

LOSTOCK NEWSLETTER

Call Roy on 01204 844771 or email: lostockresidentsgroup@googlemail.com

No. 14

Autumn 2009

Lostock Station Update

"At the open meeting of 26th May 2009 a sub-committee was formed to examine in detail the effect on Lostock passengers of the rail service changes associated with the revised timetable of December 12th 2008. The sub committee is formally part of the Lostock Residents Group, but has a representation covering the wider Lostock station catchment area. It was the intention that the new sub-committee would undertake the investigations specified at the meeting and any possible actions resulting. Longer term the sub-committee would attempt to position itself so that it could anticipate proposed changes which might have adverse effects on passengers using Lostock station and make appropriate representations to the relevant organisations ahead of their possible implementation. Changing circumstances have made it imperative that the sub-committee devotes some small amount of effort to this longer term objective immediately.

In late July it was announced in Parliament that the Manchester to Liverpool railway line via Chat Moss was to be electrified with a virtually immediate start. The plan is that the Manchester to Newton-le-Willows section will be in a position to go over to electric traction in four years time. This has three implications for Lostock. The first is that many of the Transpennine services that at present pass through Lostock without stopping will no longer use our route at all, at least until such later time that our route itself is electrified. Secondly it will affect the pathing constraints for Lostock to Manchester trains beyond Salford Crescent which could influence future timetable changes. Thirdly, it means that the long promised additional carriages for Northern and Transpennine to provide extra capacity on existing services are very unlikely to be provided until the Manchester to Liverpool electrification is complete.

On August 26th Network Rail published its outline proposals for a new high speed line from London to Scotland via the northwest. The line will serve four north western destinations. They are Liverpool, Manchester, Preston and Warrington. The aim is to provide all four of these towns/cities with a journey time to London of less than one and a quarter hours. The proposal at present appears to be deliberately non specific about just where the city termini will be in either London or anywhere else. If implemented there may be further ramifications for our services which we need to be aware of in time to make appropriate representations well before planning is finalised. The problem is further exacerbated by the fact that several other proposals for high speed lines to the north are also under development by other organisations.

It seems that our new sub committee is going to be busy".

Committee Membership

The committee has been strengthened by the welcome addition of 3 new members. We are currently a committee of just eleven people and seriously need more help to run the Residents' Group.

If you can manage to set aside one evening a month, you may be interested in joining our Committee. Why not come along to see how we work? Please ring Roy on (01204) 844771 for further information.

A BIG THANK YOU

To all those who have given donations to the IRG.

AND

To the distribution team for their continuing work in helping to deliver the newsletters.

LOSTOCK PLANNING UPDATE

Watch this space -

Bodnant, 18 Regent Rd.

A decision on the prosecution case for felling trees on the site was postponed until the 20th of October again at the Magistrates Court from 10 a.m.

We draw readers' attention to the case in Croydon in which £12,500 was levied for the **pruning** of a single tree. It is important to recognise that the offence of felling a protected tree relates to the fact that the tree is protected on the grounds of its environmental importance. An offence is committed irrespective of the financial gain, or lack of it.

The current case is of interest because the tree felled was the subject of detailed conditions of the Planning Consent given by Bolton Council.

- Condition 10 states that no development shall be started until TPOed trees within or overhanging the site have been surrounded by fences which shall extend to the extreme circumference of the spread of the branches of the tree.
- Condition 11 prohibits any work within the circumferences identified above.
- Condition 12 prohibits the start of any development work at all until a minimum of 14 days notice in writing has been given to the Local Planning Authority that the protective fencing has been erected.

It is a mystery how this tree came to be felled, given the specific conditions attached to its welfare.

A distinction has been drawn to us between the legal and the planning issues here; we were told that the breach of conditions is a matter for planning.

We will therefore be seeking clarification on the planning issues exposed by this matter.

Burnthwaite

A report is being prepared to be presented to the leader of the Council, Cllr Cliff Morris sometime in October to present the issues involved in deciding what to do with Burnthwaite

- One option is to allow housing within the footprint of the now demolished property
- or---allow the Lads and Girls Club to use the area as a Forest School
- or--- a combination of both

Interesting---what do you think?



(This picture is subject to copywrite)

The proposal for this site to be used as a Peace Centre was, we understood, contentious because the site is deemed to have reverted to Green Belt status, following the demolition of Burnthwaite by the Council many years ago. As such, any development would need the approval of the Regional planners. That specific application, for access only, was rejected on the grounds that the ancient highway leading to the Burnthwaite site could not be widened, nor sustain the level of traffic envisaged.

