

## WESTERN COMMUNITY MEETING

MONDAY, 9 MARCH 2020

Held at: St Anne's Church, Letchworth Rd, Leicester LE3 6FN

### ACTION LOG

Present:  
Councillor O'Donnell (Chair)  
Councillor Broadwell  
Councillor Cole

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION REQUESTED AT MEETING</u>
21.	<b>INTRODUCTIONS, DECLARATIONS AND APOLOGIES</b>	Councillor O'Donnell as Chair led introductions for the meeting. There were no apologies for absence.
22.	<b>ACTION LOG</b>	<p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Climate Emergency Discussion at Dovelands School was well attended, and discussion at the meeting had been fed back to the Council Executive.</li><li>• The funding for the Allexton Centre from the Ward Community Budget was going toward being able to meet the specification for commercial hire.</li><li>• 55 people had signed up to the New Parks Food Bank, 70 had signed up to the Braunstone Frith Food Bank. Donations could be made at the Braunstone Frith Recreation Centre.</li><li>• Efforts to reach out to the community on ASB had been successful so far. It was hoped that the scheme would continue to receive funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner Legacy project.</li><li>• A meeting with the City Mayor had taken place to discuss what could be done about accidents on Glenfield Road and Hinckley Road. It was suggested that Speed Cameras could be put in place but neither road meets the criteria to be eligible for cameras. Other ways of improving the road were discussed.</li><li>• An exemption was sought on parking outside the playground, a Traffic Regulation Order was being looked at.</li><li>• Councillors had requested they City Mayor to</li></ul>

		<p>look into Capital Expenditure projects for the ward.</p> <p>The Action Log from the last meeting was noted.</p>
23.	<b>WARD COUNCILLORS' FEEDBACK</b>	<p>It was noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Johan Cruyff Foundation had been approved to build a world class football pitch in New Parks between the Leisure Centre and the Community Centre. The target date for opening is 9 June, with the launch being tied into the European Championships. The pitch will be made partially out of recycled crisp packets in collaboration with Walkers.</li> <li>• Options were still being explored regarding a workplace parking levy, and potential changes to bus services in the city.</li> </ul>
24.	<b>LOCAL POLICING UPDATE</b>	<p>Officers were unable to attend the meeting, so a report was summarised by the Ward Community Engagement Officer. The report was therefore provided as attached at the end of this log.</p> <p>It was reported that the local policing unit had moved their base of operations from Hinckley Road to Beaumont Leys.</p>
25.	<b>LOCAL HIGHWAYS UPDATE</b>	<p>Mike Pears, Highways Management Team Leader, was present to give an update. All to note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 20mph scheme on Letchworth Road was approved, work on the scheme to begin in June to install speed humps.</li> <li>• Bus issues in relation to Tatlow Road had been reported.</li> <li>• Carriageway works on Liberty Road were part of this year's program having been in the pipeline for several years.</li> <li>• A damaged verge had been reported on Coates Avenue.</li> <li>• Minor unevenness had been reported at the bus stop on St Oswalds Road. <b>Action:</b> Road will be monitored during routine inspections.</li> <li>• Pencil bollards planned for installation on Glenfield Road alongside railings on the central reservation.</li> </ul> <p>Residents reported concerns that results of the</p>

		<p>consultation on Letchworth Road had not been shared with residents. Concerns were expressed that the speed humps on Letchworth Road would increase air pollution and damage cars. <b>Action:</b> Councillors to investigate emissions concerns.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Mike Pears to investigate how the results of the consultation is fed back to residents and give consultation results to Councillors.</p> <p>Residents reported parking issues on Letchworth Road causing traffic to be obstructed. <b>Action:</b> CEO to invite Traffic Wardens to the area to investigate.</p> <p>Residents enquired about having the crossing time for the Glenfield Park Zebra Crossing increased. <b>Action:</b> Mike Pears to pass request to appropriate officers.</p>
26.	<b>HOUSING UPDATE</b>	<p>Marie Murray, District Manager for West of Leicester City, gave an update on Housing issues in the ward. All to note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were 305 reports of ASB in the New Parks Area during the financial year, this is a slight increase compared to the previous year.</li> <li>• The highest reported category of ASB was neighbour disputes followed by noise nuisance and abuse.</li> <li>• The average age of perpetrators of ASB was 42, and average age of victims was 46.</li> <li>• As a percentage of ASB reported for Council Tenancies in the city – New Parks had seen an overall reduction from last years figures. It was noted however that the percentage of ASB incidents that get reported might be low, with ASB problems being more hidden.</li> <li>• All Environmental and Communal Schemes in the ward for the upcoming financial year had been approved.</li> <li>• Pest control was set to start soon at the Burns flats.</li> </ul>
27.	<b>CITY WARDEN UPDATE</b>	<p>City Warden Matt Davinson gave an update on environmental issues in the Ward. Points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since the last ward meeting, 24 complaints had been received, those complaints comprised of, Love Leicester reports, 3, Nuisance parking ,2, Bins on street,3, Fly tips,10, Untidy land,4 Dog fouling 2#</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul> <p>It was reported that Nevanthon Road was currently experiencing problems with waste disposal, with the entrances to houses being blocked off by bins. Cleansing Service Local Area Manager Christopher Nutting introduced himself explained that the waste on the site could be moved by the Utility Team but at a cost. <b>Action:</b> Christopher Nutting and Matt Davinson to liaise and provide a quote to the Councillors.</p> <p>It was reported that there were numerous empty bottles being littered on the football pitch in Western Park. It was asked if teams playing on the pitch could be fined for allowing littering. <b>Action:</b> Christopher Nutting to investigate and report back.</p> <p>Residents were asked to avoid picking up any litter that they see in the ward, as it might hide the problem from the authorities and delay official action on the issue.</p> <p>It was reported that despite new dog bins being put in at the corners of roads, dog fouling was still an issue on Hinckley Road and Glenfield Road. <b>Action:</b> Cleansing Services officers to monitor situation</p>
28.	<b>WARD COMMUNITY MEETING BUDGET</b>	<p>The Community Engagement Officer provided an update on the Ward Community Budget.</p> <p>It was noted that since the last ward meeting 5 applications had been received of which 3 had been approved and 2 had been withdrawn. There was a remaining budget of £59 to be carried into the next financial year.</p> <p>The applications supported included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Western Ward Community Enterprise, for Pre Palling Application- £420</li> <li>• Allextion Youth and Community Centre, for Replacement of Emergency Lighting- £1000</li> <li>• Team Troupers Dance Academy CIC, for Youth Outreach project- £1000</li> </ul> <p>It was suggested that funding could go toward a VE Day street party event to educate young people on history.</p> <p>It was asked if a application for Wester Park had</p>

