

LANE HEAD SOUTH RESIDENTS' GROUP - Bi Monthly Meeting

Monday May 18th 2026 at 7.15pm

Conference Room, The Travelodge, Lane Head, Lowton

1. **Welcome** everyone to the meeting by Kathleen Johnson. A welcome was also extended to our new councillor Simon Smith who has been voted in recently and is endeavouring to meet all local residents groups.
2. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Jenny Gregory, Mike Smith, Stuart Mann, Christine Hill, Liz Brown, Gordon Nash, Jeanette Latto, Graham Wardle, Gerard Houlton
3. **Minutes of last meeting** circulated online - accepted
4. **Financial Report** was given - Thanks were also given to all who attended the Darts & Dominoes evening held 24/03/26 - £100 has been donated to Wigan & Leigh Hospice following the event
5. **Local Issues:**

(a) an update on Winwick Lane Traffic Junction and new traffic lights was given by Gill Dickinson. She reports that it looks like it has been a success, (in respect of starting to reduce traffic emissions) there is mostly no standing traffic outside the houses at the end of the lane. There are still a number of HGVs going down Winwick Lane (349 in April). You can keep track of these numbers each month in the local issues section of our website at www.lhsrg.co.uk

This also led onto a conversation about the high level of potholes caused by traffic that are still not fixed in the area and how busy Kenyon Lane and Newton Road are and that there are high levels of HGVs travelling at speed along both of these roads. We are led to believe that the council are not willing to re-consider weight limits on either of these routes. Val Allen (Parish Councillor for Culcheth & Glazebury) also stated that traffic levels have increased by 14% since the link road has opened. It has been advised for residents to persist in reporting all these issues to Wigan Council either via their councillor or by email.

(b) East Lancs service road and Newton Road Junction. Gareth Edwards gave an update that this work has been delayed until the summer of 2027. There is a need for electricity works before the junction works can take place. There was also an update on Stone Cross Lane/Heath Lane junctions, and introduction of reduced speed limit on the East Lancs which are scheduled for June to October 2026. All part of the same traffic project.

(c) Traffic Speed Awareness Cameras on Newton Road - at the meeting there was no further update. But subsequently there has been the following update from the Wigan Council Area Traffic Engineers;

The locations for the VAS (vehicle activated signs) are below: Newton Road: All signs to face traffic travelling East Bound. To face traffic travelling Eastbound towards Lane Head
30mph at boundary between 534/536 Newton Road on new pole [534 Newton Rd - Google Maps](#)
40mph on new pole in front of LC 115 Newton Road - 40mph on new pole in front of LC 97. We are working to get these signs installed however as they require an electrical connection, they are installed by our Street lighting team which is taking longer due to staff sickness.
Please be assured we are working to get these installed as soon as possible.

It was also asked would it be possible for us to email TfGM to ask for the results of the local traffic surveys. Gareth informed the meeting that these results would be available on the release of the Tritax feedback from the last Consultation.

ACTION: GD to email TfGM to enquire.

(d) **Campaign to introduce weight restrictions on A572 Newton Road.** A request was made during the meeting for volunteers to put together a possible campaign - no volunteers came forward so this will be raised again at future meetings.

(e) **Tritax Update and Timeline** - Gareth Edwards informed the meeting that Tritax have updated their 'Programme Document' (copy attached) in May 2026. This lists details of their date changes and subsequent project timings. (see from page 8 of the programme document). A question was raised from the meeting about whether we can try to influence Tritax on how we take part in the consultation next time around. The online system and forms that they provided last time were difficult to negotiate (no save option etc) and not user friendly. **ACTION:** GE to email Tritax. We will ensure that in our next consultation related poster campaign we will advise the community of ALL the possible ways to feedback as last time an email was the best route.

Last weekend it was noted that there was an Ecology Survey taking place in and around the Newton Road area. The participants were questioned by several local residents who confirmed that they had been commissioned by Tritax to do the survey work.

A question was also raised on whether there had been an update on the Lane Head by-pass - no updates are currently known.

(f) **Government Petition** - There is currently a link circulating to encourage local residents to sign a Government petition - to Stop Megasheds being built and operated 24/7 close to homes and communities. The idea is to encourage the government to include in its revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) that the building of B8 warehouses and the 24/7 operation of such Megasheds will not be permitted within 500 metres of residential properties. The link will be circulated to the LHSRG mailing list, shared with other local residents groups and will also be promoted via social media. If you wish to use the link right away - you can access it at

<https://shorturl.at/sUPoC>

AOB

- **Lowton East Councillors Update**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update on Winwick Lane Traffic Lights - we were told that TfGM had been finessing the timing of the lights to help the flow of traffic and reduce the level of standing traffic outside of the cottages. From anecdotal evidence it does appear to be flowing, but we are really interested to find out what residents living near to the lights think. We are happy to take any thoughts/comments/suggestions back to the council/TfGM for remedial action if needed• Tritax timeline update - We have not had anything directly from Tritax but we have heard through Jo Platt MP's office that the next stage of the consultation has been pushed back further until later in the |
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year. The previous estimate was 'early summer'. Tritax had also cancelled a meeting which they were due to have with Jo on 28th May.

- Our position remains that we are against this proposal and we are committed to vote against any attempt to put the Wigan Local Plan through full council if the local plan continues to propose to remove the land from the green belt.
- We are still waiting for news on when the **Wigan Local Plan** will be brought to full council for ratification, and whether any changes will be made to it before this happens. The Council will have a new Leader and Deputy Leader, and we anticipate large scale changes to the Cabinet following the outcome of the local elections. As above, we will not vote for any local plan which proposes the further loss of green belt in Lowton.

- **Thanks were extended to Garry Lloyd** for his for his dedicated service to the residents' group over the last three years. The residents and committee expressed their sincere gratitude for the invaluable help, guidance, and unwavering support he has provided during his term. While he is no longer in office, the group wished to formally record their appreciation for his hard work. It was unanimously agreed that Garry will always be welcome at future meetings as a valued member of the community.
- **It was agreed that we would feed back to 2 local residents** who were unable to attend the meeting, on their submitted questions;
 - (1) Will Warrington Council now revisit their refusal to put a weight limit on the northbound carriage way of Winwick Lane? We have been advised that Warrington will not revisit their decision at this current time.
 - (2) When will the land. on Newton Lane next to the golf course be returned to farmland following the temporary compound for M6 road works? We have been informed that the works are underway to return this land to farmland, at this time.
- **Legal representation** in the fight against Tritax. A question was raised on this subject to be considered at the appropriate time. A concern is the costs involved with this and various residents committed to finding out more information. Residents are also interested in starting a group which could evolve into an 'interested party' when the programme progresses further.
- **Land for sale on Moss Lane (adjacent to Newton Road)** information and images were shared with the meeting and discussions took place regarding what could be done to protect the land and local residents. The land is due to be auctioned on June 22nd 2026 (current guide price is £45,000). The property details can be viewed on Right Move at <https://shorturl.at/PaqKe>

Dates for your diary

Jubilee Woods & Mount Tabor - We'll be holding a 'Strimming Party' on Saturday morning 30th May at 10am. All volunteers will be very welcome, with any equipment that they can provide to help us clear the land for spring & summer.

Next LHSRG residents' meeting - Monday July 20th 2026 (7.15pm)