

**Soar Valley College, Gleneagles
Avenue, Leicester
On Tuesday, 20 October 2009
Starting at 6:00 pm**

The meeting will be in two parts

6:30pm – 7:15pm

Meet your Councillors and local service providers dealing with:-

- Local police
- Friends of Watermead Park
- Local Housing office
- Customer Services
- City warden
- Sports Services/Sports Clubs
- 10,000 Trees
- Carer's Network
- Traffic and Transport

7:15pm – 8:30pm

Get involved in your area and planning for the future

- Rushey Park –sports and community developments
- Developments at Mellor Primary School
- School-Community links
- Police Priorities
- 10,000 Trees - update

YOUR community. YOUR voice.

Your Ward Councillors are:

**Councillor Culdipp Singh Bhatti MBE
Councillor Piara Singh Clair
Councillor Ross Willmott**

INFORMATION FAIR

PLEASE SEE BELOW FOR DETAILS OF SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES YOU CAN TALK TO AT THIS MEETING.

- You can raise matters of concern, give any opinions and find out information which may be of use.

TABLE 1

- Ward Councillors and General Information

Talk to your local Councillors or raise general queries.

TABLE 2

- Local Police

Speak to your local beat officers

TABLE 3

- Friends of Watermead Park

TABLE 4

- Local Housing Office

Obtain information on services available

TABLE 5

- Customer Services

Obtain information of services available

TABLE 6

- City Warden

Obtain information

TABLE 7

- Sports Services/Sports Clubs

Obtain information

TABLE 8

- 10,000 Trees

Progress on project

TABLE 8

- Carer's Network

Obtain information

TABLE 9

- Traffic and Transport

Obtain information

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillors will elect a Chair for the meeting.

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2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The first main item on the programme is Declaration of Interest where Councillors have to say if there is anything in the programme they have a personal interest in. For example if a meeting was due to discuss a budget application put forward by a community group and one of the Councillors was a member of that group, they would not be able to take part in the decision on that budget application.

Councillors are asked to declare any interest they may have in the business on the agenda, and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to them.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Appendix A

The minutes of the previous Rushey Mead Community Meeting, held 9th July 2009, are attached and Members are asked to confirm them as a correct record.

5. RUSHEY PARK - SPORTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENTS

To discuss in detail the progress made on the proposals outlined in 'A Community Vision for Rushey Park' presented at the Community Meeting held on 7th April 2009. Since this meeting officers of the City Council have had an opportunity to look more closely at the scope of the vision document and to discuss the proposals with elected members Information will be reported back to this meeting.

6. DEVELOPMENTS AT MELLOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

To discuss the developments proposed at Mellor Primary School.

7. SCHOOL-COMMUNITY LINKS

To discuss issues around School-Community links.

8. LOCAL POLICING PRIORITIES

To receive an update on local policing priorities for the area.

9. 10,000 TREES-UPDATE

To receive an update on the proposals to plant 10,000 trees across the City.

10. COMMUNITY MEETING BUDGET

Jerry Connolly, Members Support Officer to give an update on the Community meeting Budget 2009/10.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community Meeting will be held at 6.30 pm on Tuesday 12th January 2010. The venue is yet to be confirmed.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Help us to make improvements!

Please help us to improve Community Meetings by filling in an **Evaluation sheet** to let us know what you thought of the meeting. Thank you.

For further information contact

Mike Keen, Democratic Support Section, Resources Department, Leicester City Council, Town Hall, Town Hall Square, LEICESTER LE1 9BG.

Phone 0116 (0116) 229 8817

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www.leicester.gov.uk/communitymeetings

Making Meetings Accessible to All

WHEELCHAIR

Meetings are held in a variety of community venues. We will only hold meetings in venues where there is suitable access for wheelchairs. If you have any concerns about accessing a venue by wheelchair, please contact the Committee Services Officer on the above number.

