# Braunstone Park & Rowley Fields Community Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, 13 January 2015

TIME: 5:00 pm

PLACE: Cort Crescent Community Centre,

Cort Crescent, Leicester LE3 1QJ

## **Ward Councillors**

Councillor Michael Cooke Councillor Anne Glover Councillor Wayne Naylor



#### **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.

#### **Braille / Audio tape / Translation**

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

**Filming and Recording the Meeting -** 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. In accordance with government regulations and the Council's policy, persons and press attending any meeting of the Council open to the public (except Licensing Sub Committees and where the public have been formally excluded) are allowed to record and/or report all or part of that meeting. Details of the Council's policy are available at <a href="www.leicester.gov.uk">www.leicester.gov.uk</a> or from democratic Support.

If you intend to film or make an audio recording of a meeting you are asked to notify the relevant Democratic Support Officer in advance of the meeting to ensure that participants can be notified in advance and consideration given to practicalities such as allocating appropriate space in the public gallery etc.

The aim of the Regulations and of the Council's policy is to encourage public interest and engagement so in recording or reporting on proceedings members of the public 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 and intrusive lighting avoided;

- ✓ 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.

#### **AGENDA**

#### 1. INTRODUCTIONS

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

#### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

#### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

#### 4. ACTION LOG OF LAST MEETING

Appendix A

The Action Log for the last meeting held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2014 is attached and Members are asked to confirm it as an accurate record.

Any update on actions taken since the last meeting will be reported at the meeting.

# 5. LEICESTER'S NEW LOCAL PLAN - ISSUES AND OPTIONS PUBLIC CONSULTATION

A Senior Planner in the Planning, Transportation and Economic Development Department will provide information and a presentation on the Local Plan, its issues and options and the public consultation.

#### 6. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT SPENDING REVIEW

Ellen Watts, Area Manager, Housing, will provide a briefing on the Housing Revenue Account spending review.

#### 7. POLICE ISSUES UPDATE

Leicestershire Police will be at the meeting to provide an update on police issues in the Ward including a specific update on anti-social behaviour.

#### 8. CITY WARDEN

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

#### 9. WARD MEMBER FEEDBACK

Ward Councillors will provide an update and feedback on local ward issues as follows:

- a) Braunstone Hall
- b) TNS Adventure Playground
- c) Polling Districts
- d) Get Growing Campaign
- e) Community Trigger Louise Lovell

#### 10. WARD COMMUNITY BUDGET

**Appendix B** 

Councillors are reminded that under the Council's Code of Conduct they should 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 since the last meeting is attached.

Previous applicants of supported bids in the Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields Ward will be invited to give feedback or a presentation of achievement.

#### 11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

#### 12. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

To note that the next meeting will be held on:-

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 5.00pm at Christ Church URC, Dumbleton Avenue, Rowley Fields, Leicester. LE3 2EG

#### Help us to make improvements!

Please help us to improve Community Meetings by filling in an **Evaluation sheet** (copy attached) to let us know what you thought of the meeting. Thank you.

### For further information, please contact

Mike Broad

Neighbourhood Development Manager

Phone Number: 0116 454 1836

Email Address: Michael.Broad@leicester.gov.uk

Or

Anita Popper

Democratic Support Officer Phone Number: 0116 454 6358 Email Address: Anita.Popper@leicester.gov.uk

www.leicester.gov.uk/communitymeetings

# Appendix A

# BRAUNSTONE PARK & ROWLEY FIELDS COMMUNITY MEETING WEDNESDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2014

The Brite Centre, 130 Braunstone Avenue, Leicester LE3 1LE

NO	<u>ITEM</u>	ACTION REQUESTED AT MEETING		
15.	INTRODUCTIONS	The Chair, Councillor Cooke welcomed everyone to the meeting and led introductions.		
16.	ONE MINUTE REFLECTION	The Chair led the meeting in a moment of reflection to mark the death of Alan Chapman who was well known in the local community and died recently at the age of 90 years.		
17.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Apologies for absence were received from Rev Chris Burch.		
18.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	Councillor Naylor declared an Other Disclosable Interest in the ward bids as a member of Streetvibe. Councillor Glover declared an Other Disclosable Interest in the ward bids as Chair of Streetvibe.  Both councillors indicated they would not take part in consideration of any application from Streetvibe.		
19.	ACTION LOG OF LAST MEETING	The action log of the last meeting on 5 <sup>th</sup> August 2014 had been circulated and was confirmed as a correct record.		
20.	YOUTH COUNCIL INTRODUCTION	Representatives' Gurpreet Singh and Georgina Paget addressed the meeting and gave a brief outline of their role within the Youth Council and some of the activities undertaken which included visits to hot spots to identify areas in need of improvement and a youth culture summit at De Montfort Hall that taught young people about different cultures, food and flags.		
21.	BRAUNSTONE HALL PLANNING APPLICATION	Katy Redford, Planning Officer, gave an update on plans to develop the Braunstone Hall into a hotel and wedding venue. Copies of the Plans were on display for residents to consider. The planning application included plans to extend the building with a new entrance and reception linking to the kitchen block and proposed car parking. In addition there were plans for a café that would be open to the public and not a part of the main venue.		

