

MOORLAND PLACECHECK



REPORT & ACTION PLAN March 2006

A placecheck is a survey carried out by local people. It asks what is good about the area that we live in, what is bad and how can things be made better. It is about working together for a joint purpose, not just local people but all agencies, authorities and businesses that have an interest in the local area. The best thing about a placecheck is that it works.

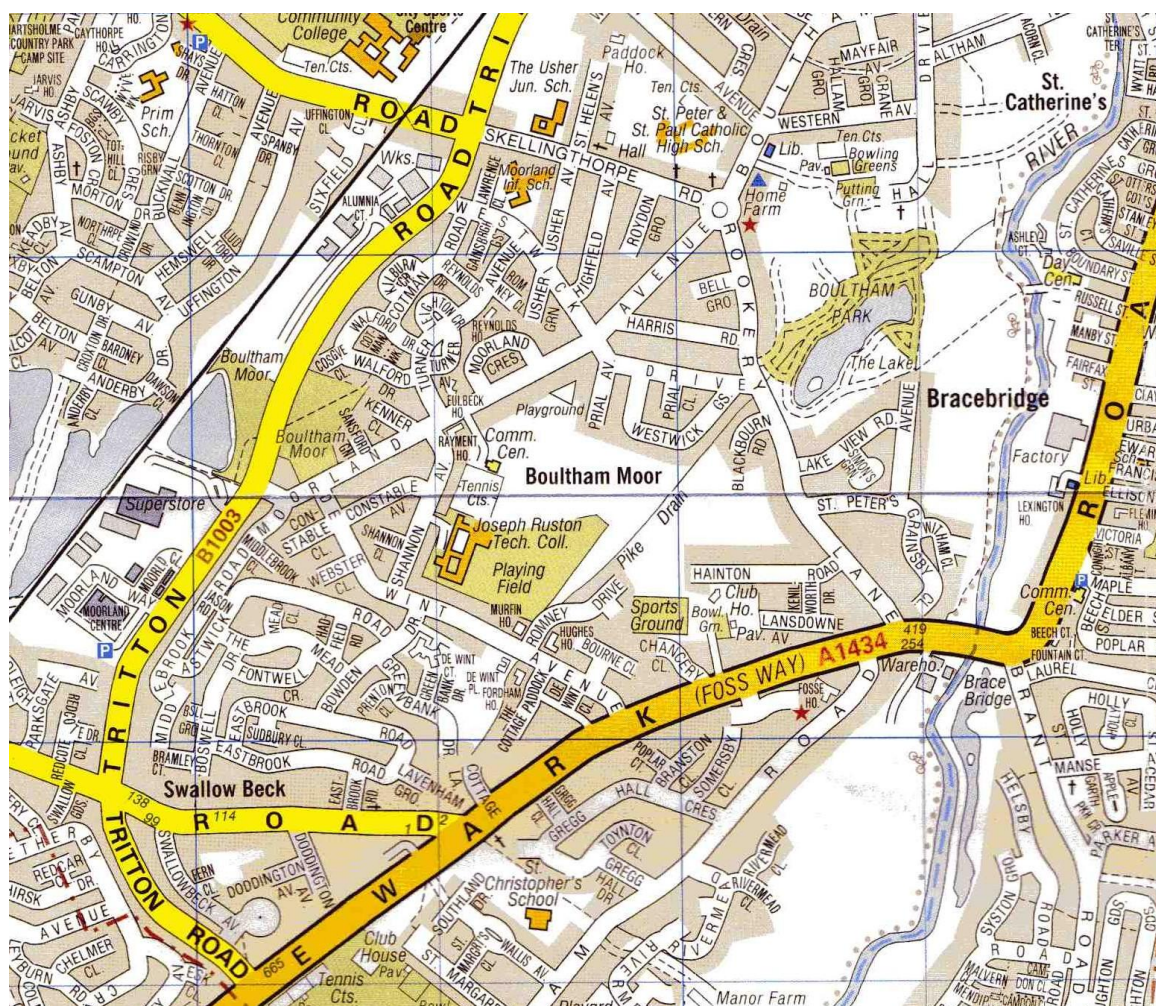
| Contents | Page |
|---|------|
| Introduction | 3 |
| Results from walkabout / Moorland Avenue | 5 |
| The Backies | 6 |
| Turner Avenue Shops | 8 |
| Parks and Green Area | 10 |
| From Westwick to Skellingthorpe Road | 12 |
| Litter / Fly tipping / Dumping | 15 |
| Reducing Anti Social Behaviour | 17 |
| The Pike Drain Project | 18 |
| Health, Social and Educational Facilities | 19 |
| Traffic | 20 |
| Issues to take forward | 21 |
| Issues, Priorities & Action | 23 |
| Working together | 23 |
| Moorland Community Groups | 24 |
| Moorland Community Facilities | 25 |
| Parks and Green Areas | 26 |
| Litter & fly tipping | 26 |
| Crime & Anti-social behaviour | 28 |
| Activities for young people | 29 |
| Traffic | 30 |
| Street Lighting | 31 |
| Investment in the area | 31 |
| Conclusion | 32 |
| Appendix | 33 |

