

Westcotes Community Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, 27 November 2012
TIME: 7:00 pm
PLACE: Main Hall, East West Community
Project, 10 Wilberforce Road,
Leicester LE3 0BG

Ward Councillors

Councillor Andy Connelly
Councillor Sarah Russell

*Please note,
there will be no Information Fair at this meeting*

YOUR community. YOUR voice.

Conduct Guidance

The behaviour of people at ward community meetings is important to the success of the meeting. Everyone attending today's meeting is kindly asked to comply with the following arrangements:

- Respect the views of others
- Keep to the Agenda
- One person speaks at a time
- Keep disruption to the minimum (mobile phones on silent) and no side discussions

If anyone does not comply with the guidance, they may be warned that they may be asked to leave the meeting.

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.

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 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.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair will introduce those present and make any necessary announcements.

The Chair and any other Councillors who are present will make any declarations as required by the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. ACTION LOG

Appendix A

Summary of actions taken since the last meeting

4. GREEN SPACE IN THE WARD & SECTION 106 FUNDING - INFORMATION REQUESTED AT THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 22 AUGUST 2012

Appendix B

Officers will be at the meeting to update residents on progress made on the actions agreed at the Special Westcotes Community Meeting held on 22 August 2012.

The minutes of that meeting were agreed as a correct record at the Community Meeting held on 25 September 2012, but are attached again for information.

5. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

An update on planning and development issues in the Westcotes Ward not covered elsewhere on the agenda will be given at the meeting.

6. CITY WARDEN

The City Warden will give an update on issues in the Westcotes Ward.

7. POLICE ISSUES UPDATE

Officers from Leicestershire Police will be at the meeting to provide an update on police issues in Westcotes Ward.

8. WARD COMMUNITY BUDGET 2012/13

Councillors are reminded that under the Council's Code of Conduct they should declare any interest they may have in budget applications

a) **An update on the 2012/13 Community Meeting budget will be given at the meeting**

b) **The following grant applications are submitted for consideration:-**

Application1:

Proposal: Clean up of front gardens and alley ways in Westcotes

Applicant: City Warden Service

Amount Requested: £400 – to cover the cost of a Biffa collection van

Summary:

It is proposed to put on a special collection for residents to dispose of any excess household waste or unwanted furniture from their properties. The aim is to allow residents to remove waste that is currently blocking their alley ways, so that bins can be taken off the street, as well as to get rid of waste from front yards to stop the waste from being set on fire.

Application 2:

Proposal: Listening Matters in Westcotes

Applicant: Loren Burton

Amount Requested:

Item	Actual Cost (£)	Amount Requested (£)
Salary	20,000	5,000
National Insurance	1,763	1,763
CoCo Membership Fees	500	500
Community organising expenses	937	237
TOTAL	23,200	7,500

Summary:

To meaningfully engage with different communities across Westcotes Ward to bring them together, support new communities to grow and bond, help people feel a sense of belonging and support the outcomes of the Council's Community Cohesion Strategy.

To engage with the Westcotes community through a Community Listening Programme from December 2012 to December 2013.

Establish a legitimate Westcotes community group that is able to identify and

act on the concerns that matter most to the community.

Secure additional funding in to the Westcotes area to improve and create projects and services delivered in the neighbourhood.

Collate and analyse a database of community information to act as a mandate for future Westcotes community group action.

The project will receive government funding of £15,000 once match funding of £7,500 has been achieved.

Application 3:

Proposal: Christmas Gala Night / Get Together

Applicant: Ndi Igbo Leicestershire (Nigerian Community Association)

Amount Requested:

Item	Cost (£)	Amount Requested (£)
Hall Hire	525.00 (Actual)	0.00
Decoration & Gift Items	300.00 (Estimate)	50.00
DJ & Video/Photo	450.00 (Estimate)	200.00
Food & Drinks (Assorted)	1,800.00 (Estimate)	0.00
Miscellaneous (5%)	153.75 (Estimate)	0.00
TOTAL	3,228.75	250.00

Summary:

The Gala Night is an end of year get together to be held on Saturday, 15 December 2012 at the Afro Caribbean Centre, Maidstone Road, Leicester.

