

Meeting of High Lane Village Neighbourhood Forum

Date: 19 March 2019 **Time:** 7.30pm **Venue:** Windlehurst Meeting Room

Present: Richard Jones, Anne Walker, Helen Stocks, Neil Ball, Annette Hargreaves, Carol Taylor Bruce, Janet Burks, Trish Freeman, Steve Williams, Claire Porterfield, Hilary Stephenson, Aron Thornley, Jean Fieldes

Apologies: Ann Young

1) Approval of previous minutes

The minutes were approved with the exception of the figure 2014 houses in Section 3 bullet point 2 which should have read 214

2) Ideas on Conservation in High Lane

Carol introduced Jean Fieldes who formerly worked as Historic Areas Regeneration Manager for SMBC and who also used to live in High Lane.

- Jean outlined how an area can be designated for conservation and some of the reasons a conservation area for High Lane could be considered. She pointed out that a clear description of the character and identity of High Lane would improve the draft Plan. HL's character is not easy to define as it is quite a fragmented settlement which has developed in a linear way along a Roman road. She pointed out there are a surprising number of listed buildings in HL and suggested applications for listed status for the old School House and Coach House could also be made.
- For a conservation area to be designated among the features the area has to have are: the presence of listed buildings/ historic layout of roads, both of which HL has. Jean explained that you need to be able to draw a line on the map around an area which has special character. She suggested the core of the village could be said to be where the canal crosses the road and suggested a linear conservation area could be considered round the canal area. Other areas in High Lane are the area round the church with Hartley Woods opposite and maybe a 'satellite' area such as the Windlehurst settlement which has a rich history. The Macclesfield Canal was designated a conservation area in 2000 and there is a management plan in place for this.
- She advised that information on what is involved in creating a conservation area can be found on SMBC's web site and stated that the council has a duty to protect a conservation area. Jean suggested a glossary of the terms used in the Plan would be helpful.

Action: It was agreed that a copy of the Design Codes document would be forwarded to Jean as her suggestions link into aspects of this document. Claire to do this.

Action: The Heritage group of the forum to look at the details of the management plan for the Macclesfield Canal and report on how this could inform HL's Plan. They will be the lead on the conservation ideas.

Action: Jean suggested contacting Paul Hartley at SMBC for advice on conservation. This is to be done following the forum's initial investigations round the subject.

Action: Claire to contact Evelyn at Woodford Neighbourhood Plan re the use of a Glossary

Action: It was agreed that at the next/another meeting the group will brainstorm ideas to try to define more closely the character and identity of HL. In preparation for this leaders of the sub groups are asked to read through their section of the Draft Plan considering how they have portrayed the village's character and identity and whether amendments need to be made in the interests of consistency.

Overall it was agreed that the idea of a conservation area links well to the work of the Heritage Group and to the emphasis in the Plan on preserving distinctive views which give the village its character. Jean was thanked very much for her presentation and for sharing her specialised knowledge with the forum and sowing new ideas for the Neighbourhood Plan which can hopefully be taken forward.

3) Election of Vice Chair

All members are very sorry to hear of the resignation of Jeni Regan as vice chair due to work and family commitments. Jeni has done great work towards the creation of the Plan and brought invaluable knowledge and skills to the complicated process of policy creation. She will be keeping in touch with the Plan's progress through remaining a member of the Forum.

Nomination for vice chair has been received. Results are:

Janet Burks : Proposed by Anne Walker

:Seconded by Carol Taylor Bruce

Janet was duly elected and thanked for accepting the nomination.

4) Ways of Working

It was agreed :

- All committee members will be ccd in communications
- More information will be shared with Members of the Forum and their feedback sought on versions of the draft Plan
- Claire to send out an up to date list of committee e mail addresses to all committee members

- E mails to be sent out with specific titles to improve ease of communication

5) Meeting with Andy Burnham

(i) Richard reported on the meeting organised by Kenny Blair with Andy Burnham and attended by representatives from the Residents Association, Save Stockport Green Belt and High Lane Neighbourhood Forum as well as Kenny himself in order to discuss issues around GMSF and the High Lane proposal specifically.

(ii) Richard stated Andy Burnham listened attentively and an outcome of the meeting was acceptance of the fact that transport is a very big issue for this area and that the transport policy for High Lane is not adequate. In response Andy Burnham suggested setting up a new working party with TFGM. This was agreed and there will be representatives from GMCA, SMBC and TFGM present

(iii) The committee agreed this seemed a good idea and it was suggested the working party with TFGM should have community representatives from the Residents Association and Neighbourhood Forum who have no political agenda. Trish and Neil offered to represent the Neighbourhood Forum. Peter Stephens is representing the Residents Association.

