

Abbey Community Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, 4 June 2014
TIME: 6:00 pm
PLACE: TUDOR CENTRE, BEWCASTLE
GROVE, LEICESTER, LE4 2JU

YOUR community. YOUR voice.

Your Ward Councillors are:

**Councillor Harshad Bhavsar
Councillor Annette Byrne
Councillor Vijay Singh Riyait**

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

Access – 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 Support Officer on the number given below. If you feel you may not be able to hear what's being discussed at a meeting please contact the Democratic Support Officer on the number below.

Braille / Audio tape / Translation

If you require this please contact the Democratic Support Officer (production times will depend upon equipment/facility availability).

Social Media - The Council is committed to transparency and supports efforts to record and share reports of proceedings of public meetings through a variety of means, including social media. If you wish to film proceedings at a meeting please let us know as far in advance as you can so that it can be considered by the Chair of the meeting who has the responsibility to ensure that the key principles set out below are adhered to at the meeting.

Key Principles. In recording or reporting on proceedings you are asked:

- ✓ to respect the right of others to view and hear debates without interruption;
- ✓ to ensure that the sound on any device is fully muted ;
- ✓ where filming, to only focus on those people actively participating in the meeting;
- ✓ where filming, to (via the Chair of the meeting) ensure that those present are aware that they may be filmed and respect any requests to not be filmed.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillors will elect a Chair for the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. INTRODUCTIONS

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

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

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Appendix A

The Minutes of the previous Abbey Community Meeting, held on 18 February 2014 are attached, and Members will be asked to confirm them as a correct record.

5. CITY WARDEN SERVICE

The City Warden will give an update on environmental and enforcement activities in the Ward.

6. LOCAL POLICING UPDATE

The Police will give an update on their activities in the Ward.

7. COMMUNITY WELLNESS TEAM

The Community Wellness Team will give information on their work in the Ward.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Environmental Health Team will give information on their work in the Ward.

9. HOUSING

The Area Housing Manager will give an update on activities in the Ward.

10. LUNCH CLUB

Information will be provided concerning the Lunch Club initiative.

11. COMMUNITY MEETING BUDGET

Appendix B

Councillors are reminded that they will need to declare any interest they may have in budget applications.

An update will be given on the Ward Community Budget. A summary of grant applications submitted for consideration is attached.

12. 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, please contact

Hetha Copland (Neighbourhood Development Manager)
Phone Number: 0116 454 1837
Email: Hetha.Copland@leicester.gov.uk

or

Jason Tyler (Democratic Support Officer)
Phone Number: 0116 454 6359
Email Address: Jason.Tyler@leicester.gov.uk

Or

www.leicester.gov.uk/communitymeetings

Your Community, Your Voice

Record of Meeting and Actions

6:00 pm, Tuesday, 18 February 2014

Held at: Tudor Centre, Bewcastle Grove, Leicester LE4 2JU

Who was there:

Councillor Harshad Bhavsar
Councillor Annette Byrne
Councillor Vijay Singh Riyait

35. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillor Byrne was elected Chair for the meeting.

36. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

38. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

that the Minutes of the Abbey Ward Community Meeting held on 26 November 2013 be confirmed as a correct record.

39. BUS PINCH POINTS

Mark Korczak and Steve Warwick (Transport Strategy and Programmes) presented details of the Council's consultation concerning bus pinch points.

It was reported that funding had been made available in the 2014/15 financial year to improve identified pinch point locations. Pinch points were defined as:

“anything that prevents a bus from keeping its timetable, ranging from general congestion, parked vehicles, timing of traffic lights, to busy junctions”.

The maps of known problem sites were displayed with information concerning the collation of data received as part of the process.

The suggested methodology to prioritise identified sites was explained, together with the assessment criteria involving frequency and severity scoring.

A provisional list of locations within the Ward, which had been identified from initial consultation including the Bus Users Panel, was discussed.

In reply to questions, the types of measures suggested to improve the problem locations including physical measures and increased lane enforcements were clarified. It was confirmed that the list could be influenced through the ongoing consultation and community representatives and residents were encouraged to submit their views to the Transport Strategy Team.