Introduction

Since the launch of the Monks Road Placecheck report in summer 2002, there has been a marked improvement of that area. Whilst some of the improvement schemes had already been planned ahead of the placecheck, there is no doubt that the findings of the report have had a significant influence on how different agencies and groups have worked together for the good of the area. This has encouraged the use of placechecks as Community Planning Tools in other parts of Lincoln.

In 2004, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) commissioned the Indices of Deprivation, which measured the following: Income deprivation, Employment deprivation, Health deprivation and disability, Education, Skills and training deprivation, Barriers to Housing and Services, living environment deprivation, and Crime. Whereas previous indices measured down to Ward level, the 2004 Index concentrated at even smaller levels, known as 'Super Output Areas' (SOAs), thus eliminating the old problem of results being skewed where an affluent areas lay in the same ward as a deprived estate. The two most deprived SOAs in Lincoln are in St Giles and Moorland.

Moorland Geographical



Moorland has Tritton Road, Newark Road, Rookery Lane and Skellingthorpe Road as its borders. The area that the placecheck focuses on is from around Westwick Drive to Tritton Road, including the Backies, and Boultham Moor. Although this is generally the Super Output Area, where investment has been earmarked, the rest of Moorland, e.g. St Peter's Avenue, will be included in the overall improvements as well.

Residential

The residential area is a mixture of council properties – both three bedroom houses and flats – and private housing which is mostly found on the outskirts of the area.

Work began on the centre of the area in the 1930s, around Westwick Drive. The majority of the houses were added in the late 1940s and early 1950s, along with most of the Municipal facilities.

Commercial

Moorland is quite well served by retail outlets. On the corner of Moorland / Turner Avenue are the 'roundshops' – comprising a newsagents, two food shops, a hardware store, a charity shop and the Moorland Access Centre (The MAC). Further up Moorland Avenue, at the 'Junction' is a Co-op, several food stores, a chemists, a Post Office, and a florist. Tritton Road is home to a retail park containing two large national supermarkets and several large electrical goods stores.

Consultation

The findings in this report are based on comments and suggestions made by members of the Moorland Community. The principles of the placecheck were discussed at two meetings on January 26th. During February and March 2006, members of the community - adults and children - walked around their areas completing questionnaires, taking photographs and making observations as to what they saw.

Pupils and staff from Moorlands infants School and the Usher school also took part in their own walkabouts on March 13th as well as asking parents what they thought were the key issues that affected where they lived.

Results from walkabout

Overall, the placecheck walkabout gives the impression that there is a good sense of community in Moorland.

“Like where I live”

“Good set of friends / neighbours / support”

Most people on the walkabout began in the centre of Moorland and then moved around the area, recording what they saw and felt.

