Freemen Community Action Log as at 10 July 2013

Meeting held 10 July at the Linwood Centre, Linwood Lane, Leicester from 6.00pm to 7.30pm

Cllrs attending – Councillor Shelton

Ref no	Item	Response at meeting	Action Required	Action Required by	Action Taken	Follow up / action from subsequent Community Meeting	Item Closed / Further information
22/13	Introductions	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were given.	None				Item Close
23/13	Apologies	Councillor Cutkelvin and Anne Sturges	None				Item closed
24/13	Action Log	Approved as correct record.	None				
25/13	Councillors' Report	Councillor Shelton reported that:- a) Meetings had been held with Eyres Monsell Councillors, local residents and City Mayor to discuss the Bloomfield Road traffic issues and proposals, including traffic calming in neighbouring streets to avoid a rat run being created, were being investigated.	Councillors to report back on future progress. Councillors to report back on future progress. Public asked to support.				Item Closed
		 b) The possibility of traffic calming at the Aylestone Road end of Saffron Lane including possible 20mph zones was being considered. c) The new self-service library opened in Aylestone Leisure 	Public asked to support. Public asked to support.				

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		Centre and was now open 7 days a week.					
		 A scheme would be run in Saffron Acres during the summer holidays to show young children how to grow food. 					
		e) Southfields Community Centre would close and move to the Pork Pie Library site.					
		f) Saffron Fete would be held on August 17 2013.					
		g) A new Deputy Head Teacher had been appointed to Marriott Primary School.					
		 h) The Fairway would shortly be re-surfaced for its whole length. 					
26/13	Review of Neighbourhood Services - What This Means in Saffron	Steve Goddard, Head of Community Services, outlined the implications of the Review of Neighbourhood Services to Saffron. Details of this transformation project were displayed in the foyer.					
		The review involved assessing the management and delivery of community services and centred around the review being customer led and focused, developing partnerships and regenerating communities. The	Groups or individuals interested in taking part in management committees for running community buildings to contact Steve Goddard				

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		reviews were based upon local policing areas and the review for the Knighton, Eyres Monsell, Freemen and Aylestone Wards would start to be implemented in September.					
		Aylestone Library had now closed and moved to Aylestone Leisure Centre where it was now open 7 days a week and gave users the opportunity to access leisure facilities. Work was progressing with Aylestone Residents Group to have a partnership agreement for them to run the old library building so its use was not lost to the community.					
		Fees and charges reviewed and reduced from 96 different scales to 16. Some groups will benefit and some will lose as a result. Transitional arrangements will be in place from September to April to support those groups facing higher charges and there will be no increase in charges in April 2014. The proposals also included reducing staff costs by allowing the public to access to buildings themselves – public users holding keys will receive 20% discount.					
		Issue of some community groups feeling they could be forced out of community buildings as a result of increased charges was raised, especially those involving luncheon/tea clubs. Steve Goddard recognised that some of these groups do not meet during the summer period and undertook to liaise with these groups in September over the revised	Steve Goddard to liaise with the groups after the summer recess.				

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		charges.					
27/13	Southfields Library	Southfields Library being refurbished and investigation taking place to see how theatre/kitchen area could be brought back into community use. Looking to see how the Council can offer longer opening hours at reduced costs. It is proposed to demolish the community centre and enhance the car parking, library and sports hall as a result. Subject to planning permissions being obtained, work was planned to be completed by the end of the year and the demolition work completed next spring.	Presentation to a future meeting once the details and options have been finalised.				
28/13	Housing Services Update	Stacey Hewitt gave an update on the improvements carried out to Heathcott Road, Neston Road and Neston Gardens. Before and after photographs of the areas were distributed to those present. Planting had been re-designed to remove litter and ASB issues and improve grounds maintenance. New play equipment had also been provided. Further ideas for improvements were requested from the public and a request for table and chairs in Neston Gardens was been considered, although funds were limited. A member of the public referred to a long standing tenancy issue with neighbours.	Stacey Hewitt agreed to discuss further after the meeting.				
		Cllr Shelton expressed thanks to the local area housing office staff for their work.	Ian Stapleton to relay thanks to staff.				

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29/13	Policing Update	Representatives of the East Midlands Special Operations Unit (Murder Investigation Team) attended the meeting to report on their deployment in the Ward last September to investigate a murder in Marriot Street and their work to achieve a successful prosecution and conviction. The Team wished to thank, the community for their assistance and support during the process.					
		Sgt Little presented the policing update. 6 recent burglaries had resulted from opportunist thefts arising from open windows and doors.	Public to be vigilant and not leave windows and doors open when property unoccupied.				
		General incidents of crime and ASB still comparatively low.					
		A member of the public referred to a recent burglary of their garage and asked why neighbours had been visited by the Police but they had not.	Sgt Little to liaise after the meeting.				
		A member of the public requested a CCTV camera to cover the alley way and speeding cars on Marriott Road to combat ASB. Sgt Little reported that camera could only be considered if incidents are reported.	Public to report incidents of ASB or speeding traffic to the Police.				
30/13	City Warden	Scott Clarke, City Warden provided an update on street scene enforcement issues.					
		City Wardens now had new powers relating to licensing skips and scaffolding on the highways.	On-going				
		City Wardens were no longer allowed to undertake plain clothes					

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		observations to gather evidence and issue FPN for dog fouling following a recent complaint from someone who had received a FPN.					
		Scott would now be covering a third ward so would spent less time in the ward as a result.	Public to report incidents to Tel: 25270001 or via the web-site.				
		A recent incident involving a dog loose in the Linwood Centre car park had been reported but the person reporting the incident had been informed that no one was able to respond.	Scott Clarke to get the details after the meeting and investigate and report back.				
31/13	Budget – AFC Andrews (2418) £1,200 requested	Darren Creed attended the meeting to outline the bid. Bid supported to the value of £1,200 subject to Councillor Cutkelvin's support.	MSO to seek the views of Cllr Cutkelvin and process and submit to Assistant City Mayor, Community Involvement for approval.	Within standard timescales			
32/13	Budget – Carnival Inspired Fitness (2421) £500 requested	Application deferred to allow applicants to respond to request for further information.	MSO to seek information previously requested from the applicant.	Within standard timescales			
33/13	Budget – Saffron Women's Group – Community Art (2422)	Bid supported to the value of £400,subject to Councillor Cutkelvin's support	MSO to seek the views of Cllr Cutkelvin and process and submit to Assistant City Mayor, Community Involvement for approval.	Within standard timescales			
	£400 requested						