

# **Fosse Community Meeting**

**DATE:** Thursday, 4 January 2018

**TIME:** 6:00 pm

**PLACE:** Fosse Library, Mantle Road,  
Leicester LE3 5HG

**YOUR community. YOUR voice.**

**Your Ward Councillors are:**

**Councillor Dawn Alfonso**

**Councillor Ted Cassidy MBE**

## 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. INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

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

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

## **2. ACTION LOGS**

**Appendices A+B**

Action Logs of the meetings held on 20 July 2017 and the two sessions of the Special meeting held on 2 November 2017 are attached for information and discussion.

## **3. WATERSIDE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

There will be an update on the Waterside Regeneration Project.

## **4. HIGHWAYS UPDATE**

There will be an update on highways issues in the Ward.

## **5. NEW SCHOOL UPDATE**

There will be an update on the progress of the New Primary School in the Ward.

## **6. CITY WARDEN**

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

## **7. POLICE ISSUES UPDATE**

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

## **8. WARD COMMUNITY BUDGET**

The summary of the Community Budget will be provided.

## **9. 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**

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

Or

[www.leicester.gov.uk/communitymeetings](http://www.leicester.gov.uk/communitymeetings)

# Appendix A

## FOSSE COMMUNITY MEETING

THURSDAY, 20 JULY 2017

Woodgate Resource Centre, 36 Woodgate, Leicester LE3 5GE

Councillors Present:

Councillor Alfonso (Chair)

Councillor Cassidy

<b>NO</b>	<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>ACTION REQUESTED AT MEETING</u></b>
1.	<b>INTRODUCTIONS &amp; APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	<p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the Fosse Community Meeting and introductions were given.</p> <p>An apology for absence was received from Charlotte Glover, the City Warden.</p> <p>Councillor Cassidy declared an interest in respect of item 4, Primary School proposal, Fosse Road North, in that he was Chair of the Planning and Development Control Committee. He said that he could not get involved in planning issues as he needed to retain an open mind and not have a predetermined view if / when the application came to committee. He would remain in the meeting whilst the proposal was being explained and would withdraw from the meeting if any planning issues were discussed.</p>
2.	<b>ACTION LOG</b>	<p>The Action Log from the previous meeting held 23 March 2017 was agreed and noted.</p>
3.	<b>WATERSIDE UPDATE</b>	<p>There was no officer available to provide an update on the Waterside Regeneration Project.</p>
4.	<b>PRIMARY SCHOOL PROPOSAL - FOSSE ROAD NORTH</b>	<p>Rob Thomas, Head of Education Sufficiency and Admissions at Leicester City Council presented an update on the proposal for a new primary school on Fosse Road North. The meeting was asked to note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The regeneration in the area would result in additional houses, more families and children. Fosse Primary and Slater Street Primary Schools were already full with a combined capacity for about 600 children.</li><li>• An advanced planning application had been submitted for a new school with 900 places; this would replace both Slater Street and Fosse Primary Schools.</li><li>• A large site was needed for the new school. Officers had looked at and assessed a number of</li></ul>

sites; this particular site was the preferred option.

- The advanced planning application had been submitted early because there were badgers on site and a licence would be needed in order to move them. Badgers could only be moved in the Autumn.
- Subject to the advanced planning application being approved, a consultation would be carried out in the Autumn Term.
- No decisions had been made yet.
- The plan was for the new school to be opened in September 2019.
- The proposed new school would have five forms of entry in each year group which would create an additional 45 places in each year group.
- Additional places were being created in other primary schools as well.
- Any child in either of the two existing schools would be guaranteed a place in the new school.
- For every 100 new houses, the approved formula based on census information, was that there would be 28 primary school children.
- There were proposals to retain the existing Fosse school to make it into a provision for early years and the new 30 hours child care for working families. There would also be an improved sports hall which would be open to the public.
- Slater Street, as a listed building would be removed from the Education Portfolio.
- If the planning application was approved, the new school with 900 places would be the largest primary school in Leicester, but not nationally.
- Schools were generally funded per pupil and smaller schools like Slater Street Primary, with just 23 children per year group were not able to afford some of the enhancements (such as peripatetic teachers) that larger schools had.

Members of the community raised a number of comments and queries including the following:

- With 900 places, the school would be too big
- There would still be insufficient places to meet demand.
- Concerns expressed about the loss of green space; the new school should be built in a nearby brown field site.
- Concerns expressed about traffic and access and egress to the site.

