

Braunstone Park & Rowley Fields Community Meeting

**United Reform Church, Gooding
Avenue**

**On Tuesday, 19 February 2013
Starting at 5:30 pm**

The meeting will be in two parts

5:30 pm – 6:00 pm

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

- **Illegal Money Lending Unit**
- **Coping with Cancer in
Leicestershire & Rutland**
- **Wear it Red Leicester Event**
- **City Warden**
- **Neighbourhood Police**
- **Ward Councillors and General
Information**

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

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

- **Illegal money Lending Unit**
- **Coping with Cancer in
Leicestershire & Rutland**
- **Wear it Red Leicester Event**
- **City Warden**
- **Police Issues Update**
- **Councillor Update**
- **Ward Community 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.

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.

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.

<p>Illegal Money Lending Unit Find out how this Unit raises awareness of loan sharks</p>	<p>Coping with Cancer in Leicestershire & Rutland Find out what services are available for those coping with cancer</p>
<p>Wear It Red Leicester Event Find out about this event, supporting awareness of heart disease</p>	<p>City Warden Talk to the City Warden about issues in the Ward</p>
<p>Police Issues Talk to your Local Police about issues or raise general queries.</p>	<p>Ward Councillors and General Information Talk to your local councillors or raise general queries</p>

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.

1. 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 Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields Community Meeting held on 18 December 2012 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. ILLEGAL MONEY LENDING UNIT

Steve Ward from Birmingham City Council Illegal Money Lending Unit will be at the meeting to draw attention to the week of action in April to publicise, highlight, and raise awareness and understanding of the dangers of loan sharks within our communities.

6. COPING WITH CANCER IN LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND

Sarah Thorp, a Volunteer Coordinator with Coping with Cancer in Leicestershire and Rutland, will be at the meeting to talk about services offered for people coping with cancer.

7. WEAR IT RED EVENT IN LEICESTER

Carla Broadbent, Physical Activity Officer with Leicester City Council, will explain about this event that supports awareness of heart disease.

8. POLICE ISSUES UPDATE

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

9. WARD COMMUNITY BUDGET 2012/13

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.

- a) **An update on the 2012/13 Community Meeting budget will be provided**
- b) **The meeting is asked to note the following grant applications, which have been approved under the Council's fast track procedure:-**

Application 1

Project: Braunstone Adventure Play Ground graffiti / art project

Amount approved: £500

Applicant: Braunstone Adventure Play Ground – Mike Keen

Summary:

Most of the outside perimeter wall of the Adventure Playground has been covered with professional graffiti / art. This project is needed to complete the graffiti / art to the remainder of the perimeter wall that faces on to Gooding Avenue and to remove minor 'unofficial' graffiti on the existing artwork.

If the wall was to just be painted over, it would encourage more unofficial graffiti and antisocial behaviour, attracting young people to the site. The official graffiti should minimise this, evidenced by the fact that over 15 years the official graffiti has remained largely undamaged, apart from a few recent minor incidents.

Application 2

Project: Braunstone History & Art Exhibition 2013

Amount approved: £500

Applicant: Anita Robinson, Parks Officer, Leicester City Council

Summary:

The Braunstone History and Art Exhibition on 23 June 2013 will showcase the work of the local Braunstone art and history clubs as follows:-

- 1 To open up the stable block museum on the last Tuesday of every month (from 26/02/13) by the history club – to encourage the local community into the park
- 2 The 4 local primary schools will be bringing their year 6 classes – one school per morning from 17/06/13 to 20/06/13. Each class will spend time with both the local history club in the museum and Parks Services ground staff in the walled garden – learning about the past history of the park and the local community.
- 3 The main exhibition will take place on Sunday 23rd June 2013 from 1.00pm – 4.00pm in the Braunstone Park stable block. The history club will exhibit history on Braunstone, the park, the Winstanleys, the hall and the American 82nd Airborne division. The art club will exhibit their paintings and drawings in the art room. The Hathern Brass Band will be playing in the walled garden from 2.00pm to 3.00pm.

