



# Chetwynd: The Toton & Chilwell Neighbourhood Forum



Issue 2 August 2017

## The Neighbourhood Area—a modification:

Thank you to all those members who attended the General Meeting in June. Due to the size of our membership, we had to wait a little while until we were fully quorate (over 50 members), but once we started, we gave an update on our progress so far and outlined our plans for the near future. The main substance of the meeting was to agree to a change to the western edge of the Forum Area (to follow the line of the HS2 safeguarded zone) and we also made a slight change to the wording of the Constitution to aid clarity. Some questions were asked where we agreed to provide written answers; we have yet to respond to these, but please bear with us, we are working on them and will respond shortly via an email.

A big “**Thank you!**” to those members at the meeting who stayed behind afterwards to offer their skills and time to assist the Forum. As we now start to undertake some serious work, we will need all the help we can get so we will be calling for more volunteers in the coming weeks ahead.

## Members & Friends:

Our last Steering Group meeting discussed the plight of some residents who cannot be ‘members’ of the Forum. Despite being very interested in the activities of the Forum, and are keen to help, they just happen to live on the ‘wrong side of the road’. A frustrating example of this are those people living on the east side of Attenborough Lane – just a stone’s throw away from the Barracks. This is simply due to the fact we must draw a ‘line’ somewhere to define our Area and so we have used the Borough Ward boundaries. It makes it easier to gather the evidence we need for a variety of measures (such as population demographics, housing types etc.) that will help us to present a strong case to back up our Plan. However, we still want to encourage all those who have an interest in shaping the future of our community (but who may live outside our Area) to join us as a ‘Friend’ of the Forum. We need as many people as possible to help us develop our Plan. It just means that for legal purposes, ‘friends’ cannot vote at General Meetings.

## A Visit to Chetwynd Barracks

As reported at the General Meeting, a visit to the Barracks was due to take place to meet with the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) – an organisation linked to the MOD and who handle the sale of all MOD land.

The meeting was held on Monday 3rd July, and the DIO were very helpful and answered lots of questions about their initial thoughts concerning the disposal of site. The main comment from the members who walked around the site was how large it is! It is easy to forget how much land is involved.

There are several elements of the Barracks that the DIO are keen to ensure are preserved and protected when it is sold. These include buildings such as:

- the Officers Mess (although an extension built at the back of the building may be demolished)
- the Prince William Barracks
- the WW1 Infirmary
- a ‘culturally significant’ Community building

On top of these buildings the DIO are determined to protect the Memorial & associated Memorial Garden for those who died in the factory explosion during World War 1; the playing fields and pavilion next to Chetwynd Road; as well as Hobgoblin Wood and the numerous mature trees that are dotted around the site. At the moment, we know the council want to see 500 houses built on the site before 2028, and we can expect more houses to be built afterwards. But it is still very early days and we are all very mindful that what happens to the Barracks will have a critical impact on our Area. However, it was a great start to our relationship with the DIO and for the work that is ahead of us.

### *Can you help us?*

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.

**If you have IT website skills or know someone that does, please consider helping by giving as much or as little time as you can to assist with the set up of the website. The website will be crucial in allowing us to keep you, our members & friends, up to date!**

Facebook: Chetwynd: The Toton and Chilwell Neighbourhood Forum

Twitter: @CTTCNF

Are you able to receive our communications by e-mail? We would like to reduce our paper copies where possible, so if you currently receive postal communications and have an e-mail address, please let Graham know on [graham.heal00@gmail.com](mailto:graham.heal00@gmail.com).



## Getting Started...

The aim of the Neighbourhood Forum is to build a Neighbourhood Plan which will set out the community goals for the area and what we as a community want our area to look like in the future.

To put a plan together, we first need to know exactly what is **already within our designated area**. In order to collect this information the steering group have divided the tasks into topics and assigned a steering group member to lead that task.

### The topics we will be researching are:

- Population
- Housing
- Highways and Transport
- Local Traffic
- Education and Medical
- Leisure, Sports and Entertainments
- Libraries, Religious Places, Community Organisations
- Business and Employment
- HS2
- Environment
- Utilities, including waste disposal

This work is in addition to the activities being undertaken by the Barracks Sub-group which is already up and running. As you can see, we have a lot to cover! **If anyone would like to help with our research into any of the above**, please get in touch. We are excited to be getting into the detailed work of the Forum. We will continue to send our regular newsletters on a quarterly basis, along with smaller, more frequent updates via email, to let you know what we've been doing. The Steering Group intend to hold several consultations within the Area over the next 6 months, the Plan needs to reflect the views and ideas of residents so we are keen to engage **with you and the wider the community** to get your ideas and opinions.

## HS2 at Toton; ideas are starting to emerge

We have been invited to a number of meetings between the Council and HS2 Growth Partnership (the body leading the plans for the Toton Hub Station), over the last few months. We have been asked to share our thoughts on the critical areas that we believe the HS2 team need to focus on when it comes to putting together a vision for the HS2 station/Strategic Growth Area. The key points we made was that road infrastructure needed to be radically re-thought to improve the current chaotic state of Stapleford Lane leading up to Bardills Island. This in turn lead to some initial thoughts on how best to access the HS2 station (from the A52) and, given the current unacceptable pollution levels at A52/Bardills Island, whether it is sensible for George Spencer Academy to stay in its current location over the long term.

The result is that the Forum have joined the HS2 Hub Station Delivery Board (a partnership between D2N2 councils, HS2, & Network Rail) and a paper was presented in June detailing some aspirations for the area. We have a copy of the paper and are in the process of extracting and condensing the key elements from it and will look to circulate it to members soon. At the moment, it is just an 'ideas' paper rather than anything more concrete, but well worth having a look at.

**Thanks** to all those who stopped by our tent at the Toton Tesco Community Fun Day at the Manor Park, Toton. It was great to get your views on the Area and for us to explain what we have been doing so far and some initial thoughts. We had a flip chart where we asked visitors to write what's good about living in Toton and Chilwell. These are a few of the responses:

- People enjoying themselves in open spaces. Open spaces and parks were mentioned several times
- Green areas and the birds they attract give a calming feel
- Easy access to M1
- Good bus routes
- The people
- Village feel
- Tram links
- Walking along the river
- Nice neighbours

