



Chetwynd: The Toton & Chilwell Neighbourhood Forum



Issue 1 April 2017

It's Official!

We have been officially designated by the Council as a Neighbourhood Forum!

This means we can now start building our Plan. The first step is to consult with our residents and build a vision of the sort of place we want to see in Toton and Chilwell West.

We will be asking residents for their views over the **next few months**, so look out for opportunities to have your say in shaping the future!

As we are now 'official' the Forum has opened a bank account so we are now ready to receive grants and donations. We have been busy drafting up our first application for a grant to help fund our activities over the next few months. Locality ([website link](#) if interested) is the organisation used by the government to manage grants to Neighbourhood Forums such as ours. We are looking for approx. £6,000 to cover costs (mostly consultancy) over the next 6 months to fund a series of public consultations. If anyone knows of any organisation that undertakes Town Planning type consultancy, please let us know as we want to speak to a range of potential suppliers.

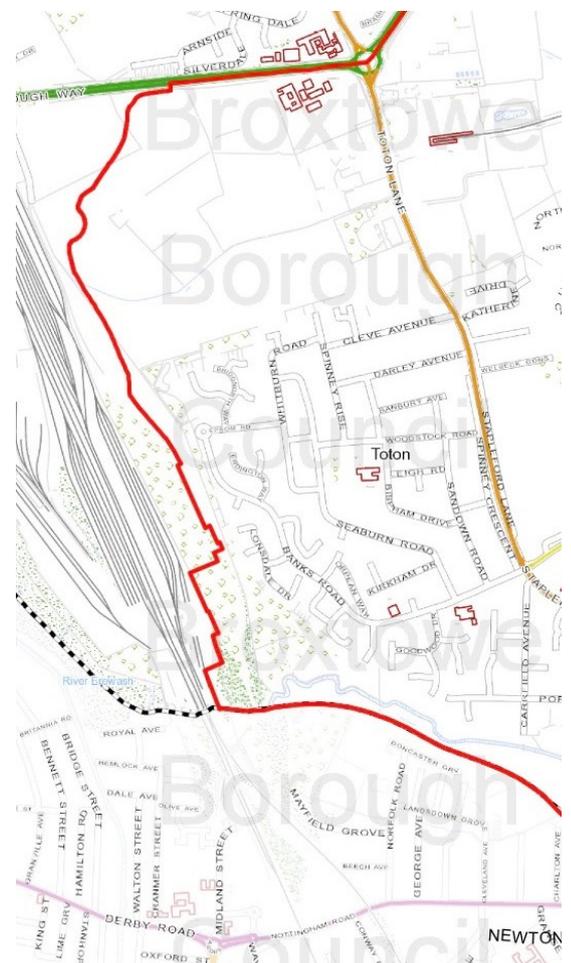
Part of our grant application involves producing an outline project plan to cover the preparation of our Development Plan for the area. We used a template provided by Locality and which covers the main tasks and it proved to be a bit of an eye-opener. We know, of course, we have a huge task in front of us with the massive changes proposed for our Area given the sale of the Barracks and the HS2 East Midlands Hub Station. And it turns out that we think it will take us over two years, until mid-2019, to produce our Plan.

The first phase of our work is to undertake a series of consultations with our members and residents in the Area, so expect **further news** regarding this over the next couple of months.

The Neighbourhood Plan— Area Modification

Broxtowe Borough Council's Planning Policy Manager, Steffan Saunders contacted the Steering Group to advise on the Area we had proposed to cover in our Neighbourhood Plan. The section under scrutiny was the western side of our boundary at Toton Sidings. We were strongly advised by the Council to exclude the land 'safe-guarded' by HS2 Ltd to cover the East Midlands Hub Station as we would not be able to exert any legal force over this part of the Sidings. Once this reasonably narrow section was excluded, there remained an 'island' of land between the HS2 station and the River Erewash. The Council also advised this 'island' be excluded from our Forum's Area since there are no residents on that piece of land (just industrial works and wildlife sites) and no other Forum in the country has been allocated 2 unconnected Areas to manage. So the amended western boundary of the Forum's Area now follows the eastern edge of the HS2 safeguarded land. The steering group voted to accept by a majority (as agreed in our constitution) the amendment tabled by Steffan and therefore the proposed boundary adjustment will be accepted (see below map).