It will feature meet and greet, social interaction, dinner and dance sessions, charity raffle, Santa gift bag and awards presentation.

In attendance will be members of the Nigerian and Black and Ethnic Minority communities, friends and families, including children and young people from diverse communities and backgrounds. It is estimated that approximately 150 – 200 people will attend.

Special appreciation of support and recognition of outstanding achievements in 2012 will be featured on the night. It will equally be an occasion to outline the

Association's programme of activities for 2013.

Similar applications have been made for funding from Spinney Hills Ward and Western Park Ward.

9. 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

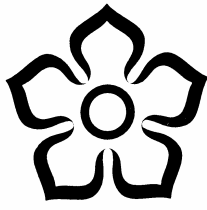
Democratic Support Officer: Elaine Baker

Phone Number: 0116 229 8806

Email Address: elaine.baker@Leicester.gov.uk

Fax: 0116 229 8827

www.leicester.gov.uk/communitymeetings



Leicester
City Council

SECOND DESPATCH

WESTCOTES COMMUNITY MEETING – 27 NOVEMBER 2012

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Further to the agenda for the above meeting which has already been circulated, please find attached the following:-

3. ACTION LOG (Appendix A)

Please find attached the updated Action Log from the Meeting held on 25 September 2012.

Please bring these papers with you to the meeting

Elaine Baker
Democratic Support
Tel: 0116 229 8806
Internal: 39 8806

This page is left blank intentionally.

Westcotes Community Action Log As at 26 September 2012

Meeting held Tuesday, 25 September 2012 at 7.00 pm

Councillors attending –
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Russell (Chair)

Ref no	Item	Response at Meeting / Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
20/12	Introductions	Cllr Russell explained that Westcotes ward was part of pilot review of Community Meetings and drew attention to the new code of conduct. No interests were declared	Not applicable	Not applicable	None	Item closed
21/12	Apologies for Absence	Ann Murphy from the Westcotes Street Pastors	Not applicable	Not applicable	None	Item closed
22/12	Minutes of Previous Meetings	Agreed as a correct record.	Not applicable	Not applicable	None	Item closed

Ref no	Item	Response at Meeting / Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
		<p>Items requested at the Special Meeting held on 22 August to be reported to the next meeting by Mike Richardson (Acting Head of Planning) and Adrian Edge (Play & Youth Development Officer)</p> <p>All to note that Ward Members had asked West End Community Centre staff to display its opening hours outside the building</p> <p>Noticeboard keys to be given to Councillor Russell by Housing officers</p>	<p>27 November 2012</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>As soon as possible</p>	<p>Included on agenda for 27 November 2012 meeting</p>		
23/12	“Hot Lofts” Home Energy Programme	<p>Owner-occupiers, or those in receipt of benefits, in residence at the property concerned encouraged to apply to the City Council’s Home Energy Service for funding towards the cost of cavity wall and loft insulation, as this runs out in December 2012.</p>	<p>December 2012</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>		

Ref no	Item	Response at Meeting / Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
		<p>Residents to be encouraged to apply for loans for solid wall insulation under the new Green Deal, expected to be available from April 2013.</p> <p>Officers from Home Energy services to come to a meeting once the Green Deal is running to explain its operation.</p>	<p>Spring 2013</p> <p>Spring / Summer 2013</p>			
24/12	“Near Neighbours” Project	<p>Small community groups and individuals encouraged to apply for funding from £250 - £3,000 for projects designed to encourage first interactions as part of the work to create vibrant neighbourhoods through interaction and engagement.</p> <p>Groups or individuals interested in the work of the Near Neighbours project welcome to meet with Karter Singh Bring to discuss the project further.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>		

