

Braunstone Park & Rowley Fields Community Meeting

**Cort Crescent Community Centre,
Cort Crescent**

**On Tuesday, 18 October 2011
Starting at 5:00 pm**

The meeting will be in two parts

5:00pm – 5:30pm

**Meet your Councillors and local
service providers dealing with:-**

- Recycling
- Home Energy Advice
- School Admissions
- City Warden Service
- Police

5:30pm – 7:00pm

**Get involved in your area and
planning for the future. There will be
presentations and discussions on:**

- Recycling
- Older persons in the ward.
- Update on the Riverside School site.
- Improving bus services and nominations for the Bus Users panel.
- Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields Ward Action Plan implementation.
- Community Meeting budget.

YOUR community. YOUR voice.

Your Ward Councillors are:

**Councillor Michael Cooke
Councillor Anne Glover
Councillor Wayne Naylor**



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 Democratic Services Officer on the details provided.

BRILLE / AUDIO TAPE – CD / TRANSLATION

If you require this agenda or a particular part of it to be translated or provided on audio tape, the Democratic 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 Democratic 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 Democratic Services Officer about this.

INFORMATION FAIR

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

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

Ward Councillors and General Information Talk to your local councillors or raise general queries	Recycling There will be an opportunity to find out about the new orange bags recycling scheme.
Home Energy Advice Information on all matters concerning home energy will be available	School Admissions There will be a chance to find out more information about the school admissions process.
City Warden Service The City Warden for the Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields ward will be present.	Police Issues Talk to your Local Police about issues or raise general queries.

The first part of the agenda covers formal items which the Councillors need to deal with to ensure that regulations on holding meetings are kept to.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillors will elect a Chair for the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The first main item on the agenda is Declarations of Interest where Councillors have to say if there is anything on the agenda 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 Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields Community Meeting, held on 16 August 2011, are attached and Members are asked to confirm them as a correct record.

This next part of the agenda covers items where input from you on issues that affect your community is welcomed.

5. RECYCLING

There will be information provided on the new orange bag recycling scheme which is being rolled out across the city.

6. OLDER PERSONS IN THE WARD

Angie Wright, b-inspired will provide a presentation on a project concerning older people in the ward.

7. RIVERSIDE SCHOOL SITE - UPDATE

There will be an update on the proposals for the Riverside School site.

8. IMPROVING BUS SERVICES/BUS USERS PANEL

There will be a chance to discuss the ways in which bus services could be improved and information will be provided on the new Bus Users Panel for which nominations for representatives from the Community will be sought.

9. BRAUNSTONE PARK AND ROWLEY FIELDS WARD ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

10. BUDGET

Councillors are reminded that they will need to declare any interest they may have in budget applications, and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to them.

There will be an update on the Community Meeting budget.

The following budget applications have been received.

Applicant: Val Kindred (Leicestershire County Netball)

Amount: £745

Proposal: Back to Netball

Summary:

Working with the NGB Officer for Netball, Physical Activity Officer for Leicester City Council, and the Community Development Worker at Surestart, a 10 week course will be piloted to encourage women aged 16+ to get back in to netball at a local venue near to them. Mothers at the Surestart will be targeted, but sessions also will be open to the local community to attend.

This project will link to the 3X30 campaign, which encourages people to make a commitment to do three 30-minute exercise sessions per week. The Back to Netball session could be counted as one of these and all participants would be encouraged to sign up for the 3x30 campaign, (which is free to participate in).

The grant requested would go towards funding a weekly Back to Netball session in the Ward over a 10-week period. The money would go towards a venue and a netball coach to deliver the sessions. The Children's Centre will offer free child care to session participants.

As an introductory offer, the sessions will cost £1 per person, which will go up to £2 if the sessions are successful, to enable them to continue. This will go towards funding and sustaining the sessions on a long-term basis and contribute to a tournament event that it is hoped will be held at the Soar Valley Netball Centre.

The tournament event will be held between the three groups established from the three courses that it is hoped to fund across the City. It will celebrate the 10 week course and enable people to use the skills they have learned to play a few matches.

The success of the project will be monitored through the 3X30 pledge campaign, as users can be tracked at each completed stage over a 36 week period.

No other funding has been sought for this project.