BRAILLE / AUDIO TAPE – CD / TRANSLATION

If you require this agenda or a particular part of it to be translated or provided on audio tape, the Committee Services Officer can organise this for you (production times will depend on equipment facility availability). In certain cases, subject to the agreement of the local Councillors, translation facilities can be provided at the meeting.

INDUCTION LOOPS – HEARING AT MEETINGS

We provide a loop system at every meeting for people with hearing aids. If you have a hearing aid, please speak to the Committee Services Officer at the meeting for further assistance if you think you won't be able to hear what's being discussed.

There is also a facility which can help people hear better if you don't have a hearing aid but are hard of hearing, again please speak to the Committee Services Officer about this.

Your Community, Your Voice

Record of Meeting and Actions

6:00 pm, Thursday, 9 July 2009

Held at: Northfields House Primary School, Gipsy Lane, Leicester.

Who was there:

Councillor Piara Singh Clair

INFORMATION SHARING – ‘CAROUSEL’ SESSION

The following information stands were sited in the room. Members of the public visited the stands and were given an opportunity to meet Councillors, Council staff and the local Police and to bring enquiries and raise and issues.

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|-----------------------|---|
| <u>Table 1</u> | Ward Councillors |
| <u>Table 2</u> | Police
Information on Local Policing |
| <u>Table 3</u> | Neighbourhood Housing
Information on range of services available |
| <u>Table 4</u> | Highways and Transportation
Information on range of services available |
| <u>Table 5</u> | Skyride Cycling Event
Information on this event that will take place on 30 th August |
| <u>Table 6</u> | Special Olympics
Information on this event that will take place in Leicester between 24 th and 31 st July |

At the conclusion of this informal session members of the public were invited to take their seats and take part in the formal session of the meeting.

15. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillor Clair was elected Chair for the meeting.

16. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Bhatti and Willmott.

17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this time.

18. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

that the Minutes of the Community Meeting held on 7th April 2009, as previously circulated, were confirmed as a correct record.

19. SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Lou Holland, Marketing Executive attended the meeting and gave a brief update on the Special Olympics event that was to take place in Leicester between 24th and 31st July. The event represented the biggest sporting event in the UK in 2009.

Lou stated that the Special Olympics were held every 4 years, the last games being held in Glasgow and the Special Olympics Great Britain had been formed in 1978. Training for athletes with learning difficulties was carried out throughout the year across the country.

Some 2700 athletes with learning difficulties were expected in Leicester over the 1 week period and volunteers to help the events run smoothly were coming from as far away as the USA and Greece.

Details of the events and venues were circulated at the meeting and it was stated that entry to the events was free, although certain venues had limited spectator areas.

ITV were filming the event and were producing some 80 newsreels that would be a great opportunity to showcase Leicester.

Mr Patel stated that he had heard of the Special Olympics but was not aware of the year round training for people with learning difficulties. Lou suggested that Mr. Patel visit the Special Olympics GB website www.sogb.org.uk.

Mr Thompson stated that he understood that the City Council were underwriting the event. Lou stated that the City Council had agreed to underwrite the event to a maximum of £1 million, but the final amount would depend on the amount of the final deficit.

Mr Thompson questioned what venues were being used in Rushey Mead and Lou stated that no venues in Rushey Mead were being used but that a number of athletes from the area would be involved in the Games.

In concluding the Chair stated that the City Council had struggled to win the bid to get the Special Olympics held here but that it was a great honour to stage the Games in Leicester and the event would bring a lot of recognition to Leicester.

Lou was thanked for her presentation.

20. SKY RIDE

John Dowson, Team Leader, Sustainable Transport, Leicester City Council attended the meeting and gave a brief presentation on the Sky Ride Cycling Event that was to take place in Leicester on 30th August 2009.

John stated that Sky Television and British Cycling had, until this year, organised a mass cycle ride London each year. For 2009 it was decided to expand this concept and include several major cities, including Glasgow and Manchester. Leicester successfully bid to stage a Sky Ride event here and this would take place on 30th August.

