

LANE HEAD SOUTH RESIDENTS' GROUP
Minutes of Bi-monthly meeting on Monday September 15th 2025
held in the Conference Room of The Travelodge, Lane Head

1. Kathleen Johnson welcomed everyone to the meeting. A warm welcome was extended to "newcomers." Present 23 members.
2. Apologies for absence received from John Marsh, Lorraine Nordmann, Jeanette Reffell, Terry Hewitt, Marie Cooper, Ed Houlton and Margaret Mitchell.
3. Minutes of the last meeting - (July 2025) were accepted as a true record
4. Current bank balance £1,166
5. Local matters ...
 - a) LHSRG "Advent calendar" 2025. Heather gave a presentation and asked for 24 households and businesses to decorate a window or garden to "light up Lane Head this Christmas. They will be assigned/ask for a number from 1-24. Contact lhsrg00@gmail.com if you would like to be involved. Please see attached presentation for more information.
 - b) Heather launched the LHSRG new website (www.lhsrg.co.uk) which gives a lot of information about the area and its current (many) issues. Thanks to Heather and Andy for all their hard work in putting the website and Facebook page together. (LHSRG)
 - c) Bowling Afternoon - September 20th, 2pm at The Red Lion. Still time to book. Contact lhsrg00@gmail.com
 - d) Traffic;
 - East Lancs/Newton Road additional left turn lane. This work has now been delayed to summer of 2026. Refer to Wigan Council website for details of the scheme - <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Parking-Roads-Travel/Travel/Junction-improvements.aspx>
 - All traffic issues are linked -Traffic Stats/HGVs/ANPR camera/ Air Quality/Winwick Lane Traffic Lights
 - Trltax have placed pneumatic tube strips across many roads in the area to collect evidence of traffic flows. The pneumatic tube strips generate air pulses as vehicle wheels pass over them. The traffic flow data will be used by Tritax to model the impact of the proposed Parkside SRFI on surrounding roads.
 - The average daily traffic total on Winwick Lane was 12,000 earlier this year – compared with 13,300 in 2017. Of the 12,000 20% were HGVs the majority of which are from the Warrington direction. The weight restriction and the ANPR camera are acting as a deterrent to HGVs travelling southbound. However many of these will use Newton Road as an alternative route. We will continue to push for a weight restriction from the A580 down Newton Road to the junction with Parkside Road.

- The reduction in HGV's appears to be a direct result of the introduction of the ANPR camera at the end of the lane. This resulted in the prosecution of 2,231 HGV drivers between November 2024 and September 2025. A Penalty Charge Notice charge is around £70 (£35 if paid within 14 days) Drivers tell us that it is sometimes cheaper to pay the fine than make a late delivery. Signage on the does not appear to stop some drivers. Suggestion that signage on the A580 should be less ambiguous; make drivers aware of ANPR camera before they commit to Newton Road and alter the road corner turn profile so that HGV drivers can not physically turn left into Newton Road from the A580.
- The weight limit and ANPR camera appear to have had a knock-on effect on air quality reducing NOx levels to 38.1, just below the legal maximum of 40ug/m3 - the amount of pollution per cubic metre of air.
- Wigan are concerned that air quality on Winwick Lane is still at dangerous levels and the introduction of a further set of traffic lights is part of Wigan's Air Quality Action Plan to improve air quality. The installation of a set of lights at the end of the houses on Winwick Lane is due to take place in October through to November this year.
- Warrington Council is still refusing to weight limit Winwick Lane northbound claiming that it would reroute HGV'S onto Warrington Roads. Andy Burnham is supportive of HGV restriction and has stated that his support of the ILP is dependent on an improvement of traffic issues at Lane Head Including a bypass.

6. Tritax Big Box Developments (TBBD) is the developer for the proposed SRFI at Parkside. TBBD conducted a non-statutory public consultation early this year including presentations at venues in the area (but not in Lowton!). TBBD have produced a summary report from this consultation and it is available on their website: <https://www.tritaxbigbox.co.uk/media/gyrpfkuo/ilp-north-non-statutory-consultation-summary-report.pdf>

The results of the consultation are disappointing in that only 202 responses were received from the many thousands invited to participate. Of course of those that did respond the overall majority were firmly against the proposals. The next stage of consultation is a mandatory consultation expected to take place before the end of 2025. We will keep residents informed and encourage as many as possible to get involved.

There is more information on TBBD's proposals on the LHSRG website and the TBBD website <https://www.tritaxbigbox.co.uk/our-spaces/intermodal-logistics-park-north/>

7. Biogas, Winwick. Food waste from Severn Trent will be transported to a site just beyond Junction 22 off Highfield Lane. Winwick Parish Council has objected on the grounds of noise, smell, increased traffic and destruction of Green belt. Link for more information: <https://winwickparishcouncil.org.uk/biogas>

8. Active Travel (Walking, Pushing Cycling) The consultation period ends 19th September. This seeks to make it easier to travel on foot/cycle between Lowton to Golborne centre and Golborne station. Many of the proposals are positive. It will, however, take away the left-hand turn into Heath Lane from the A580 and install 2 Toucan crossings rejoining the 2 parts of Heath Lane meaning there will be 4 sets of lights and 4 pedestrian crossings within $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of Lane Head. Residents can make their views known on the Wigan website - <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Parking-Roads-Travel/Travel/Schemes-Proposed-for-the-Borough.aspx#LowtonandGolborneBeeActiveNetworkScheme>

AOB

Residents expressed concern that after many years there was still no bus from Newton Station to Lane Head after 6.15pm. There needs to be cross border support from the Mayors of Greater Manchester and Liverpool.

Kenyon Lane residents expressed concerns over:

- Vehicles accessing Diggle Green and other businesses on the lane during anti-social hours
- HGV's accessing Warrington sites on Kenyon Lane through Wigan land. Wigan responsible for road repairs.
- Farmers have been approached on Kenyon Lane re selling part of their land to Tritax for access to the site. This could make farmland unfarmable.

Update from Councillor Garry Lloyd

- He referred to approaches re the siting of a prison on Kenyon Lane. This is no longer being pursued/there are no current plans.
- He cited the difficulties challenging Wigan Council experienced by Councillors over the many current issues in Lowton East.

Future group events

- Monday November 10th 2025 (7pm for 7.15pm start) Regular bi- monthly meeting brought forward, now one week earlier - with guest Jo Platt (MP for Leigh & Atherton).
- Monday November 17th 2025 (7pm for 7.15pm start) Extra Special Meeting - visit to Lane Head of Andy Burnham (Mayor of Greater Manchester). This will take the format of "Any Questions". We hope this meeting will be an opportunity to comment on local issues and the possible developments (SRFI) alongside Winwick Lane. Please email questions to lhsrg00@gmail.com before 1st November, so we can make sure all matters are covered and there isn't too much duplication.
- Carols 'round the tree. Sunday 7th December 4pm @ Winton Road

Other local upcoming events:

- 3 Towns in Concert 14th/15th November St Joseph's Hall, Leigh Tickets 07476 341018
- Last Night of the Proms 25th October Lowton Social Club