Moorland Avenue



“Poor siting of zebra crossing on Moorland Avenue”

“Crossing on Moorland Avenue needs to be moved as it’s in a silly place”

“Use the Community Centre more.”
“Better use of Community Centre needed”
“Community Centre underused. Has to be hired beforehand”



“Fencing around the Community Centre is not very welcoming”
“Gates are locked”
“No community notice boards except for Moorland Access Centre”
“Bring the community centre back into easy access for local people”

So it's a community resource but by no means a perfect one and there is clearly room for improvement. But, as one person put it

"If there wasn't a Community Centre there, people would be crying out for one".

The Backies

Behind the Community Centre, the Backies are a source of both pleasure and dismay.

"The place by the park gate is a meeting place for drug dealers and a repository for used needles. A bag of used nappies has been left there for some weeks now."



The recently built ball court and BMX track on the Backies are popular but there are still issues with young people who use them.



"We need some lights and a roof"

"There's load of glass on the football pitch so we need it tidying up"

"We need some floodlights because we can't see what we're doing in the dark and we can't hardly jump"

"On the Backies we need a roof because its wet"



Unfortunately, providing facilities for young people cannot address other problems.

“Children of all ages play in the street because of bullying on the park – this applies to children of all ages.”

The rest of the park becomes a problem because it can't be used by the majority of the local community when it gets dark.



“Lighting on Backies is very bad, likewise on Boultham Park. This leads to a fear of crime.”

”Backies desperately needs more lighting”

And with the darkness, come the usual problems and fears...

“Drugs and alcohol a problem in the area”

“Drug dealers”

“Children being able to purchase alcohol“



But it's not all doom and gloom. The Backies is a great play area which local people love to go on.

If the problems can be overcome, then it will be an even better place to go.

One solution to these problems comes over loud and clear from local people.

“Improve local policing”

“Moorland Ward is a very big area to cover, extra police resources are needed”



“Building positive relationships between community and police”

“Improve safety in general”

“Mobile CCTV”

The Police are already involved in some initiatives such as the Junior Warden system and are very keen to get involved in more as well as stamping out crime. But they need help. People have to report crime and anti-social behaviour – then, and only then can it be beaten.

Turner Avenue Shops

Meanwhile, across the road...

“Moorland Access Centre, Turner Av”

“Paul & the MAC – essential”



This is where local people can drop in for advice on all sorts of matters, enrol on various courses to develop their education and skills. It is also where the local newsletter is put together.

**“Local newsletter exists but there is trouble with its delivery”
“Improve the newsletter”**

As well as the popularity of the MAC, (Moorland Access Centre) there is appreciation of having local shops in the area as well as supermarkets.



“A good mix of shops around the area”

“Round shops”

“Charity shops”

“Good choice of Supermarkets but a taxi from Sainsbury’s to Westwick Drive is £6”

Again, there is some room for improvement.

“Appearance of ‘round shops’ needs improving”

“Dark near shops in evenings”



“Poor lighting, particularly Fulbeck House”

Poor lighting is not just confined to the shops but is a much wider issue.

“Street lighting on the whole estate is poor”

Regular litterpicks and the introduction of better lighting are needed to help improve not just this important part of the area but all of it. The issue of better street lighting has been successfully addressed in another part of the city – it requires the local community to work with the City and County Councils to put forward a very good case for investing in better lighting. It doesn’t happen overnight but if approached the right way, i.e. through co-operation, it can happen.

Parks and green spaces

Moorland has a lot of green spaces; whether they are parks or just the big greens dotted about the place, they are very popular.



“Like the Parks (although not always kept in good condition)”

“Encourage ecology and gardening”

“Gardens and flowers”

Behind Reynolds House, a small community garden is being created, with a play area and a specially designed “Reading chair”.



This looks (and is) beautiful in close up, but if the picture were to be zoomed out, it would show the most disgusting graffiti imaginable...

...whilst around the chair, young saplings have been uprooted and smashed.



The problems already mentioned with public green spaces also intrude onto private property.



Whereas there are many well kept gardens...

...the opposite is also true and it is not always the householder's fault.