Ref no	Item	Response at Meeting / Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
25/12	Leicester Fit 4 Business	<p>All to note that employers to be invited to encourage employees to suggest ways in which they travel more sustainability and to apply for grants of up to £5,000 for these schemes.</p> <p>Residents encouraged to attend the free cycle training offered by the Council and in particular the free family cycle training to take place at the Manor House during the school half term holiday.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>As soon as possible</p>			
26/12	Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Leisure Centre	<p>Residents encouraged to use the Centre, either taking one of the membership or on a “pay-as-you-go” basis, it being noted that 2-week taster sessions are available free of charge.</p> <p>All to note that the only times the gym is not open to the public is at times of peak use by students (3.00 – 8.00 pm).</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>		

Ref no	Item	Response at Meeting / Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
		<p>Children encouraged to participate in the swimming lessons starting at the Centre on 4 October 2012.</p> <p>Any schools wishing to use the facilities are encouraged to contact the Centre.</p>	<p>As soon as possible</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>		
27/12	Planning and Development Matters	<p>As the hostel at 20 Westcotes Drive has been unsuccessful in its appeal to stay open, ward residents to note that the Council could consider enforcement action to force its closure if necessary.</p> <p>Residents to note that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An application for development of the former print shop on Harrow Road had been refused, but a new application, to create accommodation for single people, has been made; 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>		Item closed

Ref no	Item	Response at Meeting / Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No formal planning application has been received yet for the redevelopment of the former Kenning's site; • A developer is negotiating with the Council to demolish the arches on Bede Street. If this is agreed, the Council will be responsible for relocating the remaining business; and • An application was approved approximately six months ago for the Total petrol station on Narborough Road to be replaced with a Sainsbury's store. <p>Residents to note that there is a requirement for planning applications to be advertised on lamp posts, but the number of households contacted for each application is at the discretion of</p>	Ongoing	Ongoing		

Ref no	Item	Response at Meeting / Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
		<p>individual planning officers.</p> <p>Ward Councillors to find out if the planning permission for the Code building development contains a condition relating to the times during which building work can take place.</p> <p>The City Warden to monitor the Jamie Lewis development on Western Road to ensure that mud from the development is being cleared off the road.</p>	<p>As soon as possible</p> <p>Ongoing</p>			
28(a) / 12	City Warden Service – Jamie Stubbs	<p>Residents to note that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 20 alley gates had been installed and the keys handed out to residents; • Students at university Freshers Weeks will be encouraged not to leave bins on streets; • Over the next few weeks, students from Leicester 	Ongoing			

Ref no	Item	Response at Meeting / Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
		<p>Learning College will be doing litter picks;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following a spate of bin fires in the Ward, the front yards of approximately 200 properties have been cleared of debris, especially that left near gas boxes; and • Landlords are not eligible to use the free bulky waste collection service, so are encouraged to make sure their tenants are aware of it. <p>Residents invited to pass suggested locations for litter picks to Jamie Stubbs, City Warden.</p>	As soon as possible			
28(b) / 12	City Warden Service – Richard Sutton	<p>Residents to note that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Sutton is the new warden for parks, especially Bede Park; • A volunteer group of De 	Ongoing			

Ref no	Item	Response at Meeting / Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
		<p>Montfort University students is being established to help clear rubbish from Bede Park;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are being addressed during Freshers Week to encourage them to respect the environment; • The nursery by Bede Park will assist in planting bulbs to brighten up the Park; • Work is underway to identify what can be done with voluntary groups to enhance the Park; and • Work to improve access to the Park is being planned in liaison with conservation officers and parks officers. 				
29/12	Police Issues Update	<p>Residents to note that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burglaries have increased, which is a concern, as this number may rise further 	Ongoing			