The above event has arisen from the success of the first exhibition held on the morning of October 24th 2012. This had 110 visitors from all over the county, who came during a 2 hour slot. The feedback indicated that most of the attendees wanted to come back again and people who couldn't make a week day had rung up to ask that something similar be put on at a weekend.

By having the local schools here the week before, it is hoped that local children will want to come back on the Sunday – with their families – and enjoy the exhibition, the band and bring a picnic along to enjoy in the walled garden.

c) The following grant applications are submitted for consideration:-

Application 3:

Project: Green Barriers

Amount requested:

Item	Actual/Estimated Cost	Amount Requested
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Pyracantha ex James Coles x 75		
10 litre pots 1.2 m to 1.5m @ £11.50 each	Actual	£852.50
TOTAL		£862.50

Applicant: Rowley Fields Allotment Society

Summary:

The allotment society shares a boundary with the Great Central Way, which over the years has been the entry point for people breaking in to the site and carrying out various acts of anti-social behaviour to members' property on the site. The frequency of these events has increased recently.

As the boundary is more than 600 metres long, repairing or replacing the chain link fence would cost over £40,000. It therefore is proposed to resolve the situation with a "green" solution. The area of the allotment site that adjoins the Great Central Way is a Biodiversity Enhancement Site.

The plants its proposed to use are 1.2 metres high, so will give a comparatively quick solution, as this size of plant will establish a hedge more successfully.

Volunteers from the site will clear and plant the boundary.

Application 4

Project: Uniforms

Amount requested:

Item	Actual Cost (£)	Amount Requested (£)
T-shirt @ £10	Actual	£320
Sweatshirt @ £15	Actual	£480
Jazz Shoes @ £10	Actual	£320
Jazz Pants @ £10	Actual	£320
TOTAL		£1,440

Applicant: K T Performing Arts

Summary:

The group recently moved in to the Winstanley Centre in Braunstone. The Group's resources were exhausted by refurbishing the premises to turn them in to professional performing arts studios.

Since the studios opened on 12 January, 32 additional students have been attracted from the Braunstone area, 12 of whom are boys. Each member of the performing arts centre is supplied with a uniform that consists of a t-shirt, sweatshirt, dance pants, dance shoes and a bag. Each item displays the school logo. The total cost for each is £45. This application is therefore for funding to provide a kit for each of the 32 new students.

Application 5

Project: Lame Duck Summer PGL Activity Camp

Amount requested:

This is a joint application to five Wards. The amount requested from each Ward is therefore £1,150.

The total costs are summarised as follows:-

Item	Actual Cost (£)	Amount Requested (£)
Camp Fees	£5,500	£5,500
Coach	£1,100	£1,100
Mini-bus	£250	£250
Miscellaneous equipment (first aid etc)	£150	£150
50 x £25 contribution each young person	minus	(£1,250)
TOTAL		£5,750

Applicant: Leicester Play Fair – Stephen Ashley - Secretary

Summary:

1. Summer (dates to be confirmed) 2013 – PGL Shropshire.
2. 50 young people 10 -12 years old, 10 from each of the 5 wards. These young people are all from different backgrounds, culture & religion and covering a wide range of schools. This is a semi-targeted activity – throughout the year staff identify young people who would benefit from this camp. The

children would be unlikely to afford this opportunity on their own, or they are likely to have low esteem / need time for themselves, etc.

3. The project has been running for a number of years very successfully. It is a good example of how communities can work together to better understand each other and break down barriers. This is even more important in the present climate with new people moving into areas giving young people a greater understanding and respect for the diversity in our city.

4. This project was supported by a small grant from Leicester City Council, but this has been cut. Play Fair is therefore seeking assistance from community meetings until fundraising can be done from other sources to get the camp on a more sustainable footing.

5. Most young people return from this camp having new friends and more easily get involved in other inter-playground activities throughout the year. They also appear to have a more positive attitude and a great sense of achievement.