“Our environment our sanity and our properties need protecting. Children don’t respect these. Other people gardens are open territory to them. Do something please.”

It is always easier to show problems than the solutions. But sometimes all the answers require are a combination of common sense and a bit of imaginative thinking.

Also, given that there are so many gardens in the area, as well as a few garden businesses either just down Newark Road, why not launch what someone suggested be called “Moorland in Bloom”



“We like the front gardens”

“Tidy, no rubbish”

Why can’t all households have the chance to have a garden like this one? The potential is certainly there.

Setting up a local gardening club would be so simple. Anyone could get involved regardless of their experience as so many local people have been looking after their gardens for years and can pass on their expertise to others.



Not only would it make everyone's home (and the area) look better, gardening gives people a sense of pride and achievement.

From Westwick to Skellingthorpe Road

Fairly or unfairly, a place's reputation can quite often be difficult to shake off.

For example, dumping

**"Wheel tires wrapped
around trees on
Westwick Gardens."**



**"Rubbish dumped on the front of Reynolds house"
"Fly tipping at entrance to Boultham Woods"
"Fly tipping on Romney Close"
"Entrance of Boultham woods has rubbish all over it and graffiti
on the wooden fence."**



**"Dumping between Laurence
Close and Skellingthorpe
Road."**

...graffiti...

“More graffiti on walls near Cotman Walk”



“Graffiti on the sign and damage to the NTL box on Leighton Close.”

...and the effects of bad parking



“Cars parking on grass verges”

“Poor parking on Leighton Crescent has damaged the grass”

“Grass verges need attention”

“Grass verges on Walford Drive damaged by bad parking”

But not everything is the residents' fault. Some problems are as much down to the neglect of the local infrastructure as anything.



“Bad pavements on Westwick Drive”

Poor street lighting has already been mentioned

So is it the area’s reputation that is the real problem? Is the dumping and graffiti being done only by local residents or by outsiders as well?

“Area is stigmatised”

“Parts of the estate get bad public relations – mainly Westwick via the media”.

The problems that have just been listed are part of modern society’s problems, not just Westwick Drive’s. Of course they are still problems but they are not exclusive to the area and they definitely overshadow everything else happening. As one person put it,

“Good things rarely get publicised.”

There is a very strong sense of local identity, with a youth football team calling themselves ‘Weckies’ – that suggests pride rather than embarrassment. Identifying with an area is a very positive step towards improving a community,.

People love nostalgia, a reminder of good times. So why not set up a history group – there must be hundreds of local people who have good stories to tell about the area, those who remember when the wartime bombing of Westwick, those who remember when some of the housing had yet to be built. There must be people with old photographs that they can share, even old 8mm film of galas, parades etc. What about the industrial past? Why are streets and road named as they are? What happened to the gates on Westwick Gardens and can they be replaced? A history group can find out all this and more.

“Needs more colour in the area”

The proposed ‘Moorland in Bloom’ project would work wonders here. All it needs is for local residents to get involved and for them to have a bit of support.

Litter / Fly tipping / Dumping



It cannot be overstated just how angry and upset people get because of litter.

“Litter is bad the day after collection”

“Litter around shops”

“Litter collection in flats needs improving”



”More litter bins with lids to prevent litter blowing all over the place when bins are full”

“Fireproof bins needed”

So why not take control and start the clean up ourselves?

“More litterpicks needed – both midweek and weekends, use half term”



Unfortunately, this is becoming a regular sight.

Signs are no good on their own, there needs to be enforcement or else the tipping just continues...



“Fly tipping”

“Lack of communication between statutory agencies”

“Collection of rubbish – poor communication with litter agencies”

Man’s best friend is also in the doghouse...

“Dog fouling a problem”
“More control over dog fouling”
“Lack of dog bins – not emptied and not used correctly”
“More dog bins needed”



The City Council Dog Warden will pursue dog owners who let their pets foul without removing the waste and the wardens have a good record in getting people to court. But they cannot operate unless they know who is doing what and where. Contact numbers should be made available on public notices and in the local newsletter.

