

NOTICE OF MEETING

COMMITTEE : North Luton Area Board
DATE : Thursday, 03 March 2016
TIME : 20:00
PLACE : FUTURES HOUSE, THE MOAKES, LUTON, LU3 3QB

COUNCILLORS : GARRETT (CHAIR) PEDERSEN
CAMPBELL PETTS
R. J. DAVIS ROWLANDS
GREEN WORLDING
LEWIS YOUNG

CO-OPTED MEMBERS: Bedfordshire Police Representative: A/Sgt Louise Bates
Luton Clinical Commissioning Group
Representative(s): Dr Anthea Robinson & Liz Cox
Ward Representative(s): tbc

QUORUM : 3 MEMBERS

Contact Officer: BERT SIONG (01582 546781)

INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

From 6.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Ward Forums will take place. The Forums will enable issues that are specifically relevant to each Ward to be discussed.

The Area Board will commence at 8.00 p.m.

PURPOSE: To enable the Council to effect locally based communication, consultation and decision-making.

This meeting is open to the public and you are welcome to attend.

For further information, or to see the papers, please contact us at the Town Hall:



IN PERSON, 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, or
CALL the Contact Officer (shown above).

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AGENDA

<i>Agenda Item</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Page No.</i>
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2	MINUTES	
2.1	Minutes - 15th October 2015	3 - 12
3	Chair's Announcements	
4	Feedback from Ward Forums	
5	Public Question Time	
6	Petitions, If Any	
6.1	Petition - Maintenance of Trees – Limbury Road (Report of the Parks Operations Manager, Steve Battlebury, LBC)	13 - 15
	REPORTS	
7	Luton Clinical Commissioning Group - Update (Oral Report of Anthea Robinson/ Liz Cox - Luton CCG)	
8	Coronation Meadow on Riverside Walk – Petition Follow Up (Report of the Parks & Cemeteries Manager, Barry Timms, LBC)	16 - 19
9	Luton Rights of Way Improvement Plan (Presentation by the Service Manager, Transportation & Regulation, Keith Dove, LBC)	
10	You Said, We're Doing - Neighbourhood Governance Progress Report (Report of the Community Development Manager)	20 - 27
11	Items for Next Board Meeting	
12	Date of Next Meeting: To be confirmed	

NORTH LUTON AREA BOARD

15th OCTOBER 2015 at 8.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Garrett (Chair), Councillors Campbell, R. J. Davis, Green, Lewis, Pedersen, Petts, Rowlands, Worlding, Young

CO-OPTED MEMBERS: Sgt Ruth Connelly - Bedfordshire Police
Dr Chirag Bakhai (Substitute for Dr Anthea Robinson & Liz Cox - Luton CCG

11. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE (REF: 1)

An apology for absence from the meeting was received on behalf of Dr Anthea Robinson, Luton CCG, who was substituted by Dr Chirag Bakhai.

12. MINUTES (REFS: 2.1)

Resolved: That the minutes of the meetings held on 22nd June 2015 be taken as read, approved as correct records and signed by the Chair.

13. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (REF: 3)

Board Members introduced themselves.

The Chair requested that, due to the lack of suitable facilities with some of the school venues used for meetings, e.g. accessibility and provision of adult size tables and chairs, residents and Members consider a suggestion to use Futures House for all future North Area Board meetings. The Area Board Support Officer would look into the matter.

Resolved: That the Area Board Support Officer be requested to enquire into the feasibility of using Futures House for all future North Area Board meetings.

14. FEEDBACK FROM WARD FORUMS (REF: 4)

Feedback on top three key issues discussed at each ward were noted by Members as follows:

Sundon Park Ward

- Problems with parking near the shops, causing congestion in Sundon Park Road, a main thoroughfare – to be referred to Highways;
- Leagrave Park problems with drainage, which tended to flood – to be referred to Parks;
- Developments in people's back gardens allegedly without planning permission – reports to Planning encouraged;

Limbury Ward

- Problems with fly tipping and littering – residents encouraged to report to the Council;

- Parking on the pavement and corners of junctions blocking line of vision for motorists – to be reported to Highways to look into enforcement;
- Speeding concerns remained with lack of enforcement of the 20 mph speed limit;
- Concerned that Police did not always report back to Ward Forum on issues referred to them;

Northwell Ward

- Fly tipping and general rubbish problems across town and Marsh Farm Area;
- Parking on the pavement;
- Council Houses repairs not done to standard.

Icknield Ward

- Parking problems yellow lines near schools;
- Problems with HGVs in Grasmere Road area;
- Problems with Refuse bins in Birdsfoot Lane;
- Press release seen that Barnfield College might be looking to move from the New Bedford Road site. Something to look out for.

Bramingham Ward

- Problems with students apparently from Barnfield College dropping litter near Sainsbury's, where they tend to go for their take away food and smoke;
- Parking on pavements in Ickwell Close causing danger as sight obscured;
- Speeding in Quantock Rise.

Resolved: That the feedback on the top key issues from the Ward Forums be noted.

15. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (REF: 5)

Police

Sgt Connelly announced she will be moving due being seconded into a new role after 4 years attending Area Boards meeting.

The Chair thanked her for her contributions to the Ward Forums and Board meetings and wished well into her new role.

Pipes Laying Works - Icknield Way

Responding to a question on sewer pipes being laid in Icknield Way, Barry Timms stated the works was for flood attenuation and that the land would be returned to open space afterwards.

Housing

Responding to a question on Council Housing waiting list and allocation priorities, Members responded/ commented as follows:

Cllr Davis

- The housing waiting list was about 10,000 due to population growth and not enough houses being built;

- The priority was to house local people who had been for a while;
- People being housed in Luton by London Boroughs was a cause for concern, as they would become Luton problems eventually, but there was nothing the Council could do, as it was Government policy;

Cllr Worthing

- Many people were evicted from private rentals, as their benefits were not enough to pay the rent. These were classed as intentionally homeless and after a short period in temporary accommodation, they would become homeless. Many were appealing the Council's decision;
- Government policy blamed.

Cllr Garrett (Chair

- This was not necessarily the Government's fault, as there was a lack of space in Luton to build houses. People living just over the outskirts of Luton, did not want to have houses built near them for Luton people;
- There were a few brown field sites in Luton, but these were expensive to build on.

Resolved: That issues discussed as a result of public questions be noted;

16. PETITION - CORONATION MEADOW – RIVERSIDE WALK (Ref: 6.1)

Barry Timms, the Council's Parks Manager, presented his report (Ref: 6.1), relating to the 173 signature petition objecting to the Scheme for wildflowers Meadows on the field adjacent to Limbury Leisure Gardens, submitted by Mrs Diane Cullen of 95 Bosmore Road, Luton.