Ref no	Item	Response at Meeting / Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
		<p>when students return;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burglaries at premises other than dwellings and robberies have reduced, as has anti-social behaviour in the ward; • Theft from motor vehicles has increased significantly over the last weekend, due to a spate of thefts in the Freemans Meadows area; • De Montfort University has introduced a policy of “one strike and you’re out” for anti-social behaviour; and • The neighbourhood policing team has become the Safer Neighbourhoods Team. Beacon Officers are the face of the beat team and PCSOs work for them. Response officers use police cars to respond to incidents. <p>Residents encouraged to call</p>	Ongoing			

Ref no	Item	Response at Meeting / Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
		<p>the Police when disturbed by noise, (whether from parties or activities such as street drinking), so that the Police are aware of problems in the area. However, residents to be aware that officers may not be available to attend incidents.</p> <p>Residents to note that the Police can issue 24 hour dispersal orders to groups causing problems.</p> <p>Ward Members to look in to whether street drinking in the ward can be controlled in the same way as the City Centre, so that people other than the Police can move on street drinkers.</p> <p>Residents invited to let Ward Members know of situations when people drinking in the street have caused problems.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>As soon as possible</p> <p>Ongoing</p>			

Ref no	Item	Response at Meeting / Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
		<p>Residents encouraged to report incidents at the time they are happening, rather than leave it until later, so that the process for dealing with them can be started as soon as possible.</p> <p>Police requested to provide at the next meeting a breakdown showing the proportion of anti-social behaviour in the Ward relating to Bede Park.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>27 November 2012</p>			
30/12	Ward Community Budget 2012/13	<p>Ward Councillors to co-ordinate a grant application in liaison with the Near Neighbours Project to make contact with people who move in to the Ward.</p> <p>Richard Sutton to bring details of plans to regenerate the end of Bede Park by Western Avenue to the next meeting.</p> <p>Ward Members to obtain costings for key-operated</p>	<p>15 November 2012</p> <p>27 November 2012</p> <p>27 November</p>	<p>Discussions continuing, so item deferred</p>		

Ref no	Item	Response at Meeting / Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
		<p>barriers that will enable residents living by Bede Park to access their properties, but stop others parking outside them.</p> <p>Residents and groups encouraged to apply for grants from the Ward Community Budget.</p>	<p>2012</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>		
31(a) / 12	Any Other Business – Improving Windows for Noise Control	Officers to be invited to a future meeting to discuss measures available for noise control, for example whether this can be achieved by improving windows.	To be decided			
31(b) / 12	Any Other Business – Length of Parking Bays	Ward Members to investigate whether the length and / or number of parking bays have been reduced.	27 November 2012			

This page is left blank intentionally.

Your Community, Your Voice

Record of Meeting and Actions

6:30 pm, Wednesday, 22 August 2012

Held at: Main Hall, East West Community Project, 10 Wilberforce Road, Leicester LE3 0BG

Who was there:

Councillor Andy Connelly

Councillor Sarah Russell

13. WELCOME

Councillor Connelly welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Ward Councillors and officers then introduced themselves.

14. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillor Connelly was elected as Chair for the meeting.

15. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Sue Bourton, Mohamed Jacoura (De Montfort University) and Val Smalley.

16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

17. GREEN SPACE IN THE WARD

This item and the following one, "Section 106 Funding" (below), were taken together.

The Acting Head of Planning explained that the Council tried to make provision for green space as development plans were made, but the level of need could be difficult to foresee. Larger scale developments were required to include some green space, but it was recognised that this was not always practical in smaller developments. Instead, "developer contributions" were obtained, (also known as Section 106 funding).

Section 106 contributions were payments towards something that had a relationship to the development and was appropriate in scale, (ie, in proportion to the increased demand that the development would generate). For example, if the planning application was for student accommodation, developer contributions would not be spent on children's play equipment.

Previously, the conditions of each planning application had specified where contributions arising out of that application had to be spent, so that they could relate to the development. This meant that further negotiations had to be held with the developer if the Council wanted to change where the money was spent. However, with the introduction of the Green Space Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) the Council now had guidance on where 106 funding could be spent.

