevens/Ellie Gray</p> <p>As above</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Marcus Pickering</p> <p>Julie Wisson</p>
7.	Helene Tame and Emma Lovelock to confirm contribution from Urban and Civic and BPHA to cover cost of newsletter and community events such as Big Lunch and Great Get Together.	Contact made – need to discuss how to distribute funds at July meeting	Helene Tame/Emma Lovelock
8.	Ben Pitt to update on Cambridge Road crossing development	July agenda	Ben Pitt

9.	Ben Pitt to work with Cllrs to ensure information about Eastern Expansion is accessible via LFCA /uploaded to the website. Gallagher to be invited to attend a future meeting to present plans for Eastern Expansion	Update needed Marcus to contact Gallagher and write to Clara at CCC to seek engagement with Gallaghers (copied to HDC councillors).	Ben Pitt/ Cllrs/ Urban and Civic. Marcus Pickering
10.	Love's Farm Blooms a) David Wells to provide update on Blooms finance b) Community Christmas tree funding to be investigated	Future agenda item Future agenda item	David Wells Phyllis Hooper
11.	Emma Lovelock to seek ideas for promises and prizes for auction of promises and Jennie to provide text for October AGM.	July agenda item – discuss AGM	Marcus/Emma Lovelock
12.	Love's Farm community association becoming a Parish Council to be discussed at a future meeting based on information Julie Wisson provides	Future agenda item	Julie Wisson/ Helene Tame
13.	Views on LFCA support of Round House School fireworks – future agenda item.	Future agenda item.	Marcus Pickering
14.	Views on website development to be sought	Separate officers meeting to take place	Marcus Pickering