He drew attention to paragraphs 6 to 9 of the report which set out the events leading up to the decision to go ahead with the scheme. He went on to explain the schemes referring to plans provided in Appendices A and B.

He stated Area 1 and Area 2 in Appendix A had been cultivated to form the meadow, with seeds sown in September 2015, resulting in the concerns expressed by the local residents. In response, a site meeting was held on the 20th September 2015. Residents' concerns included: no room for children to play or for family to have picnics, no access by dog walkers. Further discussions were planned for the Ward Forum and this was switched to the Area Board agenda, in view of receipt of the petition.

He drew Members' attention to Area 3 in Appendix A, an alternative grass area available for children to play football 50 metres away.

He further added that it was the intention to provide a mown pathway network for walkers through the meadow to enjoy the flowers and that a small areas could be also be provided for people to have picnics.

He proposed three options for the Board to discuss and decide on, reproduced in full as follows:

Option 1

Members to accept that the balance between general parks access and conservation improvement is acceptable including the introduction of the meadow and take no action thus safeguarding the income to maintain the conservation areas of the riverside walk whilst also contributing positively to this authorities statutory duty to conserve bio diversity under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

Option 2

Members to consider reducing the size of the new meadow by 1000 square metres as shown on Appendix B to provide a kick about area, with a pathway network mown into the meadow to facilitate walking through the meadow to enjoy the flowers. Small areas could be mown for people to have picnics. .

Option 3

To accept the petition request and return the area shown as area 2 on the attached plan to grass land (10,000 square metre) leaving the Coronation Meadow to the area 1. This would mean a loss of income of £8,000 and in addition and the council funding the required reinstatement.

Cllr Rowlands stated she had not been aware of the scheme and that it was regrettable the consultation was in 2009, when she was not a councillor. She suggested it might be a good place when developed, as it had just been started, but appreciated the concerns expressed by residents about the area being taken away. She believed residents would still be able to use the area.

Cllr Lewis said he shared the concerns that the matter could have been handled better, but in principle thought the area could still be attractive if people could use it as before. Although people felt the area could not be used, he stated when he visited it, there were people using it and walking through.

A number of residents commented on the issue, key points summarised as follows:

- The need to close the affected area was questioned. It was alleged that the Council had taken part of Wardown Park for a mini meadow without consultation. The speaker had not heard about the Limbury site meeting. She suggested the dug up area should be returned to grass and Wardown Park meadow be used;
- A month before, someone from the Wild Life Trust at the site indicated only Limbury marsh would be turned into a wild flower meadow, with a path provided. Four weeks later the whole field had been dug up. How could Council staff not know about should have happened. Was this a mistake by the Council?;
- Park in Area 3 used during summer months. Danger caused to people, children and dogs from drivers going to the allotments in Neville Road due to the undergrowth up the path. As wild life encouraged, rats had been seen and as there were residents all around, what would be done to combat this?;
- Given the 173 signature, people felt strognly, as park used in the summer by families and children playing football. No one seen there since;

- Had used the park, as had his children, grand children and more recently great grand children. Also done canoeing and fishing, but not able to do so now;
- No consultation done. Who had right of way between walkers and people driving to the allotments, as could not walk across now?
- Had strong feelings on this issue as consultation was ineffective. Had attended site meeting and at no point was there any clue that the whole park would be ploughed up - an outrage. Was this an excuse for the council not to mow the grass because of funding cuts? The council asked to listen sympathetically and reinstate the park as it was. Suggestion made for wildflowers be planted along unused area along both sides of the river bank instead.

Members further commented as follows:

- Cllr Garrett, the Chair said this issue had not previously been raised at the North Area Board meeting;
- Cllr Rowlands stated people had expressed constructive views, which Barry Timms should take away and consider where to re-locate the wild flower meadow;
- Cllr. Lewis said he regretted people were put in a position when they had to protest. He added the message was clear and that the officer should take it back and consider how to compromise and give people back what they wanted and would be able to use, as well as have a meadow somewhere else.

The Parks Manager commented there had been a suggestion to use the wet meadow by the Moat House.

Having heard all the comments and views of the Parks Manager, residents and Ward Councillors, the Board unanimously decided to support the petition, objecting to the Scheme for wildflowers Meadows on the field adjacent to Limbury Leisure Gardens, requesting that “at least half of the field be re-instated” to its original state for community use.

Resolved: (i) That the Parks Manager be requested to re-consider the decision to turn Coronation Meadow in the field adjacent to Limbury Leisure Gardens into a wildflower meadow, and with full involvement of residents, including the petitioners and the Ward Councillors discuss a compromise, including the reinstatement of the whole of or at least half of the field to its original state for community use and re-locating the wild flower scheme elsewhere;

(ii) That the Parks Manager be requested to inform the lead petitioner of the decision of the Board;

(iii) That the Parks Manager be requested to inform the Board at its next meeting, of the outcome of the re-consideration of this issue.

17. FORMER SUNDON PARK LIBRARY SITE - CONSULTATION PROCESS WITH RESIDENTS (REF: 7)

Yinka Jawando, the Estates Surveyor, Fixed Assets updated the Board orally in relation to the sales of the former Sundon Park Library site. He said it had not been possible to stop the process, as the decision had been upheld and the sale completed.

He added he had been requested to arrange a meeting between the buyer and residents to deal with concerns that the site would be turned into a religious Centre. He said the buyer had confirmed the site would be used as a children nursery and not as a religious centre and the officer was therefore not clear on the purpose the meeting.

Yinka Jawando then responded to questions/ comments, providing further information as follows:

- If a tree had been cut down against a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), that was a planning issue, a matter that Ward Councillor Green could look into;
- In relation to the Council policy on disposal of assets, he refuted the suggestion that some buyers were getting preferential treatment. He explained sales were normally advertised through a local Estate Agent and auctioned by tender using sealed bids and sold to the highest bidder. He said he was personally present when the sealed bids for the former Sundon Park Library site were opened by the Agent and the highest bidder was selected;
- A specific question on the site of the former Engine Public House was ruled out of order, as not on the agenda;
- A specific question on the site of the former Sundon Park Community Centre was postponed until the next item on the Agenda.

Resolved: That the oral update of the Estates Surveyor, Fixed Assets relating to consultation on the disposal process of the site of the former Sundon Park Library be noted.

18. DISPOSAL PROCESS OF THE FORMER SUNDON PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE - COUNCIL'S INTENTIONS (REF: 8)

Yinka Jawando, the Estates Surveyor, Fixed Assets updated the Board orally in relation to the proposed disposal process of the site of the former Sundon Park Community Centre.

He said the Council had decided to put the matter on hold to consider the feasibility of developing the site for affordable housing purposes. If not feasible, the Executive would then need to decide on disposal at market rate to the Church or if their bid was not successful, on the open market.

