

Freemen Community Action Log as at 9 September 2013

Meeting held 9 September in the Townsend Suite at Aylestone Leisure Centre from 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Councillors attending – Councillors Cutkelvin and 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 |
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| 34/13 | Introductions | Councillor Cutkelvin stated that she would Chair the meeting and welcomed everyone to the meeting. | None | | | | Item Close |
| 35/13 | Apologies | | None | | | | Item closed |
| 36/13 | Action Log | <p>Approved as correct record.</p> <p>Update on matters not on the agenda.</p> <p>a) Issue 25/13 - Bloomfield Road traffic issues – the City Mayor was being briefed on a City Wide traffic calming programme in November. An update on this programme would be reported to a future meeting.</p> <p>b) Issue 26/13 – The community groups who were concerned about impact of the fees and charges review had subsequently written to the Council's Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Commission and had their concerns addressed by the Commission.</p> | None | | | | Item Closed |
| 37/13 | Councillors' Report | <p>Councillors reported that:-</p> <p>a) They had attended the opening of the new Knighton Park Table Tennis Club following their move to the former Co-op Theatre on Knighton Lane East. The club would be leafleting the area and recruiting new members. The centre had been equipped to international standards and it aspired to be the largest in the country. It currently had 200 members</p> | Public to note | | | | Item Closed |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Most of the houses on the Wheatsheaf site were now occupied. c) Saffron Fete – this had not been as well attended as in previous years and the procession had to be cancelled at short notice. d) The football tournament organised by St Andrew’s Football Club had been well supported. e) Boundary Review of City Council Wards – the current statutory review of the City’s ward boundaries would result in changes in Freeman Ward. Currently, the ward had the fewest number of electors and it was likely that in future the ward boundaries would be changed to increase the number of electors and the ward could have three councillors as a result. f) The Community Legal Advice Centre had closed and moved to the Citizens Advice Bureau and would now offered sessions at Saffron Library. g) The Christmas party would be held at the Linwood Centre on 11 December 2013. h) Saffron Young People’s’ Project had received 3 years funding for outreach sessions and would be re-launched in October. i) The summer football and multi activity camp supported by a community grant had attracted 50 youngsters from the Ward to each session. Darren Creed was thanked for his efforts in organising and making the event a success. j) Both the public and stakeholders attending ward meetings were encouraged to complete evaluation form as part of the pilot- project feedback process. k) Saffron Area Family Fun Day would be held on 28 September. | <p>Public to note</p> <p>Public to note</p> <p>Public to note</p> <p>Everyone to complete</p> <p>Public asked to support</p> | | | | |
| 38/13 | New Library at Aylestone Leisure Centre | Adrian Wills, Head of Libraries and Information conducted a short tour of the new library facility at the Leisure Centre and demonstrated the self- service machines. The relocation of the library had been a success in managing change in the community and had led to increased usage. The library was | Public asked to support the library usage. | | | | Item Closed |

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| | | <p>now open for longer hours and it benefited from the toilets and parking facilities at the leisure centre. There was also evidence of increased children and family usage linked to swimming lessons. The library had a limited stock of books etc and the stock would be reviewed at regular intervals. Comparative figures were supplied as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>July/ Aug 2012</th> <th>July/ Aug 2013</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>New membership</td> <td>32</td> <td>297</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of Items Lent</td> <td>2,290</td> <td>5,020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Computer Sessions</td> <td>304</td> <td>1,284</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | July/ Aug 2012 | July/ Aug 2013 | New membership | 32 | 297 | Number of Items Lent | 2,290 | 5,020 | Computer Sessions | 304 | 1,284 | | | | | |
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| Computer Sessions | 304 | 1,284 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 39/13 | Community Room on Richmond Road | <p>Kaija Tangen, Aylestone Park Residents Group, gave an update on the proposed uses of the old Aylestone Library space as a community space. The Aylestone Park Residents Group were in discussion with the Council to enter into a partnership agreement to manage the building for the local community. Initial ideas were a mother's drop in facility, hire the space for birthday parties, a small crèche etc. Other ideas were welcomed.</p> <p>Several grant applications had been unsuccessful to seek approx. £30k to carry out building works to provide a kitchenette and toilets. Discussions were taking place with Leicester College for a joint scheme to undertake the works at a reduced cost.</p> | <p>Public to suggest ideas for use</p> <p>Progress to be reported at the next meeting</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 40/13 | Basketball Development at Grace Road | <p>Kevin Routledge, Director Leicester Riders and Paul Hayward, Chairman of Leicestershire County Cricket Club gave an update on the proposed basketball development at Grace Road.</p> <p>The Riders were the 4th largest basketball club with 1,400 registered members. The John Sanford Centre at DMU had been kept open until May 2104 to allow the Riders to find an alternative venue for playing home matches. The proposed sports arena would provide facilities for basketball, Cricket and use by Leicester College students who currently only had access to 1 badminton court. Details of the proposal</p> | <p>Progress report to a future meeting when outcome of funding bid and final proposals were known.</p> | tbc | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | | <p>and plans can e viewed at the following links</p> <p>http://www.leicestershireccc.co.uk/lc/CAP/CAP-About-the-Project</p> <p>http://www.leicestershireccc.co.uk/lc/CAP/CAP-Drawings-Section</p> <p>Meetings had been held in February with local residents and car parking and traffic issues were identified as cause for concern.</p> <p>The Project was dependent upon Sport England Bid Grant submitted last December which had not been determined yet. No timescale could be given to start of planning process until grant application had been determined. Meeting arranged to discuss proposals with City Mayor in near future with representative of the ECB.</p> <p>Parking and traffic issues at the 5 Twenty/20 games had been monitored. 2 off-site parking areas had now been set up at Saffron Lane and on the British Gas site with a free park and ride facility in the price of the match tickets for the YB 40 games in May. Details of the parking arrangements were printed on the match tickets purchased 'on line'. Arrangements had now been made with opposition clubs to print similar details on tickets they issued for games at Grace Road. Social media was also being used, even though average cricket fans did not use it. This had been successful in reduced parking around the ground and subsequently was rolled out for the Twenty/20 matches.</p> | | | | | |
| 41/13 | Highways Improvements around the Velodrome Site on Saffron Lane | Ravi Mohankumar, Transport Strategy and Programme, Leicester City Council provided an update on the proposed highways improvements on Saffron Lane arising from the housing development on the former velodrome site. The improvements were to the access to the site from Saffron Lane and on from the St Mary's Allotment area. Phase 1 of | Public to note | | | | |