		come through yet. <b>Action:</b> Community Engagement Officer to check.
29.	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	<p>It was noted that the public toilets in Western Park were in very poor condition and that refurbishment was needed. <b>Action:</b> Councillors to report.</p> <p>There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.36pm.</p>



# Minute Item 24

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## **1. Three Year Crime and ASB trends**

In terms of total crime across the ward per month, there is an average of 230 reported incidents. This will rise and fall as the year progresses taking into account the different seasons, term time etc.

These peaks and troughs are different in nature this year compared to the previous 12 month period which is particularly surprising in the Summer months where in the previous period there was a spike with it reaching over 260 crimes in August, this current 12 month period reported crime has sat on or just below the average with this period having an unusual spike in May where nearly 300 crimes were reported.

In comparison to the other wards on the NPA, along with Beaumont, this ward has significantly more reported crimes being recorded.

Obviously the above relates to all reported crime and can be a bit misleading if looked at in isolation. We will therefore look to break this down a bit more in the following paragraphs.

There has been a noticeable improvement in relation to residential burglaries over this current period compared with the previous 12 months. Of note, in one particular month last period there was over 29 reported burglaries compared to the same month the following year, there is a reduction to almost a 1/3<sup>rd</sup>. In fact, the whole current period is noticeably under the average which demonstrates a consistent improvement throughout the year.

My professional opinion is of a significant problem relating to drugs being of concern across the ward. Despite this, it has not been reflected in the recorded figures with the average being 4 reported drug related crime a month. Thinking wider, this will relate to the fact that a lot of other reported crimes will have drugs as a precursor. An example of this is theft related offences to which it is often the case that offenders commit these crimes to fund their drug addictions. Of note, in May 2019 there was a huge spike in recorded drug offences. However, this was at a time when the Force was carrying out Operation Lionheart, a massive Forcewide operation to tackle offenders linked to drug supply and county line concerns.

With regard both robberies and offensive weapon offences (i.e. carrying of knives), these figures are relatively low especially when you consider the public perception around knife crime for example. These offences can often also be linked with threat of violence often being made either with a knife seen or the threat of its existence.

Offensive weapon figures the previous years are recorded on average at 2 a month. In the last 12 months, to view on a graph, the recording is more erratic in peaks and troughs with noticeable spikes being in both June and December however, to add perspective, these spikes only hit 5 recordings. These type of figures are similar when looking at robberies, again with the average from previous years being 2 recording per month. In the most recent 12 months this has been the same except from one anomaly month in June when it spiked at 6. This is not part of a pattern or forecast as previous years registered zero.

With regard knife crime it is widely recognised both locally and across the force, the impact knives can have in the community. To support and combat this, the NPA provides designated staff to patrol recognised hot spots for knife crime to which certain areas of NW01 apply, more specifically on

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Aikman Avenue, in and around the shops and fire station. We also attend a number of the educational establishments to provide information, advice and support. Lastly, we also identify certain people to target and disrupt. These people are labelled as habitual knife carriers (HKC).

As referenced previously, ASB is a recognised problem of concern for the community. We combat this through a variety of means. These are, but not limited to, high visibility patrols, local engagement and working with housing for example to issue relevant warnings should previous attempts to resolve an issue not be successful.

Over the last few years there has been an average of 40 reports a month being made. It will come as little surprise that during the summer period these reports rise to 60+ a month and in the colder winter months this reduces to under 30. The main area where the issues occur is in and around St. Oswalds Road which is the location of a number of community, youth and leisure centres. We work closely with the establishments to identify the people causing the problems. We then work to engage, educate and divert them from offending. Should these attempts not work, we then explore the criminal justice route. An excellent recent example of work carried out by the team has been to set up a youth café at the community centre involving a group of 10+ youths who have been identified as repeat ASB offenders.