In relation to a question on concerns that the E-Learning Centre was going to be sold, the Estates Surveyor said it was not for sale. The Chair referred the questioner to speak to the Ward Councillor, as the matter was outside the meeting's agenda.

Resolved: That the oral update of the Estates Surveyor, Fixed Assets relating to the disposal process of the site of the former Sundon Park Community Centre be noted.

19. AFFINITY WATER - WATER SAVING PROGRAMME – PRESENTATION (REF: 9)

Nigel Beaven from Affinity Water Limited gave a presentation on the company's water saving programme (Ref: 9). The slides could be viewed from the following link: [North Luton Area Board 15 October 2015](#).

He highlighted a number of key points, including as follows:

- Affinity Water was largest water only company, supplying a population of 3.6 million people, with 900 million litres of water a day through a network of 16,500 km of water mains;
- Demand was increasing, with 600,000 extra people to service, a 17% increase over the next 25 years, with water supply decreasing over the same period;
- The 25 year plan was to ensure customers had enough water whilst leaving more water in the environment;
- The Water Saving Programme would involve engaging with customers to encourage them to work with the company to reduce the demand for water;
- 60% of customers had no idea how much water they used;
- Free water efficiency checks and advice would be provided on how to save water, including repairing customer side leaks and provision of free water saving devices to all Affinity water customers;
- The company's 10 year water saving programme contained 3 elements:
 - Helping customers save water, save energy and save money on their energy bills;
 - Reduce leakage across the whole network by 14% over 5 years;
 - Increase installation of water metres to 90% of homes;
- The aim of the 10 Year programme was to save 56 million litres of water per day;
- Smart water metres would be installed over the next 5 years to monitor over a 2 year period how much water used by each household and advice given to reduce usage, before metered bills introduced;
- Top tips for saving water included: turning tap off of when brushing teeth, 4 minutes shower using water saving shower heads, fix dripping taps, and using water butt to collect rain water for use in the garden.

Nigel Beaven then responded to questions/ comments, providing further information as follows:

- Rain water should be used for allotments;
- Cost of 1000 litres of water was about £1.13;
- All customers eligible to have water saving checks;
- There would be increased partnership arrangements between water companies to move water around from one area to another to balance supply and demand over the next 5 years, as no more water expected to be available;
- Business premises were already metered;

- Water companies were not a Planning consultee, but there should be better relationships with Planning authorities, to encourage builders to provide new houses facilities to collect rain water;
- The programme included swapping old metres with smart metres in due course; more information available.

Resolved: (i) That Nigel Beaven's presentation on Affinity Water's Limited water saving programme be noted.

(ii) That the Board's thanks to Nigel Beaven for taking time to attend the meeting and presenting Affinity Water's Limited water saving programme be noted.

20. FLYING START 2014-2024 – LUTON'S PREGNANCY TO FIVE YEARS STRATEGY (REF: 10)

Joe Biskupski, the Flying Start - Community Participation & Volunteering Manager gave a presentation of his report (Ref: 10),

He highlighted a number of key points, including as follows:

- The Luton's Flying Start Strategy was to make a real difference to the lives and life chances of Luton's youngest children – from pregnancy to 5 years for future generations, which was a big challenge in Luton;
- The two main aims were:
 - To work in Partnership with Pre-school Learning Alliance, Luton Borough Council, Clinical Commissioning Group and others; and
 - To work with families from pregnancy to 5 years to try and prevent problems before they arise;
- The ambition was to improve outcomes in three key areas:
 - Communication & language – better educational outcomes and employment opportunities;
 - Social & emotional – secure attachment, emotional resilience and improved school readiness;
 - Nutrition & diet – better understanding of nutrition and healthy behaviours, increased breastfeeding, lower obesity and dental decay;
- Work completed so far included:
 - Training Luton's children's workforce in *Five to Thrive*;
 - Developing the Flying Start Worker model;
 - Piloting the *Bumps, Babies and Toddlers Plus* drop-in clinic;
 - Implementing the *Sign 4 Little Talkers*, *Sign 4 Big Feelings* and *Baby Babble* interventions and developing the *Bump to Babe* antenatal programme across Luton;
 - Developing the Flying Start Volunteering Programme;
- The local community formed the foundation of the work, ensuring parent and community-led decision making was part of the process, to positively and systematically change the lives of ALL the youngest children in Luton for future generations;

- Creating volunteering opportunities for community members to sit on the Flying Start Management Board to play an active role in the delivery of the strategy, communicating, supporting and signposting parents to local organisations that could help and support them. ;
- Me Time Family – to improve Physical activities within the family;
- Fathers Matter – peer support for good fatherhood to pass positive message on;
- Volunteer accredited training would be provided.

Resolved: (i) That Joe Biskupski's presentation on the Flying Start 2014-2024 – Luton's Pregnancy to Five Years Strategy be noted.

(ii) That the Board's thanks to Joe Biskupski for taking time to attend the meeting and presenting the Flying Start 2014-2024 – Luton's Pregnancy to Five Years Strategy be noted.

21. LUTON CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP – UPDATE (REF: 11)

Dr Chirag Bakhai and Liz Cox, Luton CCG presented the Luton CCG update (Ref: 11), highlighting the following key points:

- The new mental health service provider, East London Foundation Trust (ELFT) started on 1st April 2015 and working hard to improve services and quality;
- Access to psychological therapies now available on self-referral basis;
- Cambridgeshire Communities services (CCS) were awarded a 2 year contract to continue to deliver community health services. Future options would be considered after April 2017;
- Virgin Care was awarded the contract for intermediate Care, formerly also provided by CCS ;
- Consultation on the re-provision of 4 GP Practices' contracts was about to start between now and Christmas, exact launch date not yet decided;
- Public views sought on the provision of urgent care;
- The CCG was working with partners on the 'Better Together' programme to integrate services around patients' needs. A multi-disciplinary team was responsible to deliver the programme;
- The CCG was in excess of £20m in deficit, a challenge to manage. Part of the reason for the deficit is the historic underfunding of Luton. Progress achieved to reduce the deficit, with target set for creating a surplus by 2017/18;
- The CCG was dealing with the overspend, e.g. attempting to reduce attendance to A&E and avoidable referrals to hospital, which was responsible for a significant cost.

Responding to public and Members' questions/comments, further information was provided as follows:

- The 4 GP Practices, although private concerns, provide NHS Doctors and appointments;
- Closure of a practice could be an option depending on the result of the consultation;
- ELFT had indeed set up a Psychiatry Liaison Service and doing well;

- When ready, as no date set yet, Sandra Hayes confirmed the consultation will be on the consultation portal on the Council website;
- Providers were monitored and scrutinised on a monthly basis to ensure they were meeting their contractual obligations and held to account if not. Ultimately, contract would not be renewed if a provider failed to provide the required level of service and, if other measures failed, could be terminated early;
- Feedback from Patients Reference Groups would be considered as part of the consultation;
- It was noted, the council health scrutiny group was a consultee;
- It was confirmed managed repeat prescriptions system had changed dramatically, due to high level of wastage and safety concerns with some patients stock piling medicine. A Pharmacist was on the CCG Clinical Commissioning Committee to establish close working relationship between GPs and Pharmacists;
- Patients' anxiety about the change was acknowledged.