Action: At the next meeting there will be a discussion of the points the forum wishes to raise at this working party meeting with TFGM. The Neighbourhood Plan will benefit as these meetings will be recorded within it showing the extensive consultation which has taken place in preparing the Plan and thus adding weight to the Plan's final policies.

6) GMSF Response

Aron praised the response to GMSF put together by Richard on behalf of the Neighbourhood Forum saying it was comprehensive and detailed.

A question was asked about the results of the air pollution monitoring which has taken place recently in High Lane paid for by residents' contributions. It was stated that average readings so far have been 38 which is under the 40 the figure taken as excessive. However readings will vary dependent on weather conditions so this is not the full picture yet. The council have also installed pollution monitoring which will be in place through the summer.

Action: The air quality results will be monitored and reviewed by the forum after more readings have been obtained.

7) Report from Anne Walker

Anne had a conversation with Sue Stevenson, Head of Highways and Transportation at Stockport, at the drop in GMSF information meeting held at the village hall recently. They discussed issues like the development of Middlewood Station and extension of buses to High Lane.

Action: Anne to e mail Sue to confirm the details of what was said, then send a summary to Trish, Richard and Janet

Action: Sue to be invited to the meeting with TFGM

8) First Draft Version of Neighbourhood Plan

- The draft is out for informal consultation with High Lane residents and workers and SMBC between March 9th – March 30th. It was agreed that now that the GMSF consultation has closed we will extend the publicity round the draft Plan consultation.

Action: Neil will put a post on Facebook inviting local residents and Partners to respond to the consultation. Janet will put up more posters around the village. Claire will ask Mike Morton to put up posters in the village hall and notice board in the village hall car park.

- Claire was reminded to keep copies of all publicity material as evidence of consultations carried out.
- 12 responses have been received so far via the post box in High Lane library where there are hard copies of the Plan and questionnaires for completion. Richard has not heard from the council re support with the Strategic Environmental Assessment which has to be completed as part of the Plan.

Action: Council to be contacted re the SEA.

- Trisha suggested points from the Public Health Summary document (see attachment) reviewing interventions to improve air quality can be included in the Plan. The Summary refers extensively to the danger posed by air pollution. It was suggested we include some of their strategies in our Plan.

Action: We will reference the whole Public Health Summary document into our Plan.

- Richard outlined the next steps of the timeline.
- This version of the draft to be reviewed in April following feedback from local residents and the council
 - Next version of the draft out in June with Design Codes complete
 - Formal Reg 14 consultation with local people and SMBC for 6 weeks

9) Web site

Claire met with Jamie on 15/3 for 90 minutes to discuss positioning of information on the web site, the Draft Plan and Questionnaire among others, and ways of working going forward. Jamie stated:

- Please send material for the web site to Claire who will forward it to him as it's easier to have a single point of contact
- Keep e mail titles short and specific re content. The same applies to Save as titles of documents eg gmsf-consultation-response
- Please send materials for the web site in one go when they are complete not in bits and pieces. Be precise about where material should be placed on the web site.
- Jamie offered if he's available to attend a forum meeting 20 minutes before its official start for discussion at times when new material needs to go on the site.
- He asked for brief feedback confirming we are satisfied when new material goes on the site.

There was unanimous agreement to Jamie's requests and Richard expressed gratitude for the extra work which Jamie has carried out for the forum .

Action: A timeline of documents and approximate dates to be given to Jamie so that he has prior notice of work to be done on the web site. Neil and Richard offered to do this.

10) Funding and Grant Returns

(i) The Neighbourhood Forum will have to submit a report on what has been spent from the grant received in this financial year.

Action: Steve to meet with Barry Sequeira, treasurer of the Residents Association

Action: Richard to send to Steve information regarding the 2 grants. A check needs to be made on what has been paid out

Action: Committee members were asked to send receipts /invoices for any outstanding money owed.

(ii) It was agreed that after that any spare money should go to Jamie or to Louise whose services may be needed to complete the Design Codes document.

(iii)There was discussion over ways to raise money for the final year. The SEA may need a grant application. It was suggested we seek sponsorship from local businesses for the publication of the final version of the Plan.

Action: Claire to send Richard a list of Partners e mail addresses

Action: Anne W and Janet offered to investigate if some funding can be obtained through Marple Area Committee.

11) AOB

Trish pointed out there are still some maps missing from the Plan. Our difficulty is that as we are not a parish council we do not have access to free maps which parish

councils are given the code for. We will have to pay SMBC for remaining maps required. Trish had found a map showing the position of Middlewood Station which may be useful.

Action: Disley to be contacted to see if they can offer any help .

12) Next Meeting

Date : 30th April 2019 **Time :** 7.30pm **Venue:** Windlehurst Meeting room

The meeting closed at 9.15pm