- A member of the community commented that the City Mayor had said that he wanted to make the Riverside a thriving community, but the area already had a thriving neighbourhood with the Woodgate Residents Association, Woodgate Resource Centre, Woodgate Adventure Playground, Groby Road Allotments, Epworth Church and All Nations Church both of which did very good community work.

**Councillor Cassidy withdrew from the meeting at this point.**

The following questions and comments were raised. The Chair asked for these to be submitted to the Planning Service. **Action: Democratic Support Officer**

- If the new school was built, how much traffic would be generated on Groby Road, particularly at the start and end of the school day?
- What would the view be from the front of the houses on Groby Road?
- Concerns were expressed about traffic on Fosse Road North and the safety of children with the proposed school built close to the main road. It was not a good idea to have a school built on a main road.
- Further concerns expressed about the numbers of cars stopping outside the entrance.
- There were only 70 spaces for staff to park; there was no parking provision for parent/carers, so people would park on the main road.
- Concerns were expressed about access and egress to the school.
- With 900 pupils at the school there could potentially be 900 cars and nothing had been said as to how the roads would cope with the extra traffic at drop-off and collection time.
- The site was not a suitable location for the school.
- The school should not be built on green space; the closure of the cycle path would be a loss and would close up a walking route for people. The green space captured the potential to flood.
- The adventure playground and Woodgate Resource Centre, where 120 young people received music tuition were facing funding cuts. It was questioned why the council could not protect those two voluntary organisations; there were more

		<p>children coming into the area and new houses would result in more council tax being paid.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was believed that there was a protected covenant on the site which prevented the land from being built on.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair drew the discussion to a close. Attendees were asked to note that there would be a further meeting to discuss the proposals on 2 November 2017.</p> <p><b>Councillor Cassidy returned to the meeting at the conclusion of this item of business.</b></p>
5.	<b>POLICE ISSUES UPDATE</b>	<p>The Chair agreed to bring forward this item, as the Police Officer needed to leave the meeting. He explained that he was not a regular on this particular beat and was not aware of any issues. He arranged to meet people on an individual basis outside of the meeting if they had any particular issues to raise.</p>
6.	<b>HIGHWAYS ISSUES</b>	<p>John Dowson, Team Leader, Sustainable Transport provided an update on local highway issues. Points made included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He was not in a position to comment on the proposals for the new school because the application had not yet been brought to the Highways Department. Officers would respond appropriately on any scheme they considered to be unsafe.</li> <li>• The North West Transport Project had received £20m funding from the Government.</li> <li>• Highways officers considered the growth that would occur over the next 20 years; taking into account any plans for regeneration.</li> <li>• Traffic problems around the Five Ways junction were acknowledged; it had the worst accident rate for a city junction and officers were looking at options for improvement.</li> <li>• There was a considerable amount of traffic going through Woodgate on route to other areas and it was hoped that by creating a more attractive alternative route, traffic could be encouraged to use the A6 to Anstey Lane. .</li> </ul> <p>Comments received from members of the community included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns were expressed about potential accidents on Groby Road, with two lanes of traffic</li> </ul>



each way and vehicles turning right (for example into Medina Road). There were also concerns about the impact on Brading Road.

- There were existing traffic issues on Anstey Lane, particularly at the start and end of the school day and concerns were expressed that the situation would deteriorate further.
- With the ongoing regeneration, there would be even more traffic in the general area.
- Concerns were expressed about HGVs servicing Tesco. John explained that officers studied supermarket data to show the levels of traffic that might be expected and that methodology had been used for the Waterside regeneration.
- A pedestrian crossing was needed on the A6 to help people cross the road to Abbey Park; it was currently extremely difficult for pedestrians, especially for those with children for example.
- Concerns were expressed about parking at the Groby Road Health Centre.
- A different layout for parking had been requested at the Buckminster Road shops. John responded that there would not be a slip road under the current proposals, but there would be a delivery space. The Chair stated that she had asked for parking outside the shops to be time limited, to prevent people parking there all day. She asked Highways Officers to visit the site to observe the situation for themselves.
- A request was made for a residents' parking scheme, as the parking situation would become even more problematical with the new houses and flats being built. Additional comments were made that people parked in Woodgate when visiting the Highcross and the city centre. John explained that there were residents' parking schemes in the city; a consultation exercise would be necessary before any new scheme could be agreed. He was aware that the possibility of a residents' parking scheme had been raised before. Councillor Cassidy suggested that residents may wish to submit a petition asking the Council to carry out a survey.