A map was displayed at the meeting showing green space identified when the Green Space SPD was drawn up. From this, it could be seen that the main areas of green space in Westcotes Ward were in Bede Park and Great Central Way.

Details of developer contributions received in relation to Westcotes green space were circulated at the meeting and are attached at the end of these minutes for information.

The Acting Head of Planning advised that vacant and underused sites in the Ward had been identified. These included the following:-

- Land to the south of the Code building on Upperton Road. Only phases 1 and 2 of four phases of student accommodation had been completed.
- Land to the south of phases 3 and 4 of the Code building was owned by Railtrack. There was no other access to that land.
- Part of the CPH Thurmaston site. Depending on the development that took place on this site, it was possible that there could be an area left for green space, but it would not be very well located.

The meeting noted that the Barratts planning application was going to include various types of green space, but the developer had changed what was planned for the site. However, if Barratts completed the next phase of the development, (next to Mawby and King), more green space would be triggered.

It also was noted that the canal was owned by British Waterways. The Council looked after some of the banks, but British Waterways had not invested in the maintenance or development of the canal. The original application from Barratts had included a link from the canal path in to the site, but this had not been created.

The meeting was reminded that the land at the back of Tesco by Bede Park was still owned by the Everards brewery, as it had belonged to the pub that previously stood there. The land had been bought under the former City Challenge, so the Council had first option on buying it back. The Council had tried to negotiate its purchase, but the price required by Everards was high, as the brewery felt that the land was ideal for development. The meeting agreed that, if it could be bought for a reasonable price, this land would make a good addition to Bede Park.

It was noted that the derelict land opposite Albion Court had been sold to a developer and approval given to build 59 flats on the site.

A developer previously had addressed the Community Meeting about a planned development, (minute 43, "Possible Development of Viaduct and Adjoining Land on Bede Street", 20 March 2012 referred), but no formal planning application had been received to date.

The meeting was reminded that the proposal discussed at that meeting was for a small development of two and three bedroom houses and some flats. It was agreed that the site was not really big enough to include some green space in the development. The initial proposal was to have terraced housing on the site of the current garages and viaduct, with apartments on the corner of the site that had retail

space below them. It would be difficult to refuse an application such as this, as the site currently was derelict and there was a lack of three-bedroom properties in the Ward.

In reply to a question, the Acting Head of Planning advised that he was not aware of any authorities who had tried refusing planning applications because an area was at capacity. It could be considered that the Planning Policy Guidance 17 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study gave an evidence base to demonstrate this, (for example, by showing that some parts of the City were more densely populated than others), but it was unclear whether this would be a sufficient argument to win any appeal made against refusal of a planning application.

The Acting Head of Planning reminded the meeting that the City Council had stated in the Student Housing SPD that it would prepare an Article 4 Direction, which would control the conversion of houses to shared accommodation for up to 6 people. At present, planning permission was not required for this to take place. However, the implementation of an Article 4 Direction was a complicated process, as its introduction would take away landlords' right to make these conversions.

As a result of this, clear evidence that further conversions to shared housing would result in unacceptable problems was needed before the statutory process to adopt the Direction could formally begin. Once this evidence was available, public consultation could be held, after which a decision on whether to introduce the Direction would be made by the City Council. If the decision was to introduce it, this would need to be advertised and sent to the Secretary of State, who would decide if an Inquiry was needed. All properties within the affected area would then be notified. Once adopted, there would be a period of one year before the Article 4 took effect. This was to avoid any compensation claims from properties affected by the restrictions.

Information on the number of properties that currently were occupied by students as shared housing was currently only available at Ward level. Not all Wards had a large percentage of shared housing and there also were some parts of some wards that had much higher percentages of shared housing than other parts. However, it was hoped that new census information could be used to look at figures below ward level and to identify "hot spots".