The planning application was due for a decision in mid-December. The meeting were informed that anyone could comment on the plans in writing and details were on site notices posted around the site and also on the website.

Katy Redford agreed to leave copies of the plans but advised that these were not the final maps. Katy Redford also agreed to try and get maps on a clear transparency that could be overlaid to show a clearer correlation of paths etc. to existing features. The Chair agreed that if necessary the transparency maps could be funded through the community budget. The ensuing discussion included the following comments:

- the historic features would remain. It was a listed building and a lot of the features, fireplaces, doors etc. were better preserved than would be thought from the outside view.
- A survey had been done relating to Bats and further work on the ecology needed to be done. There was protection for bats and they would have to look at mitigation for that and proper licences would be applied for.
- In relation to fencing, at the rear of the hall was an historic ha-ha which was a recessed element that created a vertical barrier and the plan was to reinstate that to its proper condition to create a natural barrier while preserving the view.
- There would be provisions to deal with issues of waste coming from the venue and under the Planning Act there was legislation that could be used to ensure that was within the plans.
- There were 13 weeks within which to determine the planning application but with the complexities of this application it was likely that a request to extend the time would be sort due to other reports such as energy and ecology.

The Chair invited residents to raise any concerns or comments on the planning application and informed residents that the ward councillors had visited the site and compiled a list of some issues they would like answers to which would be appended to the action log.

# 22. BRAUNSTONE FISHING CLUB

Elaine Halford gave an update on the Braunstone Fishing Club, the club started in July and now had 30 members and was looking to encourage younger

		people to join to educate them about environmental issues and it was hoped that a junior club would start next year		
		There had been a number of clean up days including one today which were well attended and had helped to clean the paths, brook and lakes. The club was working with the council and the environment agency to improve the lakes. It was reported that the duck population was affected by botulism over the summer but the duck numbers were now coming back.		
		Anita Robinson, Parks Services explained that an application for signage funding had been made from the community budget. Parks Services were also getting people from the club trained to coach youngsters and there were plans to visit local schools and scouts to educate youngsters as they come up.		
		Elaine Halford said that all were welcome to become a member of club.		
23.	POLICE ISSUES UPDATE	The meeting received an update on Policing issues in the Ward. There had been a recent spike in theft of motor vehicles and operations would be in force over the next 2 weeks. The police had visited local schools giving Halloween talks and raising awareness.  Leaflets were being distributed to warn residents about bins being set on fire especially in the run up to Bonfire night.		
		It was noted that there was still an issue with motor bikes on parks and the police continued to try and address this issue.		
24.	CITY WARDEN UPDATE	Noel Cazeley, City Warden gave an update on progress made in the area since the last meeting and distributed information leaflets to those present.		
		<ul> <li>Fly-tipping remained the biggest issue especially at Bring Sites at Avery Hill/Brite Centre, residents asked to report any incidents they see to police. It was noted that City Cleansing were doing a tremendous job and clearing the sites as quickly as possible.</li> <li>The City warden agreed to visit the owners of the takeaway opposite the school to address issues of rubbish.</li> <li>Bonfire Night: residents encouraged to report any issues straight away.</li> </ul>		

	Γ	
25.	WARD MEMBER	Anita Robinson, Parks Services informed the meeting that between Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> and Weds 5 <sup>th</sup> November, the council would be sending out teams to remove any fires being compiled on green spaces and asked residents to please report to council any they saw.  Councillor Cooke reported that:
	FEEDBACK	<ul> <li>the council had established a group to look at pavement parking issues, there had been some improvements in the area including Hockley Farm Rd which now had parking bays, also better hard standings in other areas such as Braunstone Lane and Hand Avenue.</li> <li>There were plans to tackle issues with people parking cars outside school gates.</li> <li>There had been regular park clean ups in Braunstone with volunteers including 49 gas board workers who attended recently and did £5000 worth of work.</li> <li>There had been other improvements to verges and the tunnels on the ring road had been cleaned up. Bollards had been introduced on Sweetbriar Road to stop vehicles blocking access.</li> <li>Gulley works were due to be done, the worst on Imperial Avenue needed to be dug out and replaced.</li> <li>Housing also had a fund for environmental works and there had been quite a big spend in Braunstone providing external cladding on some houses to reduce heat loss, work on maintenance to soffits and roofs on bungalows. There was an ongoing programme of conversion of small 3 bedroom houses to 2 bedroom houses with upstairs bathroom and kitchen study downstairs.</li> <li>Eco fencing in Avery Hill area proposed.</li> <li>Flooding relief — big programme around the city ongoing.</li> <li>Councillor Glover informed the meeting that there was still discretionary funding available to those waiting to downsize to assist in shortfalls caused by the bedroom tax.</li> </ul>
26.	WARD COMMUNITY	Noted that the total approved expenditure on grants
	BUDGET	so far this year for the Ward was £12,178.13 which left a balance of £6,346.64 for future applications