Reducing Anti Social Behaviour

One way to reduce anti-social behaviour amongst young people is to give them something to do. The facilities on the Backies are good but until the lighting and bullying problems are resolved, then these will not be fully utilised. Besides, not every young person wants outdoor sports.

There is a history of getting local young people (aged 5 to 11) involved in activities – all run by volunteers.



“Revive the after school groups for younger people”

“Keep young people involved”

“More youth activities”

“More activities required for young people – include all age groups”

“No dedicated youth centre”

“Graffiti wall needed”

Young people themselves want similar things to everyone else – an end to litter and vandalism, better lighting etc. But they also know what they want on a recreational basis

“More play equipment”

“Football pitches”

“A cleaner park”

“Ice skating”

“Swimming pool”

“More activities”

“More things to do”

“Banana Park”

Although it is on the edge of the placecheck area, this is still a cracking little park with potential as a place for younger children to play. It also has football pitches so older and younger children can play side by side under parental supervision. All it needs is a good clean up and some new equipment.





Also on the edge of the placecheck area is Moorlands FC, a semi-professional football club in need of a younger fan base and greater community input. It is also the home to Lincoln Ladies FC so it is not just for males. What a golden opportunity for everyone to get involved with a local club, to have fun and learn about the need for self-discipline and teamwork.

Also, nearly all of the suggestions so far involve outdoor activities. Why not give young people the chance to express themselves artistically? There are free music lessons and arts workshops going on in other parts of the city, why not bring them to Moorland?

There also many local Community Projects that could be set up with the minimum of effort.

The Pike Drain Project



The amount of rubbish dumped into Pike Drain, on the Backies beggars belief.

Empty bottles, plastic bags, beer cans...

... even a heavy five bar gate gets no mercy.





“Since visiting here a few weeks ago, rubbish has increased five fold – large items have been fly tipped into the drain”

This looks, and is, a very bad state of affairs. But, rather than attempt to point a finger as to who is responsible, why not turn it into a community project? Get the local schools involved as well as local adults and the authorities. Set up a ‘Pike Drain’ Community group. Get hold of the correct specialist equipment and clean it up ourselves. It may be a ‘drain’ but if cleaned up, it’s a very attractive part of the landscape. This could be an opportunity to bring people of all ages together to fight back against anti-social behaviour and to also reclaim what should be a local landmark to be proud of.

Quite a few environmental organisations e.g. Rivercare Lincoln, tackle such problems by getting artists to turn the rubbish into art - e.g. sculptures of wild animals. There is no reason why this couldn’t be done at Pike Drain. Lincoln has both an Art college and a University – why not use them for this and other projects?

Health, Social and Educational Facilities

There is a great appreciation of these local facilities

“Dentist on Doddington Road”

“Optician”

“Local GP surgeries”



li

“Mini Sure Start on Westwick Drive”

“Local library and mobile coming to community centre”



“Joseph Ruston College”

“Schools – Moorland Infants”

“Usher school”



These are all valuable local resources and should be included in the area's development.

Transport / Traffic

Public transport does not appear to be an issue as there is a generally broad appreciation

“Fairly good bus routes”
“Good transport”

Rather it is traffic, and more to the point, varying methods of parking that raises the most concerns.



“Cars parking on roads and blocking footpaths, blocking people’s drives, churning up of grass verges, blocking access for emergency services”

**“Parking is a problem”
“Communal car park”**

Road safety also features

**“Speeding – bikes / cars/ vans etc”
“Need for traffic calming measures on Westwick Drive”**

“Level Crossings needed at schools”



Clearly, there is concern about the effect of traffic on both the area physically and potentially people.

Issues to take forward

Working together

All parties – local community, City of Lincoln Council, County Council, Police etc – need to work together.

Community Facilities

Maximise the community's use of local facilities.

Community Activities

Local community need to take some responsibility for how the area is run.

Local people also need to be given more opportunities to help manage the area.

Green Areas

Reclaim these and turn them back into areas of beauty.