Resolved: (i) That the progress report of the Luton CCG (Ref: 11 and part of Ref: 12 below) be noted.

(ii) That the Board's thanks to Dr Bakhai and Liz Cox for attending the meeting, providing the update and answering questions be recorded.

22. YOU SAID, WE'RE DOING NEIGHBOURHOOD GOVERNANCE PROGRESS REPORT (REF: 12)

The Community Development Project Manager presented the 'You Said, We're Doing' Neighbourhood Governance progress report drawing attention to the details in the leaflet (Ref: 12).

She said all partners were working well together and would be happy to provide any further information if contacted.

Resolved: That the 'You Said, We're Doing Neighbourhood Governance Progress Report be noted.

23. AGENDA PLANNING (REF: 13)

Resolved: That items agreed at this meeting and any other future items identified be included in the work programme for future meeting of the Board.

24. DATE OF NEXT MEETING (REF: 14)

Thursday 3rd March 2016

(Note: The meeting ended at 9.55 pm)

COMMITTEE: NORTH LUTON AREA BOARD

DATE: 3RD MARCH 2016

SUBJECT: PETITION - MAINTENANCE OF TREES – LIMBURY ROAD

REPORT BY: SERVICE DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING AND STREET SERVICES

CONTACT OFFICER: STEVE BATTLEBURY **Tel:** 01582 546761

IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL	✓	COMMUNITY SAFETY
EQUALITIES		ENVIRONMENT
FINANCIAL	✓	CONSULTATIONS
STAFFING		OTHER ✓

WARDS AFFECTED: LIMBURY

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is for Members to consider a petition from residents living in Limbury road requesting that the Council maintain the trees as they are blocking light affecting reception of the phone and TV satellite networks.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. **NORTH LUTON AREA BOARD is recommended to:**
 - (i) **Note that the trees do not require pruning at the current time as they are below the criteria relating to distance of the branches from the properties;**
 - (ii) **Instruct officers to inspect the trees again in September 2016 to assess whether they have grown to an extent that have reached the criteria that would require pruning in the coming autumn/winter**

BACKGROUND

3. There are 34 highway trees in Limbury Road between Icknield Road and the Junction at Marsh Road. There are also a number of privately owned trees along the frontage of the Caravan Park and the private property that is 144/146 Marsh Road.

4. The trees on the North side of the road comprise of 19 European Lime, one Sycamore and one Beech all mature in age class and of moderate condition with no particular health and safety risks.
5. On the South side of the street, many of the trees technically fall into joint ownership between the properties and the adopted highway however historically it seems to have been the Council that has taken the responsibility for their maintenance. Of these there are 10 Sycamore, one Lime and three Horse Chestnut. Again all of moderate condition, previously and historically hard pruned but again very low risk in terms of public health and safety.
6. Limbury Road trees were last pruned as a scheduled Crown Reduction in August 2009 and this type of work is carried out when the trees are out of leaf.
7. The trees were last inspected on the 26/02/2014 where it was identified that distances from properties remained satisfactory and at current growth rates pruning should not be required for between 2-3 years which remains within the scheduled 5-8 years pruning cycle.
8. Members should be aware that on the 29th April 2013 Members of the Council's Executive Committee decided to significantly reduce expenditure within the Council's Parks Section. This has led to a dramatic reduction in the level of service that residents can expect within this area resulting in works relating to Minor Non-Actionable Nuisance issues being withdrawn and the primary focus for tree works being directed solely towards Statutory Health and Safety Issues and the Council's Duty of Care under The Occupiers Liability Act 1984.

REPORT

9. A petition was received on the 7th November 2015 with 22 residents as signatories stating that: "People want the branches of the trees cut off or reduced in height and thinned out, because the trees are blocking the sunlight from coming in the house, furthermore the trees are also blocking the reception of the phone networks and TV satellite. According to the law if a tree is over the height of two meters it may be possible to seek the redress under the Tree and Hedges Regulations 2005, or shrubs over two meters high above the ground level and which act as a barrier to light"
10. Issues raised within the petition i.e. blocking the sunlight, blocking the reception of the phone networks and TV satellite are of Non-Actionable nuisance as indicated in paragraph eight above whereby the Council do not have a duty of care to take any action to prevent and this type of work was withdrawn when making the recent savings.
11. The trees being individual trees and not evergreen species therefore do not fall within the Hedges Regulations 2005 legislation. The statement of when trees are above two metres in height it may be possible to seek redress is also inaccurate as this applies only to high hedges.

12. The trees along Limbury Road receive annual summer maintenance to control the growth of basal suckers and epicormic shoots from their main stems. They are subject to a scheduled crown reduction which is repeated on a 5-8 yearly cycle.
13. At present in line with the Council's Executive Committee decision on the 29th April 2013 the above trees require no maintenance following an inspection completed in December 2015.
14. The next programmed inspection of these trees is scheduled for autumn 2016; to determine if they meet the criteria for programmed works and if they have grown sufficiently long then pruning will be completed in the winter 2016/17.

PROPOSAL/OPTION

15. Members are asked to select from the options listed below in respect of the trees in Limbury Road:

Option 1

Members can chose to accept that the issues identified are of a Non-Actionable nuisance whereby the Council does not have a duty of care to take any action. The trees will be inspected in autumn 2016 and considered for cyclical maintenance in the winter of 2016/17.

Option 2

To accept the petition request and instruct the Council to prune the trees at a cost of £10,000 which would require other streets to be delayed which may lead to further complaints subject to a further report to this committee.

Option 3

To fund the works from money from the new homes for Luton allocation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

16. The cost to prune the trees including the requirement for traffic management is estimated to be approximately £10,000 which is within the current tree maintenance budget.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

17. This report has been cleared by the councils legal section

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D

There are no background papers.