Councillor Cassidy asked that the request for a residents' parking scheme be raised as an action from the meeting. **Action** Community Engagement Officer / Highways Officer.

- An attendee asked whether any progress had been made relating to speed measures on Darlington

		<p>Road and Stokes Drive. Councillors explained that these roads were part of the Beaumont Leys ward but the query would be forwarded on. <b>Action:</b> Community Engagement Officer.</p> <p>The Chair drew the discussion to a close and asked John to look into the issues raised.</p>
7.	<b>CITY WARDEN</b>	In the absence of the City Warden, a written update was circulated to attendees.
8.	<b>WARD COMMUNITY BUDGET - APPLICATION PROCEDURES (Pages 7 - 8)</b>	Due to time constraints there was no discussion on this item.
9.	<b>WARD COMMUNITY BUDGET - UPDATE (Pages 9 - 10)</b>	<p>Anita Clark, the Community Engagement Officer presented an update on the community meeting budget. At the start of the new financial year the opening balance in the budget was £19510. Nine applications had been submitted and funding to a total of £2580 had been approved, which left a balance of £16930.</p> <p>People who were running a community group or activity were invited to apply for ward funding; these applications needed to be submitted by 31 March 2018. For further information, people should contact Anita Clarke on 0116 454 6576</p>
10.	<b>CLOSE OF MEETING</b>	The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

# Appendix B

## FOSSE COMMUNITY MEETING

THURSDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2017

Held at: Woodgate Resource Centre, 36 Woodgate, Leicester LE3 5GE

### ACTION LOG

Present:

Councillor Alfonso  
Councillor Cassidy

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION REQUESTED AT MEETING</u>
11.	<b>INTRODUCTIONS &amp; APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	<p>Councillor Cassidy welcomed those present.</p> <p>It was noted that the meeting was to be held in two separate sessions.</p> <p>One session commenced at 11.30am and a further session commenced at 6.00pm.</p> <p>Prior to each session, the Chair read the following statement:</p> <p><i>“Welcome to this ward community meeting which has been called to enable members of the community hear and make comments on the plans for the school. We have classed it as a special ward community meeting with a formal agenda published a few days ago to ensure that we have a formal record of the comments made which will be published on the Internet in the usual way for Community Meetings.</i></p> <p><i>In order to allow the widest possible participation following our consideration this morning the meeting will be adjourned and the same business considered again at 6pm this afternoon.</i></p> <p><i>The action note prepared following the meeting will reflect both sessions. Therefore whilst you are welcome to there is no requirement to attend both sessions.”</i></p> <p>Councillor Alfonso submitted an apology for absence for the second session as she had to attend other Council business.</p>