Litter & fly tipping

Get all parties working together on this and clearly identify the roles and responsibilities of each organisation, with contact details of responsible individuals made available for specifically stated areas e.g. Backies

There is a need for people to go the extra mile to tackle this problem.

Crime & Anti-social behaviour

Make sure that everyone has the will to beat this and that the gravity of the problem is fully recognised and acted upon.

There is a need for people to go the extra mile to tackle this problem.

Activities for young people

This requires venues, organisation, resources and some imaginative thinking. Plus, asking young people themselves what they want to do rather than deciding on their behalf.

Street Lighting

Evidence is needed of the effectiveness of street lighting in other areas of Lincoln on both crime and the fear of crime.

Traffic

The emphasis has to be on the greater good of the area as opposed to individual car drivers.

Encourage people to use their cars less.

Investment in the area

The Safer and Secure Communities investment planned for the Super output area will have a significant effect on the Moorland area as a whole.

How can we link in?

Issues, Priorities and Action to be taken

Obviously, it will not be possible to change everything overnight whilst some initiatives can be introduced relatively quickly, others will require greater planning and resources. However, it is possible to identify some priorities from the placecheck to aim for.

Priority - Working Together

Goal

Get residents, City Council, Police, County Council, Cory – all agencies working together better. Get rid of the 'us and them' and the 'blame' mentality. Quite often, the council gets blamed over events for which it has no responsibility whatsoever.

Action:

- Draw up a list of names and contacts by agency that identifies who is responsible for dealing with different incidents in the local area e.g. litter, vandalism.
- Ensure that all the local community is aware of and has access to this list (via the local newsletter?) and who to report incidents to. Get agreement from all parties that the responsible named persons will take the correct action to alleviate the incident. If local residents are responsible for the incidents, ensure that they are dealt with solely by the correct authorities.

- Erect maps of the area showing a map of the area showing streets, businesses, local information, contact details for different authorities etc. Make this sign vandal proof and ensure that it is protected and maintained. Look for funding through local grants.
- Involve all of the Moorland area in the improvement.
- Encourage local people to consider joining the neighbourhood panels, if only to get a better idea of how statutory agencies work.
- Encourage local people to join the Community Police Forums.

Priority - Moorland Community Groups

Goal

There are as yet no formal community groups in the Moorlands area. Community groups allow local people to concentrate on issues that concern them whether it is the day to day running of the area, or specific areas of interest e.g. gardening, history etc. These community groups will compliment work undertaken by the Neighbourhood Panels. Independent Community Groups are also more eligible for a wider range of funds.

Action:

- Set up a Moorland Community Group (MCG)
- Consultation with this community group should be compulsory for any authority or organisation that has development plans affecting the Moorland area.
- MCG should be given as much support as possible through funding, training etc. All members of the local community are very welcome to join.
- Look to improve both content and delivery of the Moorland Newsletter.

Goal

There is already considerable interest in setting up a Moorland History Group.

Action:

- Help local people to set one up.
- Provide relevant training for anyone wanting to act as Secretary, Treasurer etc.

- Seek small pots of money to start the group off, find a place to meet, provide admin and IT support.
- Make contact with Lincoln University to see how local people can access University history resources.
- Identify local sources of historical information, e.g. Lincolnshire Archives.

Goal

Give local people the confidence to get involved with and set up their own Community Groups.

Action:

- Listen to people and involve them in the decision making process.
- Provide them with appropriate training.
- Help them get sustainable funding
- Ensure that they have an appropriate venue to meet

Priority - Moorland Community Facilities

Goal

Get more local people to use the Moorland Community Centre.

Action:

- Make the entrance to the Centre more attractive and friendly
- Keep the back of Rayment House and the Backies clean from litter
- Increase the amount and range of activities held at the centre
- Install better lighting on the Backies to encourage evening use of the centre
- Make sure that the cost of using the centre does not put off local people.