COMMITTEE: NORTH LUTON AREA BOARD

DATE: 3rd MARCH 2016

SUBJECT: CORONATION MEADOW ON RIVERSIDE WALK – PETITION FOLLOW UP

REPORT BY: SERVICE DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING AND STREET SERVICES

CONTACT OFFICER: BARRY TIMMS **Tel:** 01582 546702

IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL	✓	COMMUNITY SAFETY
EQUALITIES		ENVIRONMENT
FINANCIAL	✓	CONSULTATIONS
STAFFING		OTHER ✓

WARDS AFFECTED: LIMBURY

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is for Members to note the actions taken by officers in response to the previous report and to consider what future actions are to be taken at this site.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. **NORTH LUTON AREA BOARD is recommended to;**
 - (i) note the actions taken by the officers in returning Area 2 (see Appendix A) the main area of grass, to be mown as normal this season.
 - (ii) instruct the officers to complete a full consultation as to the future maintenance options for Riverside Walk.
 - (iii) allocate £3000 for the consultation to be completed.
 - (iv) monitor the success or otherwise of the over seeding, extending the non- mown area by two small areas at one end by varying the mowing line
 - (v) instruct officers to bring forward to the October meeting a report (if funded) on the outcome of this consultation.

REPORT

3. At the 15th October 2016 meeting the following actions were minuted
 - (i) That the Parks Manager be requested to re-consider the decision to turn Coronation Meadow in the field adjacent to Limbury Leisure Gardens into a wildflower meadow, and with full involvement of residents, including the petitioners and the Ward Councillors discuss a compromise, including the reinstatement of the whole of or at least half of the field to its original state for community use and re-locating the wild flower scheme elsewhere;
 - (ii) That the Parks Manager be requested to inform the lead petitioner of the decision of the Board;
 - (iii) That the Parks Manager be requested to inform the Board at its next meeting, of the outcome of the re-consideration of this issue.
4. Following that meeting the Parks manager arranged a meeting with Cllrs Lewis and Rowland and the following actions were agreed which have been actioned:
 - That the main area of grass shown as Area 1 on the attached Appendix A be returned to be regular mowing this season.
 - That the Coronation Meadow shall be restricted to Area 2 on the attached plan for this year.
 - That the coronation meadow sign should be moved to a new position on the corner of Area 2 which has been actioned.
 - That the lead petitioner shall be kept informed, again this has been actioned.
5. It should be noted that a late autumn cut of Area A has been completed and the other actions have been completed.
6. As requested alternative locations for a coronation meadow has been examined but none have been found suitable, as this land floods regularly, which suits this type of flora.
7. In order to assess whether this cultural approach works in the introduction of the new species into an established sward it is recommended that two areas of the main grass area be left unmown to be able to monitor what if any seed germinates and or establishes. This would be best accommodated by extending the non- mown areas in a couple of places by replacing the straight mowing line by a curved line.
8. Officers are of the view that this is still a worthy project as it sits well with the Councils' directives of improving the natural environment and the overall plan for riverside walk prepared in 2009. Therefore it warrants pursuing and it is suggested that a full consultation is completed over this summer to seek the

views of all the residents on the way forward for the maintenance of riverside walk.

9. Then taking the views of as many residents as possible draw up proposals for the future maintenance of riverside walk.

OPTIONS

10. Members are recommended to choose from the options below:

(i) To reject the officer recommendation to pursue a consultation with regard to the maintenance of Riverside Walk and leave the situation as per this report.

(ii) To accept the officers recommendation to arrange for a full consultation exercise to take place during this summer which would include leaflet drops, site meeting and workshops.

(ii) To allocate £3000 from the new homes for Luton funding to pay for the consultation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11. With the reduction in parks funding there is no current funding allocation for carrying out public consultations. Therefore in order for this consultation work to be completed additional finance will have to be sourced.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

12. This report has been cleared by the Council's legal section.

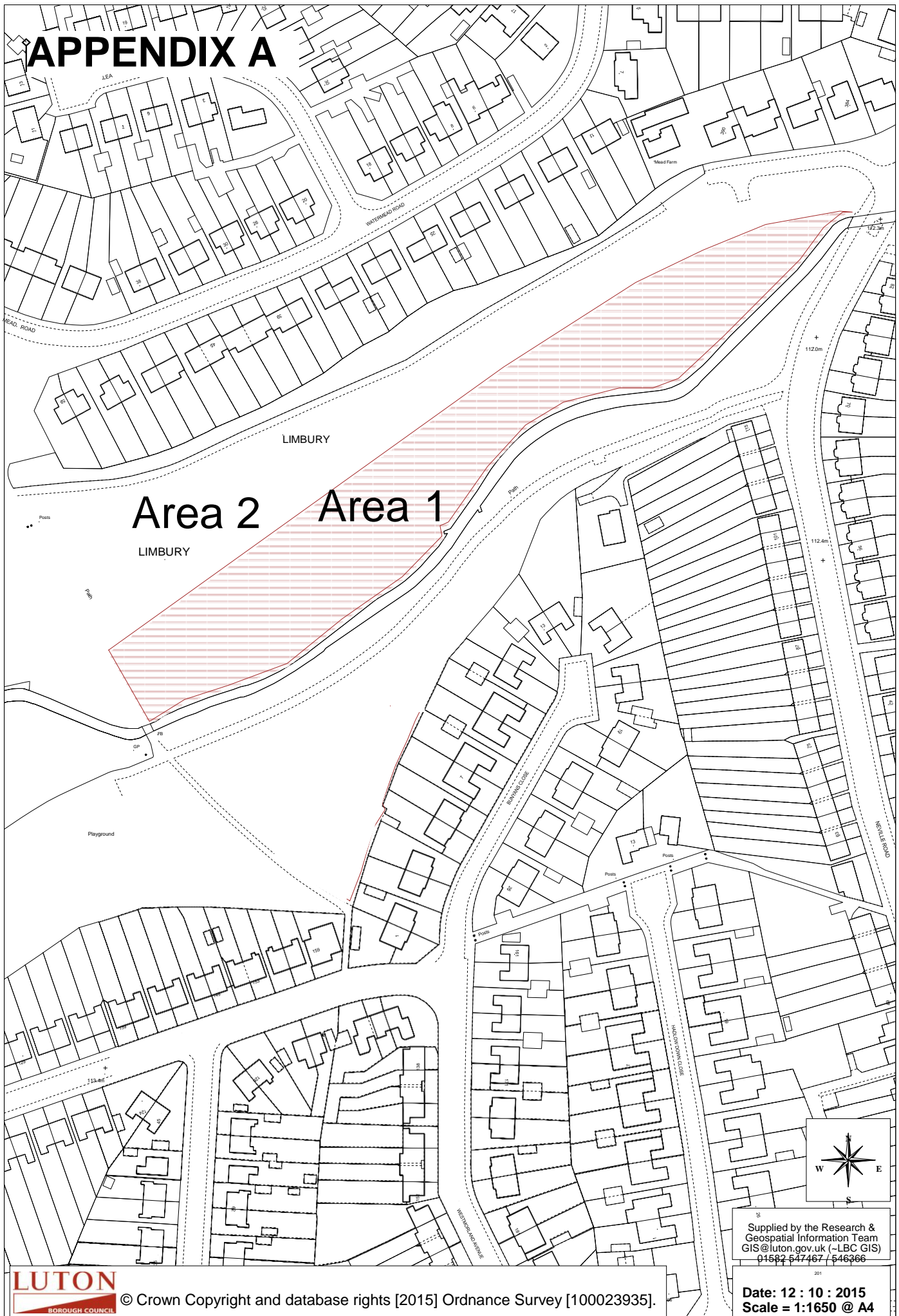
APPENDIX

Appendix A - Coronation Meadow on Riverside Walk Plan

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D

The background paper is the North Area Board report entitled Petition -Coronation Meadow agreed on the 15th October 2016.