including those for consideration at this meeting.

The following applications had been considered:

#### Grants "Fast Tracked" since the last meeting

Braunstone Fishing Club Signage (1209)
 Application for £485 – Grant of £485 supported for Anita Robinson

#### Applications considered at the meeting

- Braunstone Health Day (1168) Application for £1485. Grant of £1485 supported for Sara Parkin. Applicant invited to submit additional bid if further funding necessary to take account of promotion costs and possible provision of transport for those at opposite end of ward.
- Community Christmas Tree Festival (1216) Application for £350. Grant of £350 supported for Mrs Susan Hulatt.
- Braunstone Residents Network Committee (????) Application for £500. Grant of £500 supported to Geoffrey Stagg.
- CTC National Cycling Charity (1218) Application for £430. Grant of £430 supported for Elizabeth Bourner.
- Braunstone Alert Advertising (1215) Application for £756. Grant of £756 supported for Anne Short

It was noted there was now a balance remaining of £2340.64

## 27. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Councillor Cooke referred to dates of future meetings and due to elections next year it was agreed with Councillor Glover and Councillor Naylor to amend the programme of meetings, so that there will be 2 meetings between now and end March 2015 as follows:

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 5pm – venue to be confirmed
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 5pm – venue to be confirmed

Note: Meetings on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2014 and 17<sup>th</sup> February 2015 were cancelled.

28.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	Westcotes Park benches, there were new benches available and waiting for installation. Councillor Cooke agreed to contact an officer to progress that.
		Skate Park update, it was noted this project had progressed slowly but it was an expensive job and there was a lot of infrastructure to go in.
		Anita Robinson, Parks Services advised that the toilet block on Braunstone Park was currently closed due to vandalism. It was hopeful that towards end of financial year there would be enough money to have the facilities reopened
		"Be Inspired" Website – residents network now up and looking to have regular people updating it. It was agreed that the website would be demonstrated at the next meeting
		Anita Robinson, Parks Service informed that the History club would be doing an open session on 25 November from 10am to 12.30pm at the Stable Block Museum, there would be 3 rooms of exhibits and a talk scheduled from 11am to 12noon on Braunstone Park's use as a military camp during World War I.
		There had been a donation of tables and chairs to the History club from the Asda store at Fosse Park and the community room was also being painted in spring funded by Asda.
		The meeting closed at 6.55pm.

# Minute Item 21

#### **Appendix: Braunstone Hall Notes:**

- Access problems to site, proposal is via Hinckley Rd and presents some traffic issues, think clarity needed,
- Barriers at both Hinckley Rd and Gooding Ave access to prevent certain people accessing, those also have potential to cause more problems,
- People and vehicles, park is a place where people live and enjoy and potential problem of more vehicles coming into the area,
- Access via Gooding Ave, larger vehicles coming in that way and need to traffic manage as that is a public park. As a wedding venue there was possibility of buses/coaches on site and an issue where to park etc.
- Land adjacent, proposals to provide access through there and potential
  to cause impact on residents using the stable areas, the area is very
  much used now, parking there would be an issue and tightness of land
  difficult to turn cars in,
- Access to gardens wouldn't want residents barred from accessing gardens,
- Fence around building to address security issues clarity required as to how this would look.
- Clarify the number of car park spaces

	Committed Spen			d £16,184.13	
				Balance remaining	
Bid No.	Type of Bid	Date bid received	Organisation / Applicant Name	Project Name	Funding Amount Requested
1240	Individual	19/11/2014	Anita Robinson	Bench Installation – Westcotes Park	£700
	Individual	6/1/2015	Paul Howgill	Green Border Installation	£800
<u>1269</u>	Individual	29/12/2014	Louise Lovell	Skatepark lighting	£1000
<u>5066</u>	Joint – with Spinney & Beaumont Leys	8/12/2014	Leicester Zimbabwean Community Project	2015 Community Get together	£500