

Second AGM of High Lane Village Neighbourhood Forum

Date : 10/11/19 **Time:** 4pm **Venue :** High Lane Village Hall

Present: Richard Jones, Jeni Regan, Anne Walker, Ann Young, Neil Ball, Annette Hargreaves, Helen Stocks, Sheila Harrop , Carol Taylor Bruce, Janet Burks, Claire Porterfield ,Jan Carpenter, Barry Sequiera ,Angela Sequiera , Stephen Price, Alison Cusick, Phil Jackson, Janet Momsen, Mike Morton, Katherine Nolan, Evelyn Frearson ,Hilary Stephenson, Dale Spencer

Apologies : Cllr Kenny Blair, Sarah Walsh

1) The Chair, Richard Jones, welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked people for their attendance and their support throughout the year and commented that much progress had been made since the last AGM. The Open Day which preceded the AGM this afternoon was attended by 69 local residents and visitors.

2) The minutes of last year's minutes were approved and adopted- proposed by Jeni Regan, seconded by Janet Burks

3)Financial Report

Richard went through the year's Financial Report (see attachment)The Vice- chair and Chair put together a bid for a grant to cover the remainder of work which needs to be done on the Neighbourhood Plan. The bid was successful and the forum received £6140 including £200 from a successful bid to the council's Flexibility Fund. The current balance is £2700. The Residents Association was thanked for its ongoing support and their treasurer was thanked for holding the NF's money in an account of the RA.

4)Issues and Options Feedback

Richard went through the results of the recent Issues and Options survey. He stated that 10% of households responded to the survey and that a summary of the responses has been produced for local people to read and comment upon if they wish. This mini consultation runs from 10th November to 24th November. The summary can be read on line at the forum's website and responses sent to the forum's email or hard copies of it are available in the medical centre and comments can be left in an envelope at the medical centre. Several major points emerged from the consultation : concern about congestion on the roads and air pollution, a preference for affordable housing in small scale developments, the need for improved signage. There was a lot of support for High Lane's Heritage and much interest shown in the Heritage Trail booklet which Janet and Anne have recently completed- on sale now for £2 !

5) Photograph Competition

Richard announced the winners of the Photo Competition: Caroline Sedgely , Cath Clappison and Katherine MacFarlane who were each presented with a box of chocolates. Their pictures related to one of the 4 themes of the forum. Richard explained that the idea of the competition was both to generate extra interest in the Neighbourhood Plan and also to increase content for the plan as the photographs will be included as part of the plan to increase its attractiveness and readability.

6) Moving Forward

Over the last year membership has increased, standing now at 90: The number of Partners has also increased to 17. This is encouraging and shows engagement with the Neighbourhood Plan is getting stronger. The forum is grateful for support received from the council. Jonathan Mayo, a senior policy officer, has been organising the provision of maps which the plan needs and at a later date the council will review the drafts of the neighbourhood plan

Richard went through the next 6 months and outlined the consultations which will take place. (See presentation)The forum intends to use Woodford's model of presenting a shorter version of the neighbourhood plan at Reg 14 so that it will be a reader friendly version .The full plan will be available to read on- line and in public places such as the library. A change in the National Planning Framework in 2016 means that now if the council plan to change the green belt, they must engage with the relevant policies in the Neighbourhood Plan . He emphasised that the plan belongs to the local community. Each vote counts and he encouraged each resident/business person in High Lane to participate in the consultations and final referendum.

7) Election of officers

Chair: Richard Jones proposed by Claire Porterfield , seconded by Jeni Regan

Vice chair: Jeni Regan proposed by Trish , seconded by Annette Hargreaves

Secretary: Claire Porterfield proposed by Anne Walker seconded by Neil Ball

Treasurer : This post is vacant but we are hopeful of filling it in the new year

8) Any Other Business

No other business was submitted

9) Questions from the floor then followed (See Appendix A below)

Last Words: Hilary Stephenson, Chair of the RA , reiterated Richard' s earlier point urging residents: Please take part in the consultations and encourage your neighbours to do the same. Get as many people as possible involved so that it is truly a community plan.

The AGM finished at 5pm.

Next Meeting

The Neighbourhood Forum's next meeting is November 27th at 7.30pm at Windlehurst Meeting Room

Appendix A

1 Is the Neighbourhood Plan looking at improving access to the Middlewood Way including from the A6 for people who are less able at walking?

The answer is yes, the plan is looking at improving access . Sustrans is attending the next forum meeting and access to cycle ways / footpaths will be discussed with them

2 Does anyone know anything about the long term future of Norbury Hollow as a manned level crossing?

Richard said the neighbourhood forum had not heard anything about automation at the level crossing.

3 A question was asked about the plans of an independent consultant who attended the Open Day representing a land owner. Richard stated the forum is not engaging with individual developers /consultants at this stage. The consultant who was present this afternoon was able to hear local people's opinions on development in the area. The neighbourhood plan is providing a community based alternative which the council will have to consider. Evelyn Frearson, honorary secretary of Woodford Neighbourhood Forum ,confirmed that Woodford did not engage with landowners / developers until Reg 14 consultation which High Lane has not yet reached. When the HLVN forum reaches Reg 14 consultations, it will respond to the views of landowners/developers.

4 Where will the neighbourhood plan be available?

Draft versions of the plan for consultation will be available on line at on the forum's web site and also available in the local library. There will be 3 official consultations, the final one being a referendum in which all residents of High Lane are entitled to vote to decide whether the plan is adopted.