**YOU SAID
WE'RE DOING**

**AGENDA ITEM
10**



Area North Report

Neighbourhood Governance
Progress Report: October 2015 – January 2016

Date: 3rd March 2016

Name of Chair: Cllr Michael Garrett

Reporting Officer: Sandra Hayes

This report gives an overview of progress on addressing community priorities in North Luton under the themes of 'safer and stronger communities', 'health and wellbeing' and 'environment and economy' as agreed by local people, councillors and council partners as part of the 'Your Say, Your Way' programme.





Marsh Farm Future News

Job Club

The job club continues to run on a Tuesday at Futures House 9.30 – 1.00pm for people in the local community who wish to come in and job search or update CVs. Support is on site if required. We are hoping to provide help for members of the community to brush up on their interview skills or have feedback from an employer on their CVs, soon.

Members of the community can also access the Community Resource Room, when it is available, if they wish to use a computer/printer or need a space to complete college work etc.

Exercise Class

The exercise class that runs on a Thursday evening is very successful and is used by 18 – 20 residents.

We are now looking at running a new gentle exercise class for the over 50s. The exercises can be done sitting in a chair. This class will start on Wednesday 2nd March, 11.00 am – 12.00 noon. £2 per person.

Futures Young Voice

The youth drop in sessions run for 14 – 18yrs are held at Lea Manor Youth Zone on Monday evenings between 6.30–8.30pm. They continue to be successful with an average of 20 young people attending per week.

A Youth Engagement Day will take place early April, and will focus on gang and knife crime, drugs and alcohol and personal safety.

Futures Community Voice

This is a new group made up of residents of Marsh Farm supported by Marsh Farm Futures at Futures House. We are hoping that more residents will join and get involved in the group in any way that suits them. The group has been set up to give residents of Marsh Farm a voice, and to provide an opportunity for them to express their views and recommendations for improving the experience of living in Marsh Farm especially in their own area. The group has already listened to concerns which include fly tipping and dumping of rubbish and would like to see the areas in which they live cleaned up.

In October last year the Community Voice ran a pilot project in Denmark Close, which was a big success. Over one weekend, Ivy and overgrown bushes were cut down. Luton Borough Council's street cleansing department came in and helped clear fly tipping and residents were given the opportunity to bring out large items of furniture that they needed removing. Fences were also painted and members of the Community Voice worked alongside residents including children and young people to help, and Marsh Farm Futures very kindly bought lunch and refreshments.

Futures Community Voice will be looking to do more work across the estate and would love to hear from residents as your input, ideas, suggestions and support are extremely valuable.

Drug information and advice

A new drop-in has started at Futures House for under 25s delivered by SAFE who are part of Luton drug and alcohol services. If you are worried about your own or somebody else's drug use, free confidential advice is available on Wednesdays between 3.00 – 4.30pm

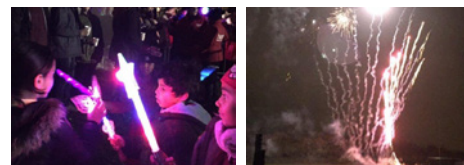
For Further INFORMATION on any of the above ACTIVITIES Please Contact CATHY MCSHANE e-mail: cathy@marshfarmfutures.co.uk or telephone 01582 512555

REMEMBER, REMEMBER 5TH NOV

Marsh Farm's huge community fireworks display that lit up the night skies above Luton on 5th Nov 2015, helped more than 5,000 people at the event on Lea Manor playing fields to do just that!

Marsh Farm Community Fireworks, now in its 18th year was established to stop individuals causing problems in the area by setting off fireworks, causing problems to and for the local community, Police and Fire services. It has been successful in greatly reducing the crime and nuisance rate on the night.

The event, run by local volunteers, is sponsored by the local community and businesses including NISA, Marsh Farm Futures, local councillors through New Homes for Luton funding and Formula Aluminium.



Luton Culture

On Tuesday 22nd December LCST staff, volunteers and partners opened the doors to celebrate Christmas with the local 50+ community. 70 older people came along for a three course dinner and party. Dinners were served by a team of volunteers from Thompson Travel, MFF staff, LCST staff and family including a 10 year old volunteer, possibly our youngest waiter to date!

The meals were provided by Ian and Tracey from Bakers Dozen and guests enjoyed a traditional Christmas dinner. Bob, the entertainer got everyone up on their feet singing old classics and there was a quiz and a raffle too. All who came thoroughly enjoyed themselves and left full of Christmas spirit! Huge thanks to Thompsons, Bakers Dozen, MFF, LCST staff and family who volunteered and everyone who came along on the day.



Financial Challenge

NHS England announced Clinical Commissioning Groups' (CCGs) revenue allocations for the next five years in early January.

Luton CCG's 2016/17 allocation showed an increase of 7.5 per cent compared with the national average of 3.7 per cent.

The draft Payment by Results (PbR) tariff has also been announced. PbR is the prices that commissioners pay providers for each patient seen or treated, taking into account the complexity of the patient's healthcare needs. They show an average increase of 1.1 per cent - that is 3.1 per cent inflation less a two per cent efficiency gain.

The CCG has started the planning and contracting process for next year and is considering how this growth will be invested for the benefit of the Luton population.

Long-term Sustainability and Transformation Plan

We are undertaking work to create a Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP). This plan will be an overarching, decisive document that will set out how, over the next 5 years, we will provide innovative, cost effective, high quality services for all Luton's residents.

Leaders in the health and social care professions as well as key stakeholders from across our entire local health economy will be involved in the creation of this plan. Our STP needs to integrate with our local health and wellbeing plans, show how quality and care forms an essential part of our commissioning intentions and demonstrate how the services we plan to commission are efficient and financially sustainable.

STPs are a statutory requirement to meet the challenges set out in the NHS Five Year Forward View.



Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) GP Contracts

Luton CCG is working with NHS England to ensure there is sufficient capacity to meet current and future demand as well as expected patient needs in Luton. We need to encourage sustainable integrated primary care practices to:

- meet the changing needs and expectations of our population
- improve outcomes and tackle inequalities
- maximise all resources across the system, and to secure a sustainable service for the future.