Item	Cost £	Estimate or Actual cost (E or A)?	Request to Ward Meeting (£)
Venue Hire	£36.50 per hour x 10 weeks	A	
Netball Coaches Costs	£20 per hour x 10 weeks	A	
Printing of Promotional Material	£180	E	
Free Child Care	In Kind		In Kind
Design of Promotional Material	In Kind		In Kind
Equipment for Pilot Sessions	In Kind		In Kind
Total requested from the Ward			£745

The following application has been approved through the fast track process by Members as it is under £500.

Applicant: Mr David Kayemba

Amount: £360

Proposal: Leicester Zim Warriors FC

Summary:

Leicester Zim Warriors FC is a current football team that plays at Victoria Park. It comprises of 48 Members who come from mixed cultural backgrounds. The group consists of mainly unemployed young men using sport as a diversionary activity, breaking down community safety issues, minimising anti-social behaviour alongside building self-esteem and confidence in those who participate.

The group leader has been personally funding the group but has also been providing information and guidance by assisting with the issues which the young people have had including issues to do with employment, domestic issues and health.

The group is under threat with closure if not able to find the needed funds. The league in which the group participates commences on 28 August and the funding is needed to allow the club to participate. It supports vulnerable young people who are making the transition from their home cultures to living in the UK.

The overall cost being applied for is £1800 with this being divided between the wards from which the young people come from. The applicant first contacted the City Mayor for assistance who then recommended seeking Community Meeting funding. The applicant is happy to meet with officers/Members to further explain or answer any queries.

11. 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

Palbinder Mann, Democratic Services Officer, Leicester City Council, Town Hall,
Town Hall Square, Leicester, LE1 9BG

Phone 0116 229 8814

Fax 0116 229 8819

Palbinder.Mann@leicester.gov.uk

www.leicester.gov.uk/communitymeetings

Appendix A

Your Community, Your Voice

Record of Meeting and Actions

5:30 pm, Tuesday, 16 August 2011

Held at: Christ Church, United Reformed Church, Dumbleton Avenue

Who was there:

Councillor Michael Cooke
Councillor Anne Glover
Councillor Wayne Naylor

INFORMATION SHARING – ‘INFORMATION FAIR’ 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 service representatives.

Skyride Members of the public were able to find out about this event	Recycling Officers were at the meeting to explain the City Council's new recycling scheme
Digital Switchover Information was available on the forthcoming switchover to digital television	City Warden Service The City Warden was available to discuss issues in the New Parks Ward
Ward Councillors and General Information Members of the public were able to make general enquiries and talk to their local Councillors	

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.

11. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillor Cooke was elected as Chair for the meeting.

He welcomed all present to the meeting and introduced himself and the other Ward Members.

12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors were asked to declare any interest they had in the business on the agenda, and/or indicate if Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

No such interests were declared.

13. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2011 were agreed as a correct record.

14. "WHAT NEXT WITH RIVERSIDE?"

a) Introduction

Councillor Cooke introduced this item, explaining that discussion on it would be focused on the future of the Riverside site and would not include discussion on the proposals for the development of football facilities at other locations. He also explained that unfortunately neither of the heads of Riverside Business and Enterprise College and Ellesmere College were able to be at this meeting.

Councillor Cooke stressed that the Council was fully committed to consulting on the future use of the Riverside site and wanted the community to interact more effectively with the school using the site, to build up community facilities. It was recognised that many people used the facilities at The Manor House Neighbourhood Centre, but there still was a need for community facilities at this site.

b) Future Educational Use of the Riverside Site

Chetna Patel-Liburud, (Head of Service – Transforming the Learning Environment Strategy), advised the meeting that the Council had a strategic responsibility to ensure that capital finance for children's projects was spent to maximum benefit and that facilities for children and families were optimised. The Council therefore wanted to continue using the Riverside site for educational purposes and had proposed that Ellesmere College should relocate to that site.

The following points were noted:-

- Ellesmere College was a Specialist Sports College and its pupils were challenging learners. Moving to the Riverside site would give them access to on-site sports facilities, rather than the limited sports facilities offered by the College's current site;
- Ellesmere College's current site had no extension and/or development potential;
- Pupil numbers at Ellesmere College were projected to increase. Moving to a better site would enable the College to maintain standards and offer opportunities to be flexible in how it met pupils' needs.

The move to the site would take place in planned phases, during which residents would be kept informed of progress. Initially, the current school on the Riverside site would be decommissioned. For example, furniture and equipment would be related to other secondary schools and arrangements would be made for grounds maintenance.

