7/01/2020

Letchworth Town Talk

Present:

Cllr Gary Grindal (Chair)

Lea Ellis (Community Engagement Officer)

Cllr Terry Hone

Cllr Ian Mantel

Claire Morgan (Community Engagement Team Leader)

Brooke Jarmain (Community Engagement and Policy Apprentice)

Marie Pritchett (Parking Projects Officer)

Louise Symes (Strategic Infrastructure and Projects Manager)

Julia Sonander from Transition Town Letchworth (TTL)

Couple New to the area

TTL: Where are we on sustainable transport plans within Hitchin/Letchworth?

There’s an £80K passenger benefit fund. We could use part of this to review train station entrances.

We’ve got lots of resources and ideas to produce a sustainable transport plan in Letchworth although no plan is being produced.

How do Hitchin and Letchworth move forward? Lots of ideas and energy is being wasted as it’s not getting anywhere.

LS: What you’re saying is absolutely right. There is process for an application, Herts County Council have been talking about it and have liaised with The Heritage Foundation. Depending on when they hear back from The County Council about the application then they can start to get a plan into action. The Council expect to see key organisations involved to keep it going.

CM: Who’s leading the application?

LS: David Ames is leading the application at The Heritage Foundation

TH: People at County are putting together a grace and transport plan

Sustainable travel is about getting children and people to cycle more and use more eco friendly ways of travelling overall.

A couple new to the area moved into accommodation built without any parking. Can The Council do anything to help people that need to park their cars?

TH: Unfortunately not. Property developers coming to Councillors asking where residents can park their cars.

GG: How do we manage new developments where parking is not available?

LS: Letchworth is very sustainable due to the train station being located in the town centre. We should be pushing to become more sustainable.

Couple: It’s also causing a problem for the environment as I have to drive around for ages to try and find a parking space.