

High Lane Residents Association

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 6th February 2020 8:00 pm
High Lane Library

Present: Exec Committee, Cllr MacAlister and 18 other members. Apologies received from B Sequeira, A Sequeira, I Carpenter, A Walker, P Ramsey and Cllr Thornley

Projects and events

Canal towpath: Next maintenance session planned for Friday 21st February 2020.

Former High Lane Station site restoration: Winter walk and unveiling of plaque at Rose Hill Station took place 4th January 2020. We have been offered some books on local rail heritage for HLRA fund raising (notice to be placed in Library and St Thomas Magazine; copies will be available at next meeting)

Heritage Walk by David Kitching: following up HLRA's AGM, HS to contact David with potential dates for Sundays in June.

Path clearance near Tennis Club: Helen R suggested volunteers could help with cutting back and clearing this path later in the year; Cllrs to be asked if this path can also be included in weed spraying

Village street scene

Flooding problems: SMBC has commissioned an independent investigation into last years floods which affected some properties in the area, a number of drop in events have already been held but residents affected can contact the council. A dedicated page has been set up on the SMBC website.

Highway Improvement Programme - pavements resurfacing: HLRA have had a reply from the council to the letter we sent (regarding concerns raised about the poor preparation, specification and likely lifespan of the resurfacing) claiming the work has been done to standard. IC has responded noting that we will also monitor for the promised weed spraying. Residents concerns are on the record with the council should any problems or defects materialise in the future.

Overgrown hedges and verges: Noted that some of the hedges on the Middlewood side of Buxton Road had now been cut back, but not all. SR has begun strimming the neglected verge on the A6 near Middlewood Road and prepare for bulb planting.

Bulb planting: a large supply of bulbs has been provided via the Councillors. A volunteer has been identified and is assembling a team for planting these.

Replacement of lamps / new lampposts Alderdale/Cromley: Cllr Thornley has asked for action

Bowfell/Keswick Road bridge passage: we have now purchased and fixed the no-horses signs at both ends of the passageway, thanks to DB for closing this out.

Pavement parking, etc: blackspots reported on Russell Avenue (thought to be staff from the Nursery) and other areas generally where inconsiderate parking is blocking the footpath for people with mobility vehicles and pushchairs, but also affecting traffic flow etc. HLRA to approach the Nursery initially then look at producing notices that residents can put through doors if necessary. Other problems concerning lorry parking near the shops, a pavement safety incident where a lady was injured on Daisy Way, traffic warden attendances/enforcement and an abandoned vehicle on the Medical Centre car park were also discussed.

HLRA Spring Litter Pick: date to be agreed

Graffiti removal: a proliferation of graffiti has appeared throughout the village and has been reported by a number of people. Some residents have already begun to remove this themselves where practical. HLRA to look at buying cleaning material if volunteers can be identified to help

Housing, planning, highways, transport

Impact of A555: The council is currently consulting locally on this and the mitigation measures. Letter sent to households and drop-in events arranged for 11 February at the Village Hall, 12 February at Windlehurst Methodist Chapel, both 3:30pm – 7:00pm. Residents encouraged to respond with their thoughts by filling in the form sent with the letter or by email to Highlanetm@stockport.gov.uk consultation closes 28 February 2020.

Local planning applications: EH reported on these; minor domestic only.

GMSF: Cllr MacAlister noted that the next stage of consultation on the final plan is now being proposed for summer 2020.

Meeting with Andy Burnham: the proposed meeting between the GM Mayor and representatives from local community groups on 21 January 2020 was cancelled at short notice and replaced by a meeting organised by the local Labour Party. Still pushing the Mayor's office for the originally agreed meeting, possibly May 2020.

Greater Manchester Bus Consultation: HLRA has made a submission to this consultation to raise the local inadequacies of public transport options.

Air quality: PS suggestion that a copy of DW's report and comments on the Redmore Environmental report be sent to Sue Stevenson at SMBC was agreed. Also reported that the effect of standing traffic on side roads, because of congestion on the A6, is now an increasing concern (a point to make in response to the current traffic consultation).

Community speed watch: Alan James has continued to press the police and other officials, including William Wragge, in relation to the lack of response from the police on the promised training programme, even though our team of volunteers has been ready and waiting for several months. Latest position from GMP's Inspector is that the training programme is now to be trialled in 3 divisions but ours is not one of them. If successful, the intention is then to rollout force-wide. HLRA to write to the Chief Constable to re-state our concerns and ask for action. AJ reported that the promised 'residents access only' signs for the Thornway/Meadway road network have still not been provided – Cllr MacAlister confirmed that the Ward has already paid for these and will chase up.

Traffic management cameras on A555: Cllr Thornley has advised these should now be installed by the end of February 2020

Narrow/ non-existent pavement at top of Carr Brow: the problem for pedestrians was reported where the footpath disappears and is deeply rutted at the top of the brow approaching the junction with Light Alders Road, this is now worse because of the volume of rat-running traffic coming over Jacksons Edge at speed. HLRA (HS) to contact Disley Parish Council and SMBC and report back.

Safe Cycleways and Multi-Use Paths: PS and DB have attended Cllr Thornley's meeting regarding setting up a Cycling and Walking Group for Marple/High Lane to identify improvements to take cyclists off the A6 onto safer routes. Currently it is uncertain if funds will be available for the work needed. Multi-use paths are under discussion to also include walkers and horse-riders; the need for sufficiently wide paths and measures to ensure courteous use of shared paths was highlighted.

Treasurer

Nothing to report (BS away)

Other Business

1. Noted that the manhole cover on the A6 is failing again (PS will report).

2. Reports of smoke/fumes from boats moored on the canal affecting houses on Russell Avenue and the children's playground when it is windy. HLRA (DB) will investigate with C&RT.
3. PS asked Cllrs about the latest plans for no-idling zones: Cllr MacAlister confirmed the proposal had been passed for areas outside schools but no date confirmed yet for implementation

Next meetings:

HLRA Open Meeting: **Thursday 5th March 2020**, 8pm High Lane Library

Marple Area Committee meets next on 11th March 2020, 6pm Marple Senior Citizens Hall