Mark and Steve were thanked for their presentation.

40. MOWMACRE HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Councillor Riyait reported on the school's intention to become an academy following an Ofsted report that defined the school as 'inadequate'. The majority of Governors had supported the move to become an academy to take the school out of 'special measures' following the inadequate report.

In response to questions Councillor Riyait confirmed that the main issues affecting the schools performance related to poor behaviour and poor attendance records, which had been exacerbated by the long-term absence of the Head teacher. As a recently appointed Community Governor, Councillor Riyait stated that he would be in an improved position to deal with any views on the schools performance in the future.

Norman Rochester commented on the experiences at Woodstock Primary School that had decided to stay in Local Authority control and had made significant improvements through increased involvement of the community in school activities.

41. POLICE UPDATE

Sgt Zakoscielny and PC Blount were in attendance to provide an update on the Police activities in the Ward. PC Blount reported on crime statistics in the ward over the previous three months.

It was reported that a recent operation had led to a reduction in burglaries, following the arrest and detention of a prominent offender.

A rise in theft from unattended vehicles was reported and that unsociable behaviour continued to be a concern. PC Blount encouraged community representatives and residents to report incidents, using the Crimestopper 101 number. The importance of regular reporting of incidents was expressed as this aided the Police in their prioritisation of activities.

A new Police Twitter account of the Ward had been launched "@LPAbbey" and posts to the account were encouraged.

In respect of the problems caused by large groups congregating in public areas, it was confirmed that unless an offence was being committed it was difficult for the police to disperse groups. It was clarified that loitering was not an offence and although residents found the groups to be intimidating, police powers to deal with the perceived problems did not exist.

In response to questions PC Blount reported on the problems concerning cycling on the footway and advised that this would be dealt with when seen, but that the Police were unlikely to commit specific resources to the issue. Clarification of the 'Sentinel' system to record anti-social behaviour was also provided.

Sgt Zakoscielny and PC Blount were thanked for their report.

42. CITY WARDENS UPDATE

Matt Davinson (City Warden) reported on his environmental and enforcement activities in the Ward.

Matt advised that reports of dog fouling and litter had reduced but that fly-tipping had increased. It was noted that many items were large single items left outside rental properties resulting from the vacation of premises by students. He confirmed that problems could be reported to him, or to Cleansing Services who would arrange for bulky items to be collected.

In response to questions concerning the statement that incidents of dog fouling had decreased, Matt confirmed that he could increase patrols and enforcement of dog fouling in the Kinley Road area and asked for specific times and descriptions of offenders to be sent to him.

Matt was thanked for his update.

43. HOUSING UPDATE

Ela Krychowska-Hall (Area Housing Manager) provided an update on Housing issues in the Ward.

It was reported that reports of anti-social behaviour had decreased overall, although one serious incident had occurred recently. Following liaison with police colleagues it was noted that the early intervention had prevented the problem from escalating.

It was reported that low complaints had been received in respect of housing repairs and that there were currently 23 void properties awaiting tenants.

Ela referred to the finance available for improvement schemes and to the ongoing consultation through the various TARAs. Following the consultative process improvements had been proposed, including the resurfacing to walkways and paths which had been well received by tenants.

The list of projects for 2014/15 was being populated and would include works to the Thurstaston Road courtyards which had been in a poor state for some years and required refurbishment and repair. It was noted that this may involve laying a rubberised paving area surface to the courtyard areas.

In response to questions Ela clarified the way in which reports, including problems of damp intrusion were dealt with by the inspection teams.

Ela was thanked for her update.

44. WARD COMMUNITY BUDGET

The Member Support Officer presented the latest position with regard to the Abbey Ward Community meeting budget.