We will be holding a **General Meeting** in the next few weeks so we can explain this modification in more detail and provide you with the opportunity to let us know your views.



Keep Up To Date...

We are still in the process of setting up our website to provide more information about our work including publishing Steering Group agendas and minutes. We'll also be publishing dates of our meetings so members are able to come along and take part. So watch this space!

We are on Facebook and Twitter:

Facebook: Chetwynd: The Toton and Chilwell Neighbourhood Forum

Twitter: @Chetwynd_TTCNF

Sub-Group Focus

As you may remember from the Inaugural General Meeting, the Forum will be made up of 'sub-groups' which can focus on specific projects or areas. One of these groups is the Barracks Sub-Group. Steering group member and leader of the Barracks group, **David Lovett** writes below...

We held our first meeting on 7th March at The Cadland. As this was the first meeting of the sub-group there was a round of introductions, and basic scene setting and background information for members.

We reviewed the first draft of our Terms of Reference, with the aim of finalising them, following comments received, at our next meeting. We agreed our immediate priorities for the coming months should be fact finding about Chetwynd barracks as the sale of the site by the MOD is not yet imminent.

We will try and arrange a visit to the barracks to gain a better understanding of the site, and the opportunities as well as any difficulties for the future. The sub-group will aim to obtain large scale maps of the site to aid this analysis.

There is a lot of speculation and rumour surrounding the barracks, and the sub-group will only ascertain information on a factual basis from reliable sources to avoid the trend for 'Fake News'!

Meet the Team: Barracks Sub-Group

The sub-group consists of David Lovett, DeVonne John, Nick Allcoat, Jim Jeffery, Stephen Brown, Philip Morley MBE and Jon Gallego.

Nick: *I offered to get involved in the Barracks sub group as I was keen to see the existing sports/green spaces at the Depot retained for use by the local community throughout the year, and not 'lost' to the property developers.*

This concern was shared by the majority (if not all) of the local residents who attended the early forum meetings. As Chairman of Attenborough Cricket Club, I have recent experience in working with other volunteers at The Strand in Attenborough improving the facilities there both on and off the field.

Philip: *I wanted to get involved in the Forum because the Community in which I live is very important to me and if I can help to shape the Community in terms of environment, land use etc. for the future in a constructive and meaningful way that is a positive in my life. I am a Community person.*

Stephen: *I have lived in the area all of my life and served my time as an apprentice at Chilwell Depot going on to work there for 14 happy years and only left due to "impending closure". I have therefore had a strong affinity for the site and its history. I have since gone on to spend my career in the motor industry, the later 22 years involved with training apprentices and technicians, latterly working as Training Manager for Scania GB, where I feel my experience and knowledge could be of use. My wife Dawn who works in a local school have brought up 3 lovely daughters who were schooled locally so it's fair to say we have a vested interest in any development that affects the area and all our futures. Having taken early retirement last year, I am very keen to be involved with the forum and am determined to help put back into the community as much as I can and hope to ensure the site is maximised for generations to come. The area is seeing many changes and challenges and I feel we will only get one chance at this so I feel very proud to have been given the opportunity to work with likeminded people in hopefully helping the local community shape their own future as I do not think these exciting opportunities come along every day.*

Jim: *When I purchased Orchard Cottage a few years ago, I was keen to find out its history. I discovered from my research much about its previous occupants and also about ownership of the land up to and including Woodside House (now the Officers Mess). Much of the land surrounding Orchard Cottage, including the sports ground opposite, is now enclosed in the Barracks campus. I am keen to promote the idea that this land, Hobgoblin Wood, and Woodside House be made available for public use.*

Jon: *My reason for joining this group is that our house backs to the barracks. I hope that we can influence the development of the area to keep green spaces, maintain the woodland, ensure the development makes provision for health, education, leisure spaces and sustainable transport.*

DeVonne: *Having lived in Toton and been associated with the Churches in Toton for the past 20 years and now living in Chilwell Meadows it has become clear to me that the lack of a town centre has hindered the process of gathering the community and helping families feel they are part of. The Neighbourhood Forum now gives us an opportunity before more families come into the area to help grow community spirit and I want to be part of that.*



**Standing L-R Stephen, Jim , Nick, David
Seated L-R Philip, DeVonne, Jon**