In reply to a question about registration of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs), it was noted that this usually only applied to three-storey buildings in which more than six people lived together. At present, the best information that the Council had about where HMOs were located was from Council Tax exemption records that identified shared student housing, but it was felt that some of the pressure on Bede Park was from non-student shared housing.

The following points were then made by residents:-

- Residents were setting up a Friends of Bede Park group. Anyone interested in joining was invited to do so;

- Information on the proposed use for the land next to the development on Upperton Road would be welcome. (It was noted that this land was owned by Railtrack);
- Would it be possible to open the field owned by Shaftesbury Community Junior School for community use, (for example, by putting up barriers to stop unauthorised vehicle access), and provide adventure play equipment?;
- A ball court should not be created on Bede Park;
- The provision of outdoor gym equipment would be welcome;
- It was queried whether section 106 funding had to be spent on Bede Park, or whether it could be used on neighbouring areas, such as Great Central Way;
- Social media, such as Facebook, should be used more. In addition to the existing Westcotes and Castle ward pages on Facebook, one would be set up for the Friends of Bede Park; and
- Consideration could be given to creating a “dogs only” area in Bede Park. For example, this could be a fenced area that could be used as a dog run.

Councillor Russell explained that the possibility of allowing community use of the field owned by Shaftesbury Community Junior School had been discussed with Education officers, who had advised that the decision to do this rested with the school’s governing body. Councillor Russell offered to raise this with the school.

It also was noted that:-

- Issues such as who would pay for the cleaning and maintenance of the field would need to be resolved;
- It needed to be clarified what legal provision there was for removing vehicles accessing a school field without authorisation when the field was available for public access;
- Previous shared use of school fields had ended when claims were made for injuries received there and for damage such as dog waste on clothing. Liability for such things therefore needed to be resolved before the field could be made available for public use;
- Section 106 funding could not be used for the maintenance of school fields that were available for public use;
- Land was available for use at the Manor House that was not attached to any school; and
- No section 106 funding in the Ward had been specifically allocated to projects for children, as contributions were focussed on Bede Park.

The Play and Youth Development Officer reported that outdoor gym equipment was already being used in various parks in the City. He felt that it could enhance Bede Park, but care would have to be taken in deciding where it would be sited. It also needed to be noted that it could increase use of the Park, so an alternative could be to put some along Great Central Way. For example, it could be put in clusters at various points along the route where the grass was mown back further than at present. Suggestions for this could be drawn up and brought to a future meeting.

The following points were noted:-

- There were different types of equipment and the prices of these varied, but the cost for one piece to be installed, including the surround, would be approximately £3,500;
- If designed carefully, people would move through the pieces of equipment, rather than congregating at them, but it was possible that groups could gather if they were used when other people were not around, (for example, at night);
- Part of the Great Central Way was covered by CCTV, so the equipment could be put in that part and signs put up saying that it was covered by CCTV;
- Consideration previously had been given to putting picnic tables along Great Central Way, but this had not been pursued due to concerns that they would be vandalised and would encourage anti-social behaviour; and
- A suggestion was made that interpretation panels could be put up opposite the Code building on Upperton Road, to give information on the Local Wildlife Site.

The Police advised that anti-social behaviour already occurred in Bede Park. Better fencing could be needed if more equipment was to be installed there, but the Play and Youth Development Officer confirmed that such fencing would probably have to be six feet high and would not be attractive.

It also was considered that, if the facilities in the Park were removed, it would not necessarily reduce anti-social behaviour in the area, as those doing it could move on to other parts of the Ward. One way to reduce it at night time would be to block off the slide, but if people still tried to use it and, for example, injured themselves, the Council could face a claim for compensation.

The possibility of moving existing play equipment to a different part of the Park was discussed, but it was noted that it would cost more to move the tower and slide than the Council had in developer contributions and replacing it with a similar slide would cost approximately £150,000. It also was felt that it would be disappointing to move the slide, as it was a landmark structure for the Park. However, the slide was the main draw to the Park for people misusing the equipment. One possibility could be to install equipment that was designed in such a way that only children could use it.