A) It was reported that the following applications had been approved under the Fast-Track procedure since the previous meeting:

Application 1 (1325)

Applicant: Friends of Mowmacre

Amount: £500

Proposal: Fare Share Food Bank

Application 2 (1327)

Applicant: Little Tykes Parent and Tots Group

Amount: £500

Proposal: Toys and Craft Supplies for Group

Application 3 (1328)

Applicant: Mowmacre Bowls Club

Amount: £500

Proposal: Coach Trip to Bowls Festival at Skegness

Application 4 (0004) - Joint Bid

Applicant: Shree Sanatan Mandir

Amount: £500

Proposal: Holi Celebration on Cossington Park

Application 5 (1332)

Applicant: Mowmacre Young People's Play and Development Association

Amount: £490.80

Proposal: Half Term Playscheme

B) The following applications were received for consideration and were determined as indicated:

Application 6 (1326)

Applicant: Mowmacre Hill Primary School

Amount: £5400

Proposal: Mowmacre Hill SPARK Festival

AGREED:

that the application be supported in the sum of £2,700.

Application 7 (1329)

Applicant: Mowmacre Event Planning Partnership

Amount: £1,000

Proposal: Mowmacre Bonfire Event

AGREED:

that the application be supported in the sum of £1,000.

Application 8 (1331)

Applicant: Guru Nanak Community Centre

Amount: £1,200

Proposal: 40 Chairs for use in the Community Centre

AGREED:

that the application be declined but that the applicant be offered chairs surplus to the Council's requirements arising from the review of Community Centres.

Application 9

Applicant: Friends of Mowmacre

Amount: £700

Proposal: Fare Share Food Bank – Annual Membership

Mrs Jackie Marriott was invited to address the meeting concerning the future development of the food bank and a proposal to improve delivery methods to Fare Share.

Further to the fast-track approval of £500 as detailed above (Application 1), Mrs Marriott reported on the proposed annual membership of Fare Share which would ensure regular deliveries, subject to a membership fee being paid.

The principles of the Fare Share Food Bank were discussed and community representatives and the Police representatives present confirmed their support to the scheme. Suggestions to incorporate lunch clubs and cooking classes were reported and those proposed developments were encouraged. It was also reported that the Fare Share Distribution Centre at Narborough had recently been visited by Councillors, Officers and representatives of the Friends of Mowmacre.

The invoice for the annual membership had been received and details were reported to the meeting. It was reported that the membership fee of £700 required the approval of Councillors at the Ward meeting and that the necessary formal application form would ensue.

AGREED:

that the proposal be supported in principle in the sum of £700 subject to the completion of a satisfactory application.

C) It was reported that the following application had been declined since the previous meeting, but that Officers and Councillors were offering support to the applicant through separate sources:

Application 10 (1330)

Applicant: Mowmacre Tenants and Residents Association

Amount: £120

Proposal: 3 Office Chairs

D) Evaluation Forms

It was reported that a form had been received from Mrs Shorten following approval of her application for the reimbursement of taxi fares.

It was also reported that a letter of thanks had been received from Mr Goddard of the Belgrave Rugby Club following the recent grant of Ward funding.

45. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A) HALIFAX DRIVE CROSSING

It was requested that the feasibility of a pedestrian crossing be investigated at the top of Halifax Drive.

It was reported that the area was to be made a 20mph scheme which would involve traffic calming measures.

Councillors agreed to pursue the installation of a crossing as an addition to the agreed works.

46. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 7.20 pm.

COMMUNITY MEETING BUDGET

Budget Carried forward from 2013/14: £

Budget Allocation 2014/15: £ 18,000.00

Total Budget Allocation April 2014 - March 2015: £ 18,000.00

Balance Remaining to carry forward (Funding Amount Agreed): £ 18,000.00

Balance remaining to carry forward (Funding amount requested):

14,500.00

								Funding Bid Totals:		3500	0
Bid No.	Type of Bid	Date bid received	Organisation / Applicant Name	Project Name	Project Summary	Application Review Summary	Funding Amount Requested	Bid Supported? Yes / No / Defer	Funding Amount Agreed/Approved		
5008	Joint	8th May 14	Leicester city ladies junior football club	Girls football in the local community	To promote and deliver coaching sessions in the local community	Look at alternative funding and speak to Sports development officer	£1,500.00				
1033	Individual	3rd May 14	Friends of Belgrave Cemetery	Remembering our war dead	As part of 2014 World war comemrations the group wish to expand the range of activities and events that currently take place.	Look at borrowing equipment from arts and festivals department	£2,000.00				