Site security was a key issue in this, as there was a period of 12 – 18 months when the Riverside site could potentially be vacant. In order not to encourage anti-social behaviour on the site during this period, (for example, vandalism), it was proposed to demolish the existing buildings, probably some time in November 2011. Competitive quotes had been obtained for this and the contractor would ensure that residents in the area were informed well in advance of works, by letter, so that any disruption was kept to a minimum. A daily presence would be maintained on site, to maintain security and safety.

There also would be a formal consultation on the proposal to move Ellesmere College from its current site, as the Council wanted to work with the community on the development of facilities for that site. It was suggested that a community steering group could be established, to help prepare draft proposals by mid-October. The proposals could then be passed to the project's architects by the end of November.

The Meeting welcomed the intention to involve the community in developing facilities for the site and asked what level of funding would be available for this. In reply, Chetna Patel-Liburd explained that this work would be done under the Building Schools for the Future programme, but only limited funding was available through this. Pupils' needs therefore had to take priority, although the Council was interested to see if these could be dovetailed to community interests. The Chair reminded the Meeting that applications to the Ward Community Budget also could be made to help develop such facilities.

The following points were then raised and replies given:-

- In reply to concerns about whether the "green wedge" on the site would be kept, Andrew McGarva, (Operations Director of Miller Construction), explained that due regard would need to be given to planning rules, but the building to be demolished was outside of the green area. The new building was likely to be built in the same place as the old one, so the green area also was likely to remain as it was;

- Efforts would be made to minimise the amount of dust created by the demolition of the existing buildings. It was likely that there could be some asbestos in the current buildings, (for example, possibly as insulation on pipes), the removal of which would be managed carefully;
- It was important that the demolition contractors were required to adhere to conditions attached to permission given for the redevelopment, such as any restrictions on the times during which work could be done;
- Work had been undertaken with the Football Federation to ensure that the redevelopment of this site did not delay, or otherwise adversely impact on, the development of football facilities at Aylestone Meadows;
- As Ellesmere College was a special needs school, it was questioned whether there would be an increase in traffic to the site, (for example, from taxis or minibuses bringing pupils to the school). In reply, it was noted that pupils from across the City could be attending the College, so a co-ordinated approach would be needed to minimise the impact of traffic. In addition, it would be ensured that adequate provision was made for areas to drop pupils off or pick them up, so that vehicles did not block entrances to local residents' properties;
- Riverside Business and Enterprise College had been built to accommodate 900 pupils. Ellesmere College currently had approximately 250 pupils, but the new accommodation would be approximately the same size as that for Riverside College, due to the needs of Ellesmere College's pupils, (for example, the greater number of pupils with physical disabilities);
- Chetna Patel-Liburud explained that the design of the buildings, and resulting flow of pupils, would have regard to the fact that this was a special needs school. For example, the new building was likely to be single-storey, due to the mobility problems of some of the pupils;
- An assessment and review of possible future uses Ellesmere College's current site needed to be made. No decision on this use had been made to date;
- The field off Narborough Road occasionally used by Ellesmere College for sports activities did not form part of the College's site, so would not be considered as part of any proposals for the redevelopment of the current Ellesmere College site;
- There currently was 1.8 metre high palisade fencing round the current Riverside site. Planning regulations restricted the height of fence that could be used, so fencing round the site during its redevelopment was unlikely to be any higher. There currently were no proposals to change the current fence line; and
- Members of the public suggested that it would be useful if a formal footpath in to the site could be created at the point where there currently was a hole in the perimeter fence. The topography of the site was challenging for creating a

footpath, but one solution to this could be to use spoil from the development of the site to improve the terrain.

c) Future Sports Use of the Riverside Site

Paul Edwards, Head of Sports, advised the Meeting that two drop-in consultation sessions on the Football Foundation's proposals for the development of football facilities in the City had been arranged. The first would be held from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon on Saturday, 22 July and the second would be from 4.00 pm – 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 26 July. Both would be held at Christ Church united Reform Church, Dumbleton Avenue.

Draft proposals for the facilities on Aylestone Playing Fields and the Riverside school site would be available at the consultation sessions. Wide consultation already had been undertaken on these and the general view was that the scheme was as good as it could be, especially with regard to potential traffic, noise and light levels. Officers had tried to incorporate in to the proposals comments made during previous consultations, but further consultation was needed, to see if it was possible to improve the scheme in any way. Draft plans were available to view at the meeting, although it needed to be noted that these were not to scale.

In reply to a question, it was noted that the Council would ensure that current consultation processes continued, so bodies such as Braunstone Town Council would continue to be consulted.