The meeting noted that a slide the size of that in Bede Park would be expected to last for a minimum of approximately 15 – 20 years. However, as the platforms had been replaced, it was reasonable to expect to get another 15 years' use.

It was recognised that there currently was nothing in the Park specifically designed for older children / teenagers, but installing more equipment would reduce the green area available for general use.

The Ward Members noted that, in warm weather, De Montfort University was very good at getting students to clean up the Park, but it was noticeable that outside of university term times the Park was not over-used and there was not the same problem with rubbish being left.

The meeting suggested that supermarkets could be asked help to clear rubbish in the same way that companies such as McDonalds did. The Ward Members explained that Tesco, Sainsbury's and the Co-op had been approached under the same legislation used for take-away food establishments to clean up the area around their premises, but they could only be required to clear a certain area around their premises and Bede Park fell outside this area. Instead, consideration was being given to whether the double rubbish bins could be replaced with open rubbish bins, as the double bins were too small to put full carrier bags in.

The Play and Youth Development Officer reminded the meeting that the Maypole equipment in Bede Park currently was broken. It had not been replaced, at the request of local residents, and the Council was considering replacing it with something more appropriate.

Another thing that had been considered for the Park was the installation of a barrier at the bottom of the slide. However, as this was a retrospective modification and it needed to meet European standards, it was not possible to install one without creating a hazard. If the Council installed a barrier itself it would compromise the equipment and could be problematic if any claims were made by users of the slide.

The Ward Members reminded the meeting that the use of barbecues in the Park was illegal, but happened regularly. Some parks had designated areas where they could be used and it was suggested that such an area could be created in Bede Park, (for example, by creating a concrete area on the land still owned by Everards). It was noted that signs were being made to put up in the Park to say that barbecues could not be used.

It was queried whether any funds could be available to develop the rear of the Manor House Neighbourhood Centre. There was an area next to St Mary's Fields Infants School that was suitable for play equipment which was safer now that it had been fenced off. It was agreed that the Play and Youth Development Officer would contact the Centre to discuss this further.

AGREED:

- 1) That possible options for using section 106 funding for enhancing Bede Park be considered and reported to a future meeting;

- 2) That suggestions for the location of outdoor gym equipment along Great Central Way be drawn up and reported to a future meeting;
- 3) That enquiries be made about whether Railtrack will donate the currently unused land next to the development on Upperton Road to the Council for use as green space;
- 4) That Councillor Russell be asked to liaise with Shaftesbury Community Junior School to see if it is possible to open its school field for community use;
- 5) That the Play and Youth Development Officer be asked to report back to the Community Meeting on options for equipment for use by children only that could replace the Maypole in Bede Park;
- 6) That the Play and Youth Development Officer be asked to provide information on the advantages and disadvantages of removing the slide from Bede Park and the potential cost of removing it; and
- 7) That the Play and Youth Development Officer be asked to liaise with the Manor House Neighbourhood Centre to identify assistance that may be available to develop the area to the rear of the Centre.

18. SECTION 106 FUNDING

This item was taken together with the “Green Space in the Ward” item, (above).

19. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chair thanked those present for attending and for their contributions to the discussion.

He then closed the meeting at 8.28 pm.



