

Love's Farm Community Association Meeting 19th June 2019

Meeting notes

1. Welcome and Apologies

Attendees – Caroline Henderson, Cameron Paul, Marcus Pickering, Phyllis Hooper, Helen Tame, Emma Lovelock, Julie Wisson, Jessica Sanchez, Ben Pitt, Nik Johnson Jenny Lincoln and Stephen Ferguson.

Apologies had been received from David Wells and Ellie Gray.

2. Notes from last meeting

Town Council vacancy

One of Love's Farm town councillors Neil has resigned and it was expected that there would be a replacement co-opted at the next town council meeting. There are two vacancies overall. There was some discussion as to where the vacancies had been publicised as they were not on the town council website. Priority would be given to a Love's Farm resident and BP knew of at least one who was interested.

Action – information on the vacancy to be put on the LFCA website.

Street Lighting

MP reported that there was still one Love's Farm House car park light not working. BPHA have fixed the bulk of those they are responsible for. One on School Drive still not working but the job has been raised. Some lights on Stone Hill will be replaced with LED lighting. DW still chasing the Fox Brook light – a quote is awaited and HDC will be lobbied to pay. MP went on a walkabout with BPHA Housing Officer Lindsay Smith who is keen to develop a relationship with LFCA and was noted to be very engaged and committed to community development.

Northern Boundary Fence

Judith Neal from HDC has indicated to MP that the majority of the fence will be repaired but no timeline has been specified.

Action – MP to send NJ the plan and he will chase.

Miller Homes have been working on the paths and have had to redo some of the work. They have left deep ruts in the grass. Miller Homes contact info has been given Judith Neal.

HDC have agreed to monitor the use of the bin on Fox Brook with a view to its relocation

EL to contact Keela re responsible dog ownership.

Urban and Civic Update

The traffic lights on Cambridge Road have now gone. Info from Alex U&C Project Manager was that their presence did not overrun the planned timescale. MP and BP had made a site visit and saw that balancing ponds and sewage pipes were now in place. The school site has been prepared and contractors will soon be on site.

Verges on Hogsden Leys have now been cut. There was some discussion about the planting that had been undertaken on the verge by one household – now removed. St Neots TC have cut back on overtime, so there will be less cuts than the 20 last year.

Planning for the Eastern Expansion is now underway and survey work will be starting soon. The infra structure will be started mid 2020.

Gallaghers were reported to be exploring options for the ground by Station Square.

3. Councillor Update

TC – Local highways Initiative bids could be made now - see item 10.

HDC – NJ had attended a recent planning committee meeting – no issues.

CCC – JW advised that the consultation on the A248 is now underway and participation should be encouraged. There is no slip road at Caxton Gibbett. More traffic likely to use the A14. There might be more traffic noise as the single carriageway will be replaced by a closer dual carriageway.

Planning for Wintringham School has been passed.

4. Remembering Marissa Aldridge

The court case has resulted in a conviction. The proposed tree site was thought to be suitable. The cost of a plaque will be about £50. There is a surplus amount of just under £300 to be passed to the family.

5. Annual meeting

A date was set for 25th October probably to include a quiz and Fish and Chips. Financial accounts would be required. There was some discussion about awards and it was agreed to see if there were nominations.

A date for a LFCA social was agreed for 13th September to include street reps.

6. Great Get Together

Events include

- Quiz this Friday.
- Lazy Breakfast - garden open
- SMART Saturday morning
- BBQ and Food fair. Building open at 4. Alan and Charles on BBQ, Kirsty and Charlie on bar. About 5-6 food sharing oblong tables. PH had drafted a disclaimer notice. 3 round tables outside
- Yard Sale. - 38 houses so far
- “Meet your Street” on Sunday afternoon

7. Working Groups

Events

Great Get Together and Big Lunch

Street reps

2 new recruits.

Neighbourhood watch – looking for suitable places for signs. Need funding – £250 from BPHA for their areas. It was suggested that if households were asked to contribute £1 that would create more buy-in to the scheme.

Loves Farm Blooms

PH has dried out the bulbs donated by the council and would be looking for help to plant these in the autumn. There was some discussion about wild flower areas and it was noted that these are not as easy to create as people generally think.

Community Garden and St Mary's Flower Festival

JS reported that the garden had been in operation for 3 weeks and had been popular although not huge numbers of people involved. There had been some donations and posters put up. Support had been received from another community garden Nightingale Gardens in Cambridge. HDC had donated some bark. HT had offered some additional ground to the side of her house. There had been some positive social media activity. Love's Farm House caretakers were helping with watering.

The Flower Festival was discussed and further info was needed. It was thought it was a flower arranging event and as such might be too ambitious for us to make a contribution.

Finance

It was agreed to make a charitable donation of £50 in memory of Keela's mother. It is possible to make a bid to the HDC Community Chest for amounts up to £2.4K. For the benefit of the community – a water butt was one suggestion.

Action BP to circulate the relevant link.

9 Parking

JW said that there was nothing to report – still waiting quote from contractors, but it was still expected to start at the end of July. It was thought that the notices required for road closures have already been applied for.

The chicane on Dramshall Rise was still on the list for LHI projects for this year.

There was some discussion about the compromise which had been made on parts of Hogsden Leys was now subject to some further objections. There would be an opportunity for review in the first 2 years.

10. 20mph Speed Restrictions

It is possible to bid for up to £15k for the cost of signs but there would be a requirement to self fund 20%. The deadline is August 4th. The focus would be around the school and the bid would need to be guided by Highways Dept. NJ could provide medical evidence on the damage of higher speeds. There is a national group called Twenty is Plenty.

11 Love's Farm House

Whisky tasting Friday 12 July.

12 AOB

There had been some social media comments on a lack of response from the Community Support Police Officer.