Application 6

Project: Braunstone FoodShare

Amount requested:

Item	Actual Cost (£)	Amount Requested (£)
2013 affiliation fee to FareShare	1,000 (Actual)	300
Equipment (incl. food bags for hygiene etc)	1,300 (Estimate)	420
Hire of hall (incl. heating, lighting, maintenance etc)	1,560 (Estimate)	1,000
Contingency for second distribution centre or Healthy Eating input (eg extra volunteer expenses, milk for tea, extra equipment, etc)	1,500 (Estimate)	780
TOTAL		£2,500

Applicant: Revd Chris Burch

Summary:

Braunstone FoodShare was started in January 2012, in response to a perception by Chris Burch (St Peter's Church Braunstone Park) and Ali Gamble (b-connected) that food poverty was becoming a significant factor of life in the Braunstone estate.

They started to collect food from Leicester Fareshare, which rescues food (within its sell-by date) that otherwise would go to landfill, divide into carrier bags and distribute it to local residents.

From a start of about 30 bags given, there is now a membership of over 300, and up to 130 bags are given out every fortnight. As the operation has grown, so have the costs (the food itself is free, but there are significant overheads, both from Fareshare and from local costs).

Consideration is being given to developing the project, either by opening a second distribution centre in South Braunstone, or by introducing educational input such as healthy eating, recipes, etc. Tea and cakes/biscuits are already offered, as a way of helping to build community while trying to tackle one aspect of poverty.

We do not ask for evidence of benefits etc – food poverty sadly includes families on low wages and not on benefits – nor do we limit members to the Braunstone estate (though we do not advertise beyond it). The vast majority of members are local, and there is some evidence that people who live across the park are inhibited from walking over to St Peter's.

A successful application has been made for a "Community First" grant to the CDF. The application was based on figures available at the time, but some of the costs have since risen, (for example, the affiliation fee). This is reflected in the first two lines of the funding requested.

Earlier in 2012 a grant of £500 was received from the Braunstone Foundation (for refreshments), and a donation of £2,164 from Asda. This is half spent, so the rest will be used to add to the development fund.

St Peter's has waived a third of the hall hire cost in 2012 (approximately £560) and, subject to discussion in the church council and with the FoodShare volunteers, is likely to do the same again for 2013.

10. 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

Andrew Shilliam, Democratic Services Officer or Steve Letten, Members Support Officer, Resources Department, Leicester City Council, Town Hall, Town Hall Square, Leicester, LE1 9BG

Phone 0116 229 8813 / 8821

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www.leicester.gov.uk/communitymeetings

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Appendix A

Your Community, Your Voice

Record of Meeting and Actions

5:30 pm, Tuesday, 18 December 2012

**Held at: Fullhurst Community College, Imperial Avenue, Leicester
LE3 1AH**

Who was there:

Councillor Anne Glover

Councillor Wayne Naylor

INFORMATION SHARING – ‘INFORMATION FAIR’ SESSION

The following information stands were located in the room. Members of the public visited the stands and were given an opportunity to meet Councillors, Council staff and service representatives.

Ward Councillors and General Information	Police Issues
Members of the public could talk to their local councillors or raise general queries	PC 1593 Tim Oliver and PCSO 6561 Jonathan Faulkner were present to give advice relating to policing issues.
“Fit for Business” Project	
Members of the public had the opportunity to talk to Carolyn Pawley from Transport Strategy about the “Fit for Business” Project.	

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.

36. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillor Naylor was elected as Chair and welcomed everyone to the Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields Community Meeting.

37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Cooke.

38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Naylor declared an ‘other disclosable’ interest as he was treasurer for KT Performing Arts.

39. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

that the minutes of the Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields Community Meeting held on 16 October 2012 be confirmed as a correct record.

40. K T PERFORMING ARTS

The Chair introduced some of the dancers from KT Performing Arts who subsequently entertained members of the community with three dances. These were very well received.

Ruth Wragg, the Principal, explained that funding had previously been granted from the Community Meeting to take the girls to London to perform on stage there. Next year the group would be moving back into the Winstanley Centre, where they would also be offering entertainment, such as crafts and bingo for the senior citizens.

