

November Members Newsletter

Planning Application 20/00891/FUL, for 350 dwellings off Eady Road – You may have read or seen an application to build 350 dwellings off Eady Road, Market Harborough. The Committee were contacted by members regarding an objection, and after remote discussion and voting I wrote to the HDC Planning Department to lodge an objection. Please find the objection as follows:

The Little Bowden Society has been contacted by some of their members with concerns and objection to the building of this new development and their reasons are as below:

Their main concern is the additional traffic to that added in the last two decades is unsustainable. There is still no consideration for a reserved line of by-pass or link road between Kettering Road new island at the top of Clack Hill to the new island at Northampton Road Leisure Centre which has been repeatedly suggested by public and private individuals and consultation replies.

This additional traffic already creates town centre traffic congestion, with Northampton Road often at a standstill from Springfield Street to Scotland Road particularly when the A14/M1 is blocked/closed or work is regularly carried out on one of the three railway arched bridges after lorry damage.

The LCC Highways Consultation response of 14th July logged on 15th states that typically no more than 150 dwellings should be served from a single point of access, this has 350.

We see that one objector of 24th July, logged on the 28th, used very straightforward sums, suggesting there could be 1400 vehicle movements per day plus a possible 350 service deliveries, based on the building of 350 homes.

Our members would like to object to this application until a proper link road and contributions can be put on paper, plus the need for additional doctors, healthcare, schooling etc.

Our objection has been uploaded to the HDC Planning website.

Both our HDC Councillors have been advised of our objections and Councillor Peter James replied 'I have noted all your comments. The Application has not been scheduled for Planning Committee yet. But as soon as I know the date, I will contact you again.'

Trees on The Green, Little Bowden – The Revd. Alison Iliffe called a meeting held on Tuesday, October 13th to discuss further the planting of two replacement trees, the cost to be met by the Little Bowden Society.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions only 6 people could attend, and I represented the Society. Others attending were Chris Orme from the St. Nicholas Fabric Team and Mark Stamp, the Chairman of St. Nicholas Church Hall. John Kemp, from HDC, and Alan sent his apologies.

John Kemp was advised where the trees would be placed and the varieties to be used, being a like for like replacement.

John Kemp agreed to this and advised the trees would have to be well established, five seasons in age, which mean they would be 6 to 7 feet tall when planted.

This was the condition of trees the HDC were using now because they stood a better chance against vandalism. The cost per tree would be between £70 to £150 each.

John Kemp advised he would talk to his tree contact, Richard Moss, and report back to us. The time span for planting would be 6 to 8 weeks, we are unsure if the new restrictions will have an impact on this.

John Kemp also advised he would purchase the trees, invoice the Society, and plant the trees free of charge. We now await a reply.

Park Bench on the corner of Rectory Lane – the Secretary has written again to Mr. John Kemp at HDC, attaching photographs of the damage to the seat, and still awaiting a reply.

Temporary Traffic lights on Kettering Road – The Secretary been asked how long the temporary traffic lights will be in place at the rail bridge on Kettering Road. Leicestershire County Council was emailed to see if they could advise and they replied at least for the next six months.

Since then, the cycleway under the bridge has been widened to improve cycling conditions being paid by the governments 'Emergency Active Travel Fund' – et up to encourage more people to cycle during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Fencing on the banks of the River Jordan, Scotland Road – In September, the Secretary was advised that some fencing slats are rotten and could prove a hazard again. The Secretary wrote to John Kemp at the HDC to see if the Society could repair the 8 slats required and fund the cost, which would be minimal. He could not remember replacing the other panels, but after a discussion, he assumed he must have. We are awaiting a reply as it is still unsure who is responsible for the fencing.

Remembrance Wreaths – Wreaths were laid by Alan on behalf of the Society on Remembrance Sunday and on November 11th.

Anthony Cherrington, Secretary,

01858 289487, 07730797658, email: awcherrington@gmail.com