At the time that the Peace Centre idea was being explored, it appeared that the Council were willing to give a long lease on this site at a nominal rent. If this was so, why are the Lads and Girls Club now being asked to BUY the site?

It should be noted that the granting of an outline application has the consequence that the status of the land is changed without a firm commitment that the initial, acceptable, proposal will not change into something much **WORSE**

We hope that there will be clarity and certainty about the fate of this exceptional site.



CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

by Peter Marriette

Over the summer months 1700 leaflets have been delivered to homes around Lostock and Chew Moor. Our Community PSO has been knocking on doors and generally making the public aware of the danger of unlocked windows, doors, and cars. Over this period there have been 11 burglaries of sheds garages etc ., 25% of these have again been down to insecurities. 10 vehicles have had items stolen of which 40% were again insecure, 4 cars stolen , of which 1 was insecure and 1 was taken with keys from a previous burglary.

Anti social behaviour in Lostock has seen a reduction over the last month. Three local youths have received ABC warning letters (acceptable behaviour contract). Their behaviour has drastically improved.

Over the last year, the CPSO along with other members of the Neighbourhood Policing Team, have endeavoured to get the area under Heaton Bridge cleaned up. Graffiti and rubbish have been removed and the grills which have been in a sad state for many years have been repaired.

Warnings have been issued to youths who cause annoyance to residents by playing football at the bottom of Middlebrook drive and Wilmcote Close.

Can I take this opportunity to ask ALL parents of children from 4 to 24 to reaffirm how anti social and above all DANGEROUS playing football in the road can be. Football can be played in safety on Jubilee Field, which is just past the Lostock Parish Centre on Tempest Road and it is free to everyone.

Finally now that the summer is almost over, may I reiterate to everyone in Lostock not to forget to be vigilant, as our area will always be a magnet for people who would make a living out of our misfortune when windows, doors, garages, cars and sheds are left unattended or insecure.

The CPSO's see some lovely cars on their beat, as do the professionals who steal them, or items from them.

Thanks to everyone who makes my job a pleasure.

See you around, *Peter*

PC 9741 Ganley, Community Beat Manager, Bolton West Area (0161 855 5782)

Lee.Ganley@gmp.police.uk

Pcso Peter Marriette, Community Support Officer

Peter.Marriette@gmp.pnn.police.uk

Police Surgery

A COMMUNITY POLICE SURGERY WILL BE HELD AT THE LOSTOCK PARISH CENTRE BETWEEN 6PM AND 7PM ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST OR PROBLEMS WITHIN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

Confidential facilities are available.

LOSTOCK –

Is it THE place to live; or could it be better? What might make it better?

- Shops? A post office?
- Improved bus/train services?
- Safety- do people feel safe?
- A footpath round Rumworth Lodge?
- Courses at the Parish Centre?
- Improved medical facilities – GP practice; Dentist?
- Pavements not obstructed by parked vehicles or overgrown hedges?

What do residents feel/want?

How might residents be prepared to help?

Please let us have your views and ideas.

Email us at: lostockresidentsgroup@googlemail.com

Or post to LRG c/o 4 Morris Fold Drive, Lostock, BL6 4DZ

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WALKERS AND DISTRIBUTORS

Our Newsletter is distributed to approximately 1400 households. We currently have about 40 walkers and distributors, but we are always looking for more, since a few drop out, or move away and others are on holiday. We could do with a few more volunteers in the Middlebrook Drive/Junction Road West area and the Ravensdale/Dalegarth area.

If you feel you can help, please contact Colin on (01204) 846548.

DONATIONS

As a Voluntary Group we survive on donations from residents who feel we are doing a worthwhile job. Over the years, many donations have been received for which we are very thankful, but the paper and printing costs of producing each circulation are major items of expenditure and donations, however small, are always welcome.

Please ring Roy on (01204) 844771 for further information.

WEBSITE

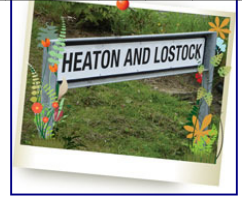
It is not possible to update the newsletter as often as we would like, but please take a look at our website at <http://www.lostockresidentsgroup.org.uk> for any immediate updates, or email your support or comments to us at lostockresidentsgroup@googlemail.com

E-MAIL LIBRARY

Just a reminder that you may sign up to be on our e-mail register by sending your name and postal address to:

lostockresidentsgroup@googlemail.com

Subscribers can withdraw at any time and details will not be divulged to any third parties.