Goal

Get more local people to use the Moorland Access Centre (MAC)

Action:

- Make training available for local residents and for children at weekends
- Keep people interested in activities at the MAC
- Recruit more volunteers

Priority – Parks and Green Areas

Goal

‘Moorland in Bloom’ (MIB) – beautification of the area’s natural resources.

Action:

- Set up a MIB community group in order to attract funding
- Consult local people as to any ideas they may have
- Consult with local schools to encourage youth participation
- Contact local garden centres / suppliers for possible sponsorship.
- Draw up a list of local gardeners and volunteers willing to help
- Encourage local people to participate

Priority - Dealing with Litter and Fly Tipping:

Goal

Get all parties working together on this and clearly identify the roles and responsibilities of each organisation, with contact details of responsible individuals made available for specifically stated areas.

Action:

- Clear list of responsible parties and direct contact numbers to be printed in the Moorland newsletter. All agencies are to contribute to this and to update any changes.

Goal

Reduce the opportunity for people to fly tip anonymously and make sure that fly tippers are caught and fined.

Action:

- Give local people the confidence to report fly tippers.
- Make sure that reported incidents are acted upon.
- Forge links between local community and CORY to give better appreciation about how refuse collection and recycling works.
- Better street lighting and on green areas to reduce opportunity of fly tipping without being seen.

Goal

Start the Pike Drain project

Action:

- Work with local community and schools to identify how they would like the drain to look.
- Work with volunteers to clear the drain of litter and keep it cleared.
- Contact Lincoln University to set up a website showing the project's development.
- Consult with Encams Rivercare scheme as to possible sculpture work with recyclable rubbish.
- Register the project with Environment Agency's Action Earth campaign.

Goal

Clean the Moorland Estate up and keep it clean.

Action:

- Install more litter bins and put them in appropriate places following consultation with the local community.

- Install more dog waste bins and put them in appropriate places following consultation with the local community.
- Purchase litterpickers, bags, gloves etc to be available for the local community to use.
- Local community and City Council to identify and tackle rubbish hot spots.
- Community to report people who dump rubbish. City council can fine these people heavily under new legislation.
- Ensure the contact details of how to report both litter dumpers and dog fouling are widely available and that reported incidents are acted upon.
- Get as many green areas as possible on the Urban Ranger list of sites to visit.

Priority - Crime and anti-social behaviour:

Goal

How to beat it. Make sure that everyone has the will to win and recognises the seriousness of the situation.

Action:

- People to report *all* incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour; therefore people have to feel confident about reporting incidents, without the fear of reprisals.
- Community to work closely with the Council's Nuisance Neighbour unit.
- Ensure that people know the local police officers' and the Anti-social behaviour co-ordinator's contact numbers by printing them in the newsletter.
- Establish a community incident report book to be available for both police and City Council to view.
- Local community to work with Police and City Council to enforce Anti Social Behaviour Orders on persistent trouble makers where necessary.

- Target retail outlets selling alcohol to ensure responsible selling and take punitive action against those outlets that sell irresponsibly.
- Provide activities for young people to do

Priority - Activities for younger people:

Goal

Make the Backies more attractive to play on.

Action:

- Introduce better lighting.
- Work with the local community to remove litter and dumping
- Work with local community and police to reduce anti-social behaviour on the Backies.
- Make the neighbouring Community Centre more welcoming.

Goal:

Make more use of local facilities

Action:

- Look at improving existing open play areas
- Work with the local community to remove litter and dumping
- Work with local community and police to reduce anti-social behaviour on the Backies.

Goal

Give young people an outlet for creative / artistic expression

Action:

- Look at artistic projects that have run in other parts of Lincoln.

- Consult with young people through schools and youth clubs as to what they want to participate in.
- Work with local Parent / Teachers Associations to bid for funding.
- Look for local premises from which projects could be run.

Goal

Consult with young people

Action:

- Consult through school councils
- Encourage young people to join the Neighbourhood youth panels or get involve in youth activities held locally.

Priority - Traffic:

Goal:

Improve parking conditions to protect grass verges.

Action:

- Consult local residents as to whether they may be interested in a residents parking scheme

Goal:

Encourage people to use their car less.

