

ABBEY COMMUNITY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2020

Zoom Virtual Meeting

ACTION LOG

Present:

Councillor Byrne (Chair)

Councillor Kaur Saini

Councillor Riyait

NO	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION REQUESTED AT MEETING</u>
21.	INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS	<p>Councillor Byrne as Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and made introductions.</p> <p>No declarations were made.</p> <p>There were no apologies for absence.</p>
22.	ACTION LOG OF PREVIOUS MEETING	<p>The Action Log of the previous meeting held 23 March 2020 was agreed as a correct record.</p>
23.	DRAFT LOCAL PLAN	<p>Grant Butterworth – Head of Planning was present at the meeting and gave a presentation on the Draft Leicester Local Plan (2020 – 2036) Public Consultation.</p> <p>During the presentation, the Head of Planning drew particular attention to the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Government were consulting on a new approach to Planning; however the Planning White Paper would radically change the local plan process, national policies, a zoning approach and much more permitted development and changes to the way in which housing demand would be worked out.• Leicester City Council had decided to continue with their Local Plan as the timespan for the implementation of the White Paper could be two or more years.• The importance of the local plan which looked ahead up until 2036, sought to look at the Councils need for homes, addressing unemployment, shopping, and leisure facilities and allocate sites for the these.

- The plan also set out a range of the Council's planning policies (e.g. Climate Change and Public Health), encouraged investment & economic growth, facilitated place-making and set high quality design expectations.
- Housing site draft allocations were noted, these made up a range of 5 main strategic sites and approximately 85 other sites. Other development anticipated was located in the city centre/ Central Development Area (CDA).
- There were several non-strategic sites proposed for developments within the Abbey Ward including:
 - Birstall Golf Course adjacent to Astill Drive (green wedge site 472): 52 dwellings,
 - Birstall Golf Course south of Park Drive (green wedge site 474): 53 dwellings and,
 - Land adjacent to Great Central Railway (green wedge site 575): leisure/ tourism and potential dual park and ride use.
 - Land to the east of Beaumont Leys Lane (site 589): 30 dwellings,
 - Hadrian Road Open Space (site 687): 2.7ha employment,
 - Ingold Avenue Open Space (site 557): 47 dwellings and enhancement of remainder of open space,
 - Ranworth Open Space (site 647): 31 dwellings
 - Woodstock Road (site 992: 5 dwellings),
 - St Helen's Close Open Space (site 675): 14 dwellings and enhancement of remainder of open space.
 - Land off Heacham Drive (site 1042): 45 dwellings
 - Former Bus Depot, Abbey Park Road – which was earmarked as a potential school site, but the funding application had now been withdrawn. However, this site may be appropriate for alternative uses e.g. housing.

Further discussion took place as to what services and infrastructure would be required to support the plan i.e. potential library, youth service, community halls, sports/ leisure facilities and health care provisions as well as other potential services.

The governments standard methodology which looked at population and was set around 18 months ago was explained. However, the government target was yet to be confirmed.

The Head of Planning expressed that allocations in the draft local plan were not currently fixed and it was requested that Ward Councillors and residents engaged in the consultation.

In terms of the next stages:

- This public consultation started on 14th Set 2020 and ended on 7th Dec 2020, all comments and representations received would carefully be considered.
- Following this, there would then be a further consultation exercise in Autumn 2021 which would detail the final plan and sites that would be submitted to the government.
- There would then be a public examination with the government inspector.
- It would most likely be Autumn 2022 before the plan was adopted.

Councillors and residents expressed some of the following concerns and comments:

Ingold Avenue and whether this site included the play area?

The Head of Planning responded that the allocation on the plan showed the whole open space however a note within the plan recognised parts which should be retained and/ or enhanced. There were no current specifics as to which parts would be developed.

Whether the Blackbird Road playing fields site proposal was in addition to current developments taking place on this site? It was responded that this site was a further phase and it didn't currently have consent.

St Helen's Close – had any investigation taken place as to whether the land was suitable for development due to ground conditions and also concerns of potential access issues especially for emergency services? The response was that detailed work hadn't been done, but the access concerns had been recognised.