The Chair thanked the young people and adults involved in KT Performing Arts for their commitment, hard work and for entertaining members of the community at the meeting.

41. COMMUNITY PAYBACK SCHEME

Irek Staszak, from the Probation Service was present at the meeting to talk about the Community Payback Scheme. Irek explained that the Community Pay Back Scheme used to be called Community Service and it was a scheme where offenders worked on projects which would benefit the community.

The scheme had helped out in churches, schools, community groups and locally they were working in Braunstone Park.

The Community Pay Back team worked 7 days and 4 evenings per week and part of the remit of the scheme was to work with people on probation and to teach them useful skills. Their experience in Community Payback might result in someone being referred for unpaid work which might then lead to employment.

The Community Pay Back team took referrals; for example if there was a garden or 'grotspot' that needed clearance, but referrals through the Police or City Wardens tended to be actioned quicker than those from individuals.

A member of the community commented that he had heard that there would be a daily charge for the service and Irek responded that in view of the current financial situation, there was a possibility that this would happen. If it did, it was more likely that it would be a contribution payable towards the supervisor costs rather than a charge.

Councillor Glover stated that previously she had asked if the Community Payback Team could provide help in older people's gardens, as many older people were no longer able to look after their garden themselves, though at the time, she had been advised that this was not possible. Irek explained that the team tended to 'blitz' gardens as a one-off task rather than provide regular maintenance, however this could be considered.

There followed a brief discussion relating to Braunstone Hall. A member of the community explained that she had heard that the hall was being turned into a

conference centre, and she was of the view that there were better options, such as using the hall as a community facility. She was also concerned that there were problems on Narborough Road with drug dealing and these needed to be resolved if the hall was going to be turned into a conference centre. Councillor Glover explained that Braunstone Hall was a Grade 11 listed building and the council did not have the necessary finances to carry out all the work that would be required. However, negotiations were still on going and no decisions had been made.

The Chair thanked Irek for his presentation.

42. HOME SAFETY

Peter Cotgreave, Community Safety Educator, from Leicestershire Fire and Rescue gave a presentation on fire prevention in the home. He explained that it was hoped to have had an operational fire crew at the meeting, but unfortunately they had been called to an incident.

Peter made the following points:

- His role was to try to prevent fire incidents and as part of this he worked with Year 1 and Year 5 pupils in primary schools. Fire prevention work was also carried out in some secondary schools.
- The children in Year 1 were taught about smoke alarms and the dangers of playing with matches.
- The children in Year 5 were given a harder hitting message and taught about the dangers of arson etc. Peter knew from experience that such sessions were remembered by the children in later years.
- Home safety checks were also carried out and officers from the team visited people in their homes and gave advice relating to fire safety.
- Members of the public were urged to fit a proper smoke alarm; the normal place for this to be fitted was in the hall at the bottom of the stairs and also at the top of the stairs. Smoke alarms now lasted for 10 years and needed to be replaced once the battery had expired. Batteries could not be replaced; this was a deliberate measure to prevent them being removed for the wrong reasons (such as for use in another appliance or toy!).
- A further fire prevention measure was to close doors at night, as this helped to prevent the fire from spreading.

Councillor Glover commented that the design of the house might make it difficult for people to evacuate the building in the event of the fire. She suggested that it would be helpful if the Fire Service had more influence over the design of domestic properties.

The Chair thanked Peter for attending the meeting.

43. POLICE ISSUES UPDATE

PC 1593 Tim Oliver and PCSO 6561, Jonathan Faulkner were present and provided an update on policing issues and also responded to questions and queries raised.