John stated that the proposed route of the Sky Ride would be Belgrave Road, Loughborough Road, Abbey Lane and Vaughan Way. The event would also take in Abbey Park, Belgrave Hall and the National Space Science Centre where special activities were planned, including bike maintenance and basic bike education facilities and other events, as well as food and drinks. 4 start points were included on the circuit and people were to be encouraged to ride as far as they wished and to stop at the many attractions or take part in the many cycle related events.

Consultation was about to start with people and businesses on the proposed route of the event in order that potential access issues could be addressed and to encourage as many people as possible to take part.

John was thanked for his presentation.

21. HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Satish Shah, Head of Transport Systems, Leicester City Council attended the meeting to give a presentation on Highways and Transportation issues. A copy of a Rushey Mead Ward Newsletter (July 2009) was circulated at the meeting. In addition copies of a report that set out the schemes included in priority order in the Central

Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 2006 to 2011 – Capital Programmes 2008 to 2011 was also available.

Satish stated that two main priorities were that of tackling speeding traffic and junction improvements.

Certain housing estates were not able to cope with parking issues and to help cope with this verge hardening or the construction of lay-bys were options available, subject to priority and of funding available.

Regarding speeding traffic and road safety, the Council's Traffic Impact Team visited reported sites and measured speed of traffic. If further action was deemed necessary action would be taken to reduce the speed of traffic by appropriate measures. Targets were in place across the City to reduce traffic related accidents and injuries. A programme of traffic calming schemes across the City was already in place.

The City Council were actively encouraging the use of public transport, cycling and walking to work. In looking to the future City Centre bus facilities were being looked at. Already in place was a Quality Bus Partnership with both Arriva and First and the Star Trak system, although beset with a number of problems, was in place to provide passenger information at bus stops..

Park and Ride was already in place at Meynells Gorse and a new site was being developed at Enderby that would come on stream at the end of 2009. Plans were in hand to develop further Park and Ride sites at Birstall and at Groby.

Repair and maintenance work on roads and pavements was currently being co-ordinated with the main utilities to try and ensure works were kept to a minimum. Regular highway inspections were carried out to assess the conditions of roads and footways across the City.

Members of the public were encouraged to call the Customer Care number with all highway related issues and these would then be forwarded to the relevant section. The Customer Services phone number is **0116 252 7000**.

At this point members of the public raised questions.

Cycle Racks

Mr Thompson stated that at a recent meeting of residents the question of the provision of cycle racks had been raised at the following locations: -

- Ireton Road shops
- Barkby Road shops
- Rushey Mead Library, Gleneagles Avenue

Place of Worship

Mr Thompson stated that there was a building, located on Essex Road, just off Gipsy Lane, that was being used as a place of worship and that the use was causing problems with car parking at times of prayer, with a number of cars parking on double yellow lines.

Mr Thompson requested that Civil Enforcement Officers patrol the area at the times of prayer and to ticket offending vehicles. Satish stated that he would pass this information on.

Speeding Traffic – Gleneagles Avenue

It was reported that a large proportion of traffic using Gleneagles Avenue was travelling at more than 30 mph and that there were no signs near the schools. There were also low bridges on Gipsy Lane and Barkby Road and it was suggested that more advanced warning signs be installed to warn tall vehicles.

Bus Travel

It was stated that a number of local people locally did not use buses as the cost of fares was too high and often a journey necessitated buying tickets from two companies, First and Arriva.

Graffiti

Several sites were referred to, including the newsagents on the corner of Fairfax Road. The officers stated that details of the sites would be taken after the meeting, although in some cases a small charge might be necessary, particularly if the location was on private land, as public money was in effect being used to remove someone else's graffiti.

Wheelie Bins

Mr Thompson stated that, particularly in the case of new arrivals to this country, there were issues around wheelie bins being left on the street all week. The officers stated that arrangements could be made for the Community Wardens to liaise with the relevant householders in the appropriate language and explain the potential problems of leaving wheelie bins on the pavement. Details would be taken after the meeting.