BOLTON COUNCIL Heaton & Lostock Area Forum

These meetings are useful in several ways. There is a “drop in” session from 6.30 pm – 7.00 pm This is an opportunity for you to talk to our local Councillors and other agencies like the police on a “one to one” basis on any issue or problem you have. The “main meeting” can be a presentation or a workshop, delivered by various agencies, which are of interest to the community in our ward and lastly there is a “Question and Answer” session. If answers cannot be immediately given, the questions are given to the appropriate departments or agency and answers are given in writing at the next Area Forum meeting.

ITEMS UNDER DISCUSSION

May 2009

Jon Tuson, Environmental Services gave a presentation about Highways and Engineering Services, and covered the following points:-

- How are Highways and Engineering Services organised
- Funding our roads and pavements
- How repair work was assessed and decided upon
- What work had been done in the area

Other issues: Regent Road – continuation of yellow lines at both ends of Regent Road
 Council’s policy on removal of trees – residents want clear guidelines.

A short presentation on the subject of budgets and grants available to the Heaton & Lostock Ward, explained that balances unspent from the last financial year would be carried forward, the total grant balances were as follows

Area Forum Grants:

- Area Based Grant £5,713
- Area Forum Budget £40,000
- Highways Maintenance £10,245 (The full balance of £10,245 from last year’s Highways Maintenance budget had been approved under the Council’s Scheme of Delegation to go for the Lostock Junction Lane improvements.)
- Voluntary Sector Grant £2,915 (available to all community and voluntary – not for profit groups operating in the ward – up to £500 per year))
- New - Positive Contributions Grant (specifically for children and young people) £10,000

July 2009

Paul Round, Head of Sports Services and Strategic, Lead for young people services in the West of Bolton gave a presentation to:

Explain the new service called “Positive Contributions”. Share what has been happening to engage with young people, organizations and partners in the area and explain the Area Forum Positive Contributions Budget and criteria.

The sum of £10,000 will be used to support projects brought forward for consideration by local Councillors for young people in the area.

If you have any questions for your Councillors or Bolton Council Officers, Police or Fire Brigade these meetings are **THE** ideal opportunity. **Make a note of the dates!**

07/10/2009 at Devonshire Road Primary School, Devonshire Road, BL1 4ND

17/03/2010 at Ladybridge High School, Junction Road, BL3 4NG

We look forward to seeing you at the Heaton and Lostock Area Forum Event

Heaton and Lostock Area Forum

Date: Wednesday, 7th October 2009

Venue: Devonshire Road Primary School, Devonshire Road, BL1 4ND

Time: 6:30pm - Councillors, Council Officers' & Partners Drop in (an opportunity for members of the public to speak privately with officers from Bolton Council or its partners)

7.00pm – Forum meeting (see below for agenda)

AGENDA

Introductions and welcome

Presentation from Inspector Mohammed Razaq, Greater Manchester Police and Sharon Pendlebury, Bolton's Community Safety Team

Round Table Discussions on Crime and Community Safety issues and possible solutions

Minutes of previous meeting (enclosed) and feedback

5. Update on budgets devolved to the Area Forum

6. Questions and Answers session

7. Close meeting

For further information:

Do you have an email address? If so, we would like to send you updates regarding your Area Forum using this address. Please e-mail your details and the name of the Forum/s you are interested in to:

areaworking@bolton.gov.uk

This will make Council services more efficient and help save paper.

Your local Councillors and/or your Area Working officers will be happy to assist with any other questions or concerns you may have either about this meeting or any other aspect affecting the Two Towns area. Your contacts are:

Councillor's contact details:

Cllr Robert Allen	Tel: 01204 451341	Email: robert.allen@bolton.gov.uk
Cllr F. Alan Rushton	Tel: 01204 64597	Email: frank.rushton@bolton.gov.uk
Cllr Colin Shaw	Tel: 01204 844489	Email: colin.shaw@bolton.gov.uk

Area Working Team

Anne Boles, Area Co-ordinator - Tel: 07780 957081 or e-mail at: anne.boles@bolton.gov.uk
 Stephen Rowson, Support Officer - Tel: 01204 331252 or e-mail at: stephen.rowson@bolton.gov.uk

We look forward to seeing you at the Heaton and Lostock Area Forum Event