The review of Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) contract provides Luton with a real opportunity to improve and transform primary medical services by integrating urgent care access and offering easier access to urgent primary care appointments 24 hours a day.

However, no decision has been made regarding the future of any of the affected practices and none will be made without the registered patients of each practice, GPs, Luton Borough Council and Healthwatch, having a full opportunity to be involved in finding the best possible solution for the provision of their future services.

In conjunction with NHS England, Luton CCG will undertake a formal consultation and stakeholder engagement process that will examine the four APMS contracts in two phases

- Transforming the Walk in Centre and Town Centre GP Practice
- Reviewing the other three APMS GP practices; Sundon Park Health Centre, Moakes Medical Centre and Whipperley Medical Centre Dates of the formal consultation are being finalised and all key partners will be kept informed of progress



Stronger and Safer Communities

Community Cohesion Conference - Luton Town Football Club –

Cohesion in action



26 November 2015

The Conference was chaired by Cllr Jacqui Burnett, Portfolio Holder for People and Places, who in her opening remarks noted: "As someone who is immensely passionate about Luton, I was proud to see such a diverse range of people come together so enthusiastically and full of ideas about how we can work together to strengthen relationships between our communities, improve the image of the town and ensure a better quality of life for our residents.

"One thing that stood out for me was the impact that social media can have on cohesion, which got me thinking about how the Council and our partners can contribute more to ensure an accurate narrative is being presented.

"We have so many useful ideas and things to think about and look forward to developing the strategy with our communities and partners over the coming weeks and months."

Expert key note speakers included:

- **Dr Joel Busher** from Coventry University who talked about the damage anti-minority activism is doing to towns like Luton and the types of approaches and leadership which can manage conflict between groups.
- **Dr Colin Roberts** from Cardiff University discussed the rise of social media and how this presents a whole new challenge in terms of community cohesion.
- **Nicola Monk** Service Director, Policy & Performance, LBC who spoke on understanding community cohesion in Luton.



Other presentations on the day were:

- **LBC's Laura Church** spoke about the Council's Investment Framework and the importance of improving the image of Luton. Delegates were in agreement that the new jobs and opportunities this will create will benefit Luton communities and instil an improved sense of belonging.
- **Cllr Andy Malcolm**, as chair of the High-Town Festival group talked about how events can bring communities together.
- **Michael Campbell** pioneered a new Christian project in Luton called Luton Town Centre Chaplaincy (LTCC) five years ago with the specific role of meeting the pastoral and spiritual needs of people of all faiths and none. LTCC currently have teams of chaplains working in the Crown and Magistrate Courts, Luton Borough Council, The Mall, Asda, Noah, Luton Rugby Club, and engage with the general public on the street through our Street Teams on a weekly bases. In addition LTCC support the police, local authority and emergency services at times of public unrest during EDL Demonstrations, serious crime in Marsh Farm and more recently the Britain First demonstration.



Rehana Faisal - is a member of Suffa Tul Islam Education and Community Centre in Luton and is heavily involved in the Centre's community support and outreach work. She has also been the joint representative and spokesperson for the Luton Council of Mosques and the Sunni Council of Mosques.



Kevin Thorburn from Luton Town FC Community Trust about the club's increasingly diverse fan base and the key link between sport and cohesion.

Stronger and Safer Communities

DON'T WAIT TO
**STOP THE
HATE**



Holocaust Memorial Day event in Town Hall

Luton Town Hall opened its doors on Sunday 24 January to host the annual Holocaust Memorial Day event. Holocaust Memorial Day has been held annually in the UK since 2001 and offers a chance for people to remember victims and survivors – those whose lives have significantly changed because of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur, as well as ongoing atrocities that continue to occur today.

The theme for this year's event was 'Don't stand by – make the world listen'. The main address was given by the CEO



of Liberal Judaism, Rabbi Danny Rich. Musical contributions came from guest singer Deborah Christopher, the Luton Male Voice Choir and pupils from Denbigh High School performed a specially written play based on the theme 'Don't stand by – make the world listen'.

Mayor of Luton Cllr Dave Taylor said: "Together we can keep memories alive by reflecting on the past and honouring the survivors and victims of the Holocaust and other genocides. This event gives us the opportunity to bring communities together, respect each other's differences, and also challenges us to use the lessons of the past to inform our lives today. A warm welcome is offered to all."

Councillor Hazel Simmons, leader of the Council said "I attended a very moving Holocaust Memorial Day Service on Sunday with a range of local people from different faiths and walks of life came together to commemorate the victims of genocide reminding us what makes Luton such a special place to live and work."

CSP update for Area Board

soLUTIONs, Luton's Community Safety Partnership (CSP), recently consulted with residents in Luton about the fear and perceptions of crime. Results from this survey now show the priorities for local people and will directly feed into a work programme for the next year. The Partnership would like to thank the residents who completed the survey, for your time and effort to support us.



Alongside this, the new Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy has now been signed off, which provides targets for reductions in crime in Luton, which the Partnership is committed to for the next three years. A copy of the strategy can be seen by visiting www.luton.gov.uk

The Bedfordshire Partnership Hate Crime Awareness Week (8th-12th February 2016) was supported county wide by the soLUTIONs CSP, led by Bedfordshire Police. The week included a number of Hate Crime workshops in local venues, an information stall and advertising in The Mall, social media campaigns and the launch of third party reporting centres. The third party reporting centres in Luton are at the TOKKO Youth Space on Gordon Street, LGBT Links on Inkerman Street and CYCD on Leagrave Road. You may also wish to attend the Disability Resource Centre, Poynters House on Poynters Road. To report a hate crime, please contact Bedfordshire Police on 101 or 999 if you are in danger. You can also report online through the Bedfordshire Police Web site - www.bedfordshire.police.uk and true vision www.report-it.org.uk

The soLUTIONs Domestic Abuse Partnership has been pursuing a White Ribbon Award for their ongoing work to help bring an end to abuse against women and girls in Luton. The campaign involves men in rejecting violence against women. Cllr Naseem Ayub, portfolio holder for adult social care and domestic abuse is championing the campaign. **To find out more, please visit www.whiteribboncampaign.co.uk and sign the pledge.**

The Partnership has also launched the new Domestic Abuse phone line and website. If you are or know of anyone who is a victim of Domestic Abuse, please contact us Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm on 01582 853 677 or visit www.lutondomesticabuse.co.uk





Environment and Economy



Dame Kelly Holmes Trust 'Get on track'

The Dame Kelly Holmes Trust 'Get on track' programme is for 16-25 year olds and aims to give young people the self-discipline, motivation and confidence to enhance their chances of getting a job.

Once again the Dame Kelly Holmes trust, in partnership with Luton Borough Council, prior to Christmas completed another successful, Sport England, Lottery funded project to serve the community.