<p>12.</p>	<p><b>WATERSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL</b></p>	<p><u>Waterside Primary School</u></p> <p>Rob Thomas (Head of Education Sufficiency &amp; Admissions) provided the following information and answered questions from those present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning permission had been approved for the new school, and procurement of initial site clearance works had commenced;</li> <li>• Discussion had taken place regarding the new school with Fosse and Slater Street schools, head teachers and governing bodies. Following a statutory consultation period of six weeks, a formal decision notice had been published;</li> <li>• Design booklets showing detailed site plans, the proposed layout and size of classrooms and outdoor learning and play spaces were circulated for information.</li> <li>• One school (Slater Street) would close and have its school legal status removed, the other (Fosse) would expand in size. The new site would see the coming together of the two schools;</li> <li>• Parents would see children from both schools relocating with teaching and admin staff into the larger building;</li> <li>• The current Fosse primary school would be remodelled to provide early years provision for nursery and first year reception (F2), and 3-4+ years as a statutory provision. In addition there would be early wrap-around care for 0-3s in co-location with the school staff. It was confirmed that the Portakabin would be removed.</li> <li>• Both schools' reception class would have to temporarily go into the new school for a year while developing the Fosse site for early years and nursery, then they would move back for the following September.</li> <li>• The community hall at the back of Fosse School would remain accessible;</li> <li>• The main new school would house years 1-6;</li> <li>• The new school opening was planned for September 2019; this would allow for suitable modern facilities being provided with adequate spaces, together with growth space for future years;</li> <li>• Children currently attending Slater Street and Fosse Primary schools would have a place in the new school. If demand and the waiting list was significant, the with the school's agreement extra</li> </ul>
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		<p>classes could be added. The demographics of the area would be further considered following completion of the housing development. It was not expected that class sizes would exceed 30 pupils;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The modern school would also contain a hall, kitchen, studio hall, and areas which could be used for external hire by community groups;</li><li>• The £14million construction works were timetabled and feasible. Work would go out to tender through the framework contact. In early spring a 60 week construction period would commence, concluding in May 2019, to allow time for the fit out of furniture, ICT, books, etc. There would be a 1-2 day closure of the old school to allow teachers to transition across;</li><li>• A licence for badger removal had been granted by Nature England. After a statutory observation period and the set was being closed;</li><li>• A full environmental assessment had been undertaken. No other species that required special licences had been found, and there was no evidence in the area that bats or newts were present. Officers would take the concerns of residents back to the environmental consultant to confirm results of the survey;</li><li>• The school area design would include grass, and amphitheatre and wildlife areas;</li><li>• A governing body working group from both schools had been established to bring together to two schools' ethos and curriculum, to avoid issues for the integration of the children;</li><li>• The pre-school and after-school groups for working parents were expected to be run by a third-party provider;</li><li>• No decision had been made on the Slater Street building when closed. The community would have an opportunity to put forward ideas to the City Mayor on the use of the building. All ideas would be considered two years before the school moved out to enable continuous use. The City Mayor was aware of the need for protection for the building if not in use for a while, given the fires that had occurred in other buildings along Frog Island;</li><li>• With regards to the impact of houses on Swannington Road, it was stated the development would be nearer to the allotments than nearer to the homes;</li></ul>
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- The school would want to be good neighbours and work with communities. The school would encourage local residents to view the development before it opened;
- The head teacher at the new school would be one of the existing head teachers, following a competency interview process. All teachers in the existing schools would be needed and more. Permanent staff would be transferred, and there would be leadership and management opportunities;
- The new school would not have special needs facilities, but would have areas for one-to-one support, nurturing areas and reading spaces. It would be totally accessible as a building, with a lift for the children that needed it;
- Building security would form part of the contract with contractors. 8ft boards and vision panels would be installed during the development, and building lights installed. There would be opportunities for the children to view the development in progress (following site safety);
- It was expected that development would follow normal working hours and would form part of the planning consideration, there may be an emergency situation when development would have to take place outside of normal operating hours;
- Once developed, the whole site would be fenced for the safety and security of staff and children, and would be landscaped. Planning approval would be sought for the landscaping plan, which gave an indication of trees within the school boundary. It was suggested that the fencing around the school should not be visible from Stokewood Park and that 'green weldmesh' be used. It was confirmed that this suggestion concerning materials would be fed back to the developers.
- There had been no floodlighting proposed for the outdoor sports and play areas and if proposed at a later stage, a separate planning application process would be required.

In conclusion it was noted that engagement would continue with residents, but that this would not now be in respect of the location of the school, or site suitability, as the planning application process had concluded and consent was granted.

In response to questions and comments, the planning process was explained in detail, including the options of alternative sites that were considered prior to the application being submitted and the reasons that those options were not pursued.

#### Highways

Neal Edwards, Transport Strategy, provided the following information, and answered queries from residents:

- The Local Plan consultation would close on 30 November 2017;
- A chapter had been included to gain views on a proposed link road from St Nicholas Circle to Fosse Road/Tudor Road, to see if there was community support, or no support. The idea for the road had been in existence with other plans for approximately 40 years;
- Following consultation a draft Local Plan would be presented Spring/Summer 2018, which would also be subject to consultation;
- With regards to traffic relevant to the new school, the proposed planning application was to widen the footway outside of the location, widening further down the road, and a proposed narrowing of the road at Central Street / Bonchurch Street with a Pelican crossing at the junction. It was envisaged the crossing would benefit drivers wanting to turn right out of Bonchurch Street;
- There would be a 'School Keep Clear' area around the crossing point, and would have a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) enforced by a camera;
- The yellow box and Central Road and Bonchurch Street would remain and be revised to bring up to modern regulation standards;
- There would be a right-turn lane on Fosse Road into the staff car park, and plans of the proposed highways changes were contained on the planning application, but were open to some revisions throughout the process;
- There were no facilities for the drop off of children, and there was some highway safety merit in having insufficient capacity for parking to keep the school area clear and safe for the children, and encourage walking to the school;

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There would be a walking drop-off for parents inside the school;</li><li>• It was understood that 79% of children in the current schools (Slater Street / Fosse) walked to school, and it was hoped this figure would increase</li><li>• Works would take place before the Five-Ways junction amendments;</li></ul> <p>It was confirmed that issues previously reported concerning residents parking in the Ward had been considered for