Action::

- Improving pavements would make it easier for people to use pushchairs etc. It also makes the area more accessible to wheelchair users.

Priority - Street lighting:

Goal:

Improve lighting in the area to a level where local people no longer feel afraid to venture out after dark. Also to discourage anti social activity, fly tipping.

Action:

- Carry out a survey of local residents about their views of street lighting. The survey's findings will be fed back to City of Lincoln Council and Lincolnshire County Council for their response.
- An evaluation carried out in the Abbey Neighbourhood Renewal area showed the impact of improved lighting on local people's fear of crime as well as crime itself. This could act as a good template for bringing improved lighting to Moorland.

Priority - Investment in the area:

Goal:

Where there have been schemes in other parts of Lincoln to improve specific area, one knock on effect is that other agencies, both public and private sector have also invested additional resources into the same area.

Action:

- Aim to attract other investment in the area by advertising current and planned improvements and approaching possible future partners.
- Include the St Peter's and De Wint areas in the development as well as around the area covered by the placecheck.

Conclusion

If placechecks had been carried out several decades ago, the issues likely to be raised would have been very different from those of today. No-one would have imagined that one day most homes would have the opportunity to own a fridge freezer and a colour television.

Nowadays, it sometimes feels like every playing field and alleyway has a couple of them dumped on it. Despite society as a whole becoming more prosperous, it often feels as if a lot of things have lost their value -not just possessions but basic principles.

The placecheck shows that despite having to live amongst some very unsavoury aspects of life, many local people can see a better way ahead. They have ideas for improving their community and are willing to get involved in varying ways to do so.

What local people need, in order to achieve this, is for the powers that be to both listen to them and work with them. They are not asking for streets of gold, just clean and safe ones to walk on. There is a strong local community that feels frustrated by litter, anti social behaviour, crime and lack of opportunity. This is a great opportunity for all concerned to work together and get rid of those frustrations.

APPENDIX 1

The placecheck asked a further 15 questions in greater detail. These are the answers that local people gave.

Moorland Placecheck responses based upon next 15 questions

1. Who needs to be involved in changing the place for the better?

- Everybody
- People who live here
- City Council
- Neighbourhood Watch
- Police
- Everyone
- Government
- Road sweepers

2. What resources are available locally to help people get involved?

- Neighbourhood Watch
- Access centre
- Nothing is available
- Youth club on Tuesday evenings
- Meetings
- Leaflets
- Notice boards in shops

3. What other methods might we use to develop our ideas about how to improve the place?

- Involve people personally by incorporating things that interest them

4. How can we make the most of other programmes and resources?

- More publicity

5. How can we raise our sights?

- Lead by example

6. What other initiatives could improve the place?

- Realistic
- Set up a Local History Group, get people identifying

7. How can we make this a more special place?

- Active community involvement
- Start work with children and work up the age scale

- Use festival as a platform
 - Clean it up
 - Lighting needs looking at
8. How can we make this a greener place?
- Encourage ecology and gardening
 - Keep the kids entertained and they won't be so bored and destroy things
9. How can the streets and other public spaces be made safer and more pleasant for people on foot?
- More local bobbies on the beat and getting personal contact
 - Pay more attention to both street lighting and pathways
10. How else can public spaces be improved?
- Keep clean of litter
 - Heavy fines for litter
11. How can the place be made welcoming and easier for people to find their way around?
- Get residents involved with where they live
 - Replace broken street name signs
 - Clear up litter and dumping
 - Encourage people to look after their gardens better
 - Get the place looking tidier
12. How can the place be made adaptable to change in the future?
Involve the local community more often
13. How can better use be made of resources?
- Get different agencies talking to each other and working together
- Maybe help local people if they have ideas for improving the place
14. What can be done to make the most of public transport?
- Closer pick up points
 - Encourage public transport
15. Any further comments
- It all comes down to communication and active involvement
 - People just can't be bothered because they believe their opinions will be ignored or just basic apathy. Involve them and things will change.