On this occasion it was based at Luton Sixth Form College who once again demonstrated their value as a key partner in the continued success of the Trusts flagship programme, Get On Track.

Get On Track is a seven week, intensive personal development programme that has world class athletes sharing their valuable life skills and experiences, with the young people on the programme. On this occasion there were 28 students who really embraced the programme, displaying a great level of commitment to develop themselves and further their chances in being successful in life.

Over the course of the project multiple environments and experiences were created to challenge the students to get out of their comfort zones and stretch themselves to develop the often overlooked crucial interpersonal skills that need to be combined with their academic endeavours.

The key focal delivery areas of the programme included:

- communication skills
- self esteem
- ability to self express
- ability to work with others
- ability to lead, manage conflict
- presentation skills, project management
- problem solving
- accountability.

Huge congratulations to all young people, staff and partners involved in another really positive project delivered within the community.

Making changes for the better in 2016

If you want to make a change to your lifestyle this year then Active Luton is on hand to help you on the journey.

This New Year they have launched the #makeachange campaign to inspire and support local residents to become fit and healthy in 2016. Active Luton offers many different ways to do this and prides itself on having something for everyone.

This year's campaign tells the motivational stories of a number of Luton residents who have already transformed their lives as the result of using Active Luton's facilities. It is hoped that they will encourage others to make these life changing choices during 2016.

Twenty-one year old Sam is deaf. He won a bronze medal for Great Britain

in last year's Deaf European Games and is hoping for similar success in the Deaf World Cup in Italy later this year. "I joined Inspire when it opened and I also do circuit training at Lea Manor. What I really like about Active Luton is that you can choose what you prefer to do - gym, classes or swimming - and even go to different centres. I enjoy every minute!"

Matthew, 57, joined Active Luton two years ago and uses Inspire, Lea Manor and Lewsey six days a week. "Getting fitter has made me happier and improved my self confidence to take on new challenges," he said. "I am planning to take part in the London to Paris bike ride and then after that to qualify as a fitness instructor."

Chelsea, a 26-year-old teacher, also has a positive story to tell. "Since adopting a fitness routine I have lost four stone and discovered a motivation and determination that I never knew I had. I

have even signed up for a half marathon this year. I am the fittest I have ever been and now have a very positive body image."

Helen Barnett, Chief Executive of Active Luton said: "Every New Year lots of people make resolutions to be more healthy and active. We want to help them to maintain these good intentions and make real, sustainable changes for the better.

"We have a friendly team of experienced professionals who can come up with a fitness plan to suit you and your lifestyle. Come along and see for yourself and make 2016 your best year yet!"

To read the Active Luton success stories visit www.activeluton.co.uk or for more information call 01582 400272. You can also follow @activeAL on Twitter and 'like' Active Luton on Facebook.



Marsh Farm Futures hosts Luton's Enterprise Day 2016

Businesses and training providers gathered to showcase their job vacancies, products and services at the Luton Enterprise Day at Futures House, Marsh Farm on Monday 18th January 2016.

Luton Enterprise Day is an annual partnership event organised by Marsh Farm Futures and supported by Luton Borough Council and Job Centre Plus. Richard Cooper, Chair of Futures Business Voice welcomed delegates, exhibitors and visitors.

Kelvin Hopkins MP for North Luton, Paul Adams from Luton Borough Council, Roy Davis Chair of Marsh Farm Futures and Mairead McGeoghan from Job Centre Plus opened the event.

More than 45 exhibitors from a wide range of sectors and businesses including Barclays and Nat West banks, McDonalds, the Army, Imercare, Heywood House, Keepmoat, Marsh Bears Nursery and WENTA, amongst many others, spoke to attendees who came to the event to find out about job opportunities and advice on business start-ups.

Training providers including Bedford College and University of Bedfordshire were also on hand to speak to aspiring students about the different levels of training available to them.

Over 600 job seekers and people considering starting up their own business attended the event. Free workshops on apprenticeships and business start-up, information on funding and how to make the best of business ideas using different proven methods was provided.

It was a highly successful event partners, businesses and individuals all agreed that it was a huge benefit to them and businesses alike.



NORTH AREA BOARD REPORT - February 2016

Between September and December 2015, the Targeted Youth Development Team is pleased to report that Lea Manor Youth Zone saw more than 1,836 visits from families, children and young people.

Voluntary & Community Sector organisations such as, CHUMS, Future Youth, Autism Bedfordshire, Tokko, CYCD, utilised the Youth Zone space for their youth activities, Stronger Families Team, Youth Offending Service and Targeted Youth Service teams also used the space to deliver their intervention work.

The Targeted Youth Work Team is working intensively in the evening and weekends with 10 young people and their families who are some of the most vulnerable residents located in the North Area.

Street based Detached Youth Work Team

Due to the inclement weather conditions and the dark evenings during the past few months, there isn't a lot that the team can report on, however, these are the highlights:

- during the last quarter the Street Team engaged with 30 young people in area north
- 57 man hours were used to perform detached sessions in Northwell, Sundon and Bramingham between October and December
- The Street Team partnered with our Targeted Youth Development Workers to exhibit at Barnfield Colleges Freshers Fair at the Technology Campus, Bramingham in October. We engaged with many of the students, discussing subjects such as being safe and aware on the streets, helping out in the community and other pertinent issues.

Abdul Halim
Targeted Youth Development Worker
Targeted Youth Service.

YOUR SAY YOUR WAY

...in North Luton

Your Local Councillors

Bramingham

Cllr. Gilbert Campbell	Gilbert.Campbell@luton.gov.uk
Cllr. John Young	John.Young@luton.gov.uk

Icknield

Cllr. Mike Garrett	Michael.Garrett@luton.gov.uk
Cllr. Jeff Petts	Jeffery.Petts@luton.gov.uk

Limbury

Cllr. Steve Lewis	Stephen.Lewis@luton.gov.uk
Cllr. Jennifer Rowlands	Jennifer.Rowlands@luton.gov.uk

Northwell

Cllr. Roy Davis	Roy.Davis@luton.gov.uk
Cllr. Don Worliding	Don.Worliding@luton.gov.uk

Sundon Park

Cllr. Fiona Green	Fiona.Green@luton.gov.uk
Cllr. Anna Pedersen	Anna.Pedersen@luton.gov.uk



Looking for more information?

For further information on this report or the "Your Say, Your Way" programme please call us on **01582 548360**

or email:

✉ CathyMcShane@luton.gov.uk

✉ Rizvan.Bashir@lutonculture.com

✉ Joanne.Oliver@lutonculture.com

Luton North and West Local Policing Team

Futures House, The Moakes, Luton LU3 3QB

Call: 101 for non emergencies

Email: LPT.CommunityLuton-North&West@Bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Web: www.bedfordshire.police.uk