The Meeting noted that it had been decided not to refurbish the changing rooms adjoining these sites, as the track along which they needed to be accessed was not suitable for use by cars. However, a block of six changing rooms would be built on the existing hard standing.

Access to the Riverside site would be from Braunstone Lane East, as it was wanted to keep the facilities as far away as possible from residential properties.

A member of the public asked if it would be possible for a yellow line to be put down Braunstone Lane East, to avoid people blocking driveways and the road, and to stop people parking on, and possibly damaging, grass verges. Paul Edwards advised that a traffic impact assessment would be undertaken when the planning application for the scheme was submitted. This type of request could be considered at that stage.

The need for a bar at the changing facilities was questioned. It was suggested that some local public houses and social organisations were having financial difficulties, so having a bar at these facilities could take more custom away from them at a time when local businesses should be being helped.

In reply, Paul Edwards explained that having a bar was part of the operational plan for these facilities, but the premises would not function as a public house, as the bar would only be a small area. It was unlikely that people would be able to hire the bar area for private social events, as the facilities were there to provide football activities.

A bar was being included as people using the facilities would include older students and adults accompanying children playing football, or playing football themselves.

Councillor Glover reminded the Meeting that an application for a licence to sell alcohol would have to be made when the planning application for the premises was submitted. The hours that it could operate would be set at that stage and it would lose its licence if it contravened those conditions. Only City Centre venues could be granted operating hours outside of normal licensing hours.

It also was questioned why the Riverside site was being considered for the provision of football facilities, as it previously had not been considered suitable, due to the division of facilities across two sites and players having to cross a busy road to move between sites. The Meeting noted that initially the preferred option of the project's funder, (the Football Federation), was to have all of the facilities on one site. However, it now was proposed that changing rooms should be built on both sites, so that players could change at the pitches where they would be playing. Due to the proposal to have a club room on the Aylestone site, it was proposed that adult football mainly would be played at that site and junior football mainly would be played at the Riverside site.

Ellesmere College would probably use the artificial pitch between school hours, (approximately 9.00 am and 4.00 pm), so would control access to it. Outside of those hours, a member of staff from Aylestone Leisure Centre would open and close the facilities. The Meeting agreed that it would not be suitable for anyone other than the College to control access to the pitch during the times that pupils were on site.

In order to stop unauthorised use of the all-weather football pitch, it would be kept locked when not in use and would be completely enclosed. However, it was recognised that the current all-weather pitch in Braunstone was not locked and was floodlit during certain hours, but no problems associated with its use had been experienced.

d) General

The Chair explained that the City Council wanted to establish a working group, to include community representatives and the Ward Councillors, which could be consulted at each stage of this development. Anyone interested in joining the group was invited to pass their details to the Democratic Services Officers, either at the meeting or afterwards.

The following general points also were made in discussion:-

- The Riverside site was very important to local people, as there was no official public open space in Rowley Fields and it formed a link to Aylestone Meadows;
- In the past, the Riverside Rangers had worked with the school on the Riverside site to keep access to the river available, but it currently was not very accessible, due to the fencing that the school had had to erect;

- When the development of football pitches had first been proposed there had been concern that the open space there would be lost. A meeting of local residents therefore had been held in June 2011. As a result of meeting on site, the issue of what could be done about the lack of either open space or play areas had been raised and sketch proposals drawn up, but it had not been possible to progress these until the College's aspirations were known;
- The safety of users of the site had always been a high priority and would continue to be; and
- Ellesmere College's desire to work with the community was welcome, as community use of facilities at other school in the Building Schools for the Future programme had been successful.

Chetna Patel-Liburd welcomed these comments and asked that the sketch proposals be made available so that they could be discussed with the Ward Councillors.

In closing the discussion on this item, the Chair invited anyone interested in participating in a community consultation group on the future use and development of the Riverside site to pass their details to Palbinder Mann, Democratic Services Officer, (tel: 0116 229 8814, e-mail palbinder.mann@leicester.gov.uk).

If anyone had any ideas on how the site could be used or developed it would be useful if they could be passed to the Council.

15. BUDGET

As no applications for grants were submitted to the meeting, this item was not discussed.

16. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

NOTED:

that further meetings would be held as follows:-

5.00 pm on Tuesday, 18 October 2011

5.00 pm on Wednesday, 14 December 2011

5.00 pm on Tuesday, 14 February 2012

5.30 pm on Tuesday, 17 April 2012

17. CLOSE OF MEETING

Councillor Cooke thanked all present for attending and closed the meeting at 7.31pm