		<p>A further concern of proposed developments at St Helen's Close was that depending on the area developed people living on Anstey Lane could lose their privacy.</p> <p>It was confirmed that there would be no highway scheme proposal at Rally Park in this plan, as there was no intention of funding in this plan to deliver this.</p> <p>The policy context for Green wedge sites was explained, and it was noted that whilst green wedge sites were protected from development in the current Plan, the new Local Plan would supersede this.</p> <p>In addition, it was noted that covenants related to the ownership of land and were effectively matters covered by separate legislation from planning permission, the resident with personal concerns on this matter was advised to obtain personal legal advice.</p> <p>Leaflets explaining about the draft local plan consultation had been sent to every household in the city and letters delivered to anyone living next to a proposed site. However a resident had concerns that letters had not been received by some residents, it was therefore requested that the resident email: planning.policy@leicester.gov.uk and correspondence could be resent.</p> <p>The Head of Planning emphasised the importance of people feeding back these and any other concerns into the consultation as they could then be considered going forward.</p>
24.	WARD COUNCILLORS FEEDBACK	<p>Abbey Ward Councillors provided an update on the issues they had been dealing with in their ward.</p> <p>All to note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a consultation currently taking place on the University Hospitals Leicester reconfiguration. Residents were encouraged to engage in the consultation. • Ward Councillors took part in a patch ward covering the Mowmacre and Stocking Farm areas of the ward. A discussion also took place with residents in relation to the St Helens area, feedback was provided. • Support had been provided to residents in the Mowmacre area in which they and Councillors

		<p>had been carrying out food drops to residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constituents were being provided with Covid-19 support in a number of ways. • E2, Mowmacre playground, Help the Homeless and Adhar project had also been supported.
25.	LOCAL POLICING UPDATE	There was no officer present from the local policing unit to provide an update.
26.	NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSING UPDATE	<p>Marie Murray – District Manager for Housing explained what service area involved and provided the following update at the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tenancy management service and the STAR supporting tenants and residents, would continue to deal with urgent service requests. This was currently operating remotely. Home and estate visits would only be carried out for essential service requests. • Covid safe risk assessments were in place for all staff and a critical contact matrix had been developed. • In terms of tenancy management, fire safety checks continued through the lockdown periods. • Less urgent tenancy management checks would-be put-on hold. • Home visits were not envisaged to return to normal for some time, but upcoming information from central government would continue to be reviewed. • The service continued to deal with domestic violence, serious harassment and antisocial behaviour urgent requests. • Mutual exchanges and transfers would be progressed where tenants needed to relocate for urgent reasons. • The most vulnerable tenants would also be contacted to ensure they were able to access support and tenancy management support. <p>2020/21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20/21 schemes in the Abbey Ward amounted to approximately £60k spend. • Some works had been put on hold but there was reassurance that these would be completed. • £72k spend for external painting and flats on Jersey Road and replacement of wooden

		<p>board partitions on Marwood Road.</p> <p>2021/22:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was anticipated for a £40k spend for schemes in 2021/22 which included internal painting on five blocks of flats, bin store replacements and installing metal plates in bin store areas. • It was requested that £5k be added for clearance works. <p>The Chair queried the property on Ledbury Green which had reportedly been empty for several years. ACTION: The local city warden present at the meeting reported that a notice had been sent to the owners in July 2020 and this would be followed up.</p>
27.	CITY WARDEN UPDATE	<p>Charlotte Glover – City Warden for the Ward was present and informed the meeting of the following details in relation to the activities and enforcement which had taken place in the ward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven Community Protection Warnings (CPW) had been issued across the ward. • 7 fly tips had been investigated, two of which were still ongoing investigations. In addition, 2 sites of untidy land had been dealt with. • The City Warden had been dealing with the recent flyposting issue which had been seen across the ward, many of the fly posts had now been removed and officers were trying to find the people responsible for the activity. <p>The City Warden explained her role to the meeting.</p>
28.	WARD COMMUNITY MEETING BUDGET	<p>Ward Community Engagement Officer (WCEO) – Anita Clarke gave an update on the Ward Community Budget:</p> <p>Since the last ward meeting, a total number of 9 applications had been submitted, with 6 of those being supported totalling £4,535.00. This gave a remaining total of £15,131.00 in the budget, with two applications awaiting a decision from Ward Councillors.</p> <p>Successful applications had been received from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boxercise for health • Women 4 Change

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Friends of Belgrave cemetery• Leicester Football academy• Mowmacre Clubs for young people• Sikh Community centre <p>To apply for ward funding please go to: www.leicester.gov.uk/communitymeetings or telephone 0116 - 4541940 to discuss your ideas.</p>
29.	CLOSE OF MEETING	The meeting closed at 6.59pm.