The officers were thanked for their presentation.

22. WATERMEAD COUNTRY PARK

Stewart Doughty, Parks Manager gave feedback on consultation that had been carried out regarding proposed works at Watermead Park, particularly the car park.

Stewart stated that the current surface of the car park was covered in stone that became very uneven over a short period of time and required regular maintenance to level out. The proposals had been to re-surface the car park and edge it and re-mark car park spaces these measures had been quite well received. A further option had been to implement a Pay and Display system for the car park but this had not proved to be popular.

Results of the survey were outlined and it was reported that a report had been prepared for the Leader and the Cabinet Lead and a decision was awaited on how to proceed with the proposals outlined.

RESOLVED:

that the information be noted.

23. SPORTS AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Jerry Connolly, Members Support Officer reported that following the presentation at the last meeting on 'A Community Vision for Rushey Mead' the proposals had been referred to officers at the City Council. Officers had undertaken an initial assessment of the proposals but were not yet in a position to report back to the Community Meeting. Officers apologised that a full presentation was not available for this meeting and it was suggested that the next Community Meeting be held at Soar Valley College, where new sporting facilities had just been completed, the main theme of the meeting being Sports Facilities.

The Chair stated that the proposals presented required full assessment in the light of the facilities required in this area and, once completed, would enable a full report to be given.

Mr Thompson stated that the only community facility in the Cromwell area was the Methodist Hall on Edgehill Road. The hall was not currently in use as it was deemed to be unsafe and the Church had not got sufficient funding to repair the Hall. Regeneration funding had been previously sought and this bid had not been successful although Councillor Willmott had stated previously that he would like to revive a project to get funding to either refurbish or rebuild the Hall. The Chair stated that he would speak with Councillor Willmott.

Jerry Connolly stated that this was worthy of discussion at the next meeting in October and that officers be asked to report on this facility as part of the wider review of Sports and Community facilities.

RESOLVED:

that the position be noted.

24. LOCAL POLICING PRIORITIES - UPDATE

It was reported that over the next few weeks consultation would be taking place locally to enable Local Policing Priorities to be set. Information on the consultation would be available on the Leicestershire Constabulary website, as well as on posters and local publicity.

Mr Thompson stated that he suspected that the local Police consultation meeting would be poorly attended and the Police should consider liaising with local groups and clubs where attendances were likely to be better. In response it was stated that the Government had specified that the Police would have certain public consultation meetings in each Local Policing area and this could not be changed.

RESOLVED:

that the information be noted.

25. COMMUNITY MEETING BUDGETS 2009/10

Jerry Connolly, Members Support Officer reported on the budgets available to the Community Meeting for 2009/10. It was reported that three proposals had been received for funding and these were circulated at the meeting. It was stated that as the meeting was not quorate a consensus view would be sought at this meeting and the proposals would then be referred to the two other Ward Councillors for their comments.

- i) **Ward Community Cohesion Fund**
Local Policing Team
Summer Sports Activities for children of Rushey Mead **£600**

- ii) **Ward Action Plan**
Santana Football Club
Football Association coaching costs for 7 members, **£1950**
Training Goals and Fruit/Milk for 30 children after training.

- iii) **Community Fund**
Fairytales 18, 72
Move and Groove – music, dance and vocal project **£3250**
with young people.

RESOLVED:

that the three proposals outlined above be supported in principle by the Community Meeting and referred to Councillors Bhatti and Willmott for their comments, prior to being passed for payment.

26. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The following dates of future meetings were reported: -

2009

Tuesday 20th October

2010

Tuesday 12th January

Wednesday 21st April.

RESOLVED:

That the dates outlined be agreed at a later date.

27. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Allotments

A member of the public stated that he had heard that more allotments were to be created in the Rushey Mead area.

Jerry Connolly stated that an Allotments Strategy was being worked on and this would involve work with schools and also local initiatives and local composting. It was hoped that further information could be brought back to the next meeting.

28. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.52 pm.