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| | | <p>the internal road was complete and all other work should be completed by 22 September. Work commencing between 23 September and 6 October on new signalised junction, pelican crossing, new street lighting and bus stops at all four sites. All existing bus stops in the area would remain.</p> <p>A member of the public referred to the difficulties faced by residents in Shakespeare Street and Sheridan Street accessing Saffron Lane, which had been made worse by the other works in the area. Cllr Cutkelvin stated that the situation would be monitored and other traffic regulation measures could be taken if necessary.</p> | <p>Ravi Mohankumar to take details of the concern after the meeting – monitor and report back.</p> <p>Member of public to give Cllr Cutkelvin contact details.</p> | | | | |
| 42/13 | Neighbourhood Policing and Community Safety Update | <p>Sgt Little presented the policing update. 8 of the recent 14 burglaries from dwellings resulted from insecure windows/doors. Rate still low for the City as a whole. Burglaries from other properties – 4 of the 15 resulted from insecure windows/doors.</p> <p>Thefts from Motor Vehicles – 8 – 3 of which resulted from insecure vehicles or leaving valuable goods on display and 1 from football parking (extra police patrols took place on match days). There were also 3 thefts of motor vehicles. There had been a slight rise in general damage to vehicles and graffiti but there had been arrests leading to prosecution.</p> <p>The new Assistant Chief Constable wanted each ward to have a priority list of issues that needed to be tackled. Some extra funding could be available to tackle priority issues.</p> <p>Sgt Little gave an update on the initiatives taken in relation to the licensed premises on Cavendish Road. Only 1 complaint had been received by the Council's Noise Team. The City Warden reported that the Designated Premises Supervisor was being encouraged to keep the immediate area around the premises clear of broken glass and cigarette ends.</p> | <p>Public to keep windows/doors secure even if in the property (especially keep doors locked)</p> <p>Public to take precautions</p> <p>Ideas for priority to be sent to Sgt Little.</p> <p>Public urged to report any noise issues to the Council's Noise Team</p> | | | | |

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| 43/13 | Neighbourhood Housing Update | <p>Ian Stapleton provided an update on housing initiatives in the ward:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work continuing on Neston Gardens Road/Heathcote Road to improve fire safety. - Low turnover rates were putting pressures on people wanting new tenancies. - The Bedroom Tax had led to increased numbers of tenants wishing to downsize, this could lead to reducing pressures on overcrowding, but it was taking time to sort out. - staff were continuing to address ASB issues. <p>A member of the public referred to issues with the footpath between Neston Gardens and Grampian Close which was overgrown and causing obstructions to pedestrians.</p> <p>Cllr Shelton raised an issue in relation to a tenant's garden and hedge on Saffron Estate. Ian Stapleton reported that he thought the issues had been resolved.</p> | <p>Ian Stapleton to investigate ownership of footpath and arrange to for works to be carried out if it was a public right of way.</p> <p>Ian Stapleton to investigate, and follow up with Parks Services if work had not been done.</p> | | | | |
| 44/13 | City Warden | <p>Scott Clarke, City Warden provided an update on street scene enforcement issues.</p> <p>City Wardens now had new powers relating to licensing skips and scaffolding on the highways and this had resulted in dealing with 10 applications a day, more than had been envisaged.</p> <p>The new powers of City Wardens were not know yet. Cllr Cutkelvin requested that a presentation be made to a future meeting, when they were finalised.</p> | <p>Public to report issues and incidents to City Warden to investigate.</p> <p>Head of Service to arrange a presentation.</p> | | | | |

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| 45/13 | Budget – Saffron Neighbourhood Management Board (Community Food Bank) (2423) £200 requested | Bid supported to the value of £200 | MSO and process and submit to Assistant City Mayor, Community Involvement for approval. | Within standard timescales | | | |
| 32/13 | Budget – Saffron Community Health Alliance (Volunteer Awards Ceremony) (2424) £818 requested | Bid supported to the value of £818 subject to Councillors being satisfied with the Evaluation Form from last year's funding. | MSO to send the evaluation form to Councillors and subject to their approval process the grant and submit it top eh Assistant City Mayor (Community Involvement) to approve the payment. | Within standard timescales | | | |
| 33/14 | Budget – Saffron Acres Project (Saffron Acres Family Fun Day) (2425) £470 requested | Bid supported to the value of £470 | MSO and process and submit to Assistant City Mayor, Community Involvement for approval | Within standard timescales | | | |