The following points were made:

- Over the last month there had been a reduction in crime on the estate, although the levels of crime did vary.
- Members of the community were asked to bear in mind that Christmas was approaching, and crime could increase during the festive season. People were asked not to leave presents on display as these could provide temptations for would be burglars. There had been a 'spike' in burglaries on the Rowley Fields around Diwali and people were asked to be vigilant and to use preventative measures such as making good use of timer switches for lighting.
- If there was an emergency, people were asked to dial 999, but for non - emergency calls, people were asked to dial 101.
- A concern was raised by a resident that the corner of Hand Avenue attracted gangs of youths, but the Police responded that they were aware of the situation there.
- Councillor Glover expressed concern that security cameras were not always being used effectively and that the direction of cameras needed to be altered at times to focus on particular areas or items. She gave an example where items, which she felt would have been an obvious target for thieves had been stolen, and the culprits would have been caught on camera if someone had changed the camera angle. The Police explained that this would have been difficult to do as the cameras were set in default positions; there were also requirements in the setting of the camera positions and angles in ensure there were no breaches of human rights.
- The meeting heard that the cameras were viewed by operators in the Blackbird Incident Room. There were a large number of cameras with about 4 operators. A resident suggested that volunteers might be recruited to monitor the cameras. Ward Councillors requested that the telephone number for the Blackbird Incident Room be included in the minutes. This telephone number is: 0116 252 8241.
- The Chair suggested that in future it would be useful to have a presentation on the setting up of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and PCSO Faulkner responded that the Police were currently looking towards the setting up of more Neighbourhood Watch groups.
- Councillor Glover also requested that more details of the location and the numbers of cameras should be brought to the next community meeting.

Louise Lavelle, Community Safety Team then addressed the meeting and explained that in the new year there would be a campaign to tackle motor cycle and moped thefts. Security aids would be available at discounted prices and people were asked to contact Louise at Hinckley Road Police Station if they were interested.

44. WARD COMMUNITY BUDGET 2012/13

The Chair advised that the following budget applications had been fast tracked and approved for payment:

Project: Braunstone Exhibition

Applicant: Anita Robinson in conjunction with the Braunstone Residents' Network Committee (part of b-inspired).

Amount approved: £200

Project: 'Make a Difference' Day

Applicant: Braunstone Clean Up Group – Anita Robinson – in conjunction with the Braunstone Residents' Network Committee (part of b-inspired).

Amount approved: £200

Project: Braunstone Alert

Applicant: Anne Short

Amount Approved: £360

Project: Ndi Igbo

Application: Christmas Gala Night / Get Together

Amount Requested: £250 from Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields (funding request also submitted to other wards).

This application was not supported.

The following funding applications were considered during the meeting.

Project: Winton Walk Gates

Applicant: Louise Lavelle, Community Safety Team, Leicester City Council

Amount requested: £750 (match funding for that provided by the Hinckley Road JAG, in addition to funding provided by the Community Safety Team)

Louise explained that there had been long term concerns about crime and anti-social behaviour and local residents had asked the Community Safety Team to install gates on the public footpath linking Gaddesby Avenue with Winton Avenue. A 28 day consultation had been carried out and no objections had been received. Local residents would be responsible for locking the gates in the evening and opening the gates in the morning.

RESOLVED:

that the funding application be supported.

Project: Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields – Improving Health Initiative

Applicant: Braunstone Foundation (T/A b-inspired)

Amount requested: £5000

The Councillors explained that the project was to kick start a strategic approach to organising better health services in the ward and they believed that this was important for the community.

RESOLVED:

that the funding application be supported to the value of £5000

Project: Sport 4 All

Applicant: Young People’s Sports Network

Amount requested: £1,500

The Chair explained that there were other funding sources that could also be used in respect of this project and a decision had been made to partially support the project to the value of £500. The applicant had been advised of where else they may be able to seek financial support.

RESOLVED:

that the funding application be partially supported to the value of £500

Action to be taken	Officer identified	Deadline
That the funding applications that the councillors had agreed to support be forwarded to the appropriate Assistant City Mayor for approval	Surinder Singh, Member Support Officer to the Community Meeting.	As soon as possible

45. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A member of the public commented that there had been a news item on the radio earlier that day relating to travellers' sites and that Braunstone Lane had been mentioned. The Ward Councillors responded that they knew nothing about this but they would look into the issue.

46. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 7.35 pm.