Leicester
City Council

Westcotes Area Green Space contributions applications 1/5/2005 - 1/8/2012

Ref	App no	Address	Developer	Where to spend	Amount Due	Received	Committed	Of received, Still to spend
A	20052165	76 WESTERN ROAD	GHAI DEVELOPMENTS	enhance off-site open space at Bede Park	£12,831.00	£12,831.00		£12,831.00
B	20060052	64-70 EASTLEIGH ROAD	BLUE PYRAMID INVESTMENTS	enhancement of off site open space at Eastleigh Road play area and Westcotes Park	£21,132.00	£21,132.00	£ 8,427.00	£12,705.00
C	20061401	25-27 BEDE STREET	KINGSBURY SPECIAL VENTURES	provision or enhancement of works at bede park or castle gardens.	£15,909.00	£15,909.00		£15,909.00
D	20081786	52 BRAUNSTONE GATE	SEAN & CHRIS LANDER	provision or enhancement of adult/youth playing facilities at Bede Park	£4,646.00	£4,646.00		£4,646.00
E	20090485	14-16 BRITON STREET	BRADGATE ESTATES LTD	provision of children's play at Bede Park	£1,316.00	£1,316.00		£1,316.00
E	20090485	14-16 BRITON STREET	BRADGATE ESTATES LTD	provision or enhancement of adult and youth play at Bede Park	£1,276.00	£1,276.00		£1,276.00
F	20090933	4 SHAFTESBURY ROAD	MR M JAKHURA	provision or enhancement of adult and youth playing facilities at Bede Park	£1,142.00	£1,142.00		£1,142.00
F	20090933	4 SHAFTESBURY ROAD	MR M JAKHURA	enhancement of children's play at Bede Park	£810.00	£810.00		£810.00
G	20100377	40-42 WESTERN ROAD	JAMIE LEWIS RESIDENTIAL LETTINGS	adult and youth recreation at Bede Park	£13,860.00	£13,860.00		£13,860.00
H	20110177	6-12 HINCKLEY ROAD AND 1A NARBOROUGH ROAD	Mr S KULLAR	enhancement of existing youth/play within Westcotes ward	£3,438.00	£3,438.00		£3,438.00
I	20101644	UPPERTON ROAD	JAMIE LEWIS RESIDENTIAL	£202.00 per room for adult and youth play before anything occupied. Bede park.	£96,758.00	£15,756.00		£15,756.00
J	20110539	40-46 WESTERN ROAD	JAMIE LEWIS RESIDENTIAL LETTINGS	£202.00 per bedroom for enhancement of Green Space in westcotes ward	£117,362.00	£0.00		£0.00
K	20120099	9 WESTLEIGH ROAD	MR & MRS JOHN CRUTCHLEY	enhancement of open space and play provision in the area	£2,875.00	£2,875.00		£2,875.00
L	20110366	48 LATIMER STREET	BLUE PYRAMID INVESTMENTS	improvement of local informal parks and gardens, outdoor sports facilities, and natural green space.	£2,831.54	£2,831.54		£2,831.54
				Sum	£296,186.54	£97,822.54	£ 8,427.00	£89,395.54

Castle Area between Ring Road and western ward boundary

Ref	App no	Address	Developer	Where to spend	Amount Due	Received	Committed	Of received, Still to spend
M	20091121	EASTERN BOULEVARD, CORNER RYDAL STREET	MR JAMIE LEWIS	£14,746 towards youth/adult play provision in the area.	£ 14,746.00	14,746.00		£14,746.00
N	20100417	NEWARKE STREET, CORNER OF UPPER BROWN STREET, CROWN BUILDING	LAUNCH PADZ DEVELOPMENTS LTD	enhancement of off site open space	£ 7,530.00	7,530.00		7,530.00
O	20071281	EASTERN BOULEVARD, JARROM STREET CORNER OF (FORMER BREWIN SITE)	MEGACLOSE LTD	£70,902.00 for improvements to Bede Park and Thirlmere Gardens	£ 70,902.00	£0.00		£0.00
P	20111746	134 CLARENDON STREET	J O'GORMAN BUILDING CONTRACTORS LTD	On occupation of the First dwelling: Informal Green Space £239.00 Equipped Children and Young Peoples Space £292.00 Outdoor Sports facilities £1114.00.	£ 1,645.00	£0.00		£0.00
				SUM	£ 94,823.00	£22,276.00	£ -	£22,276.00

Amounts received and expected August 2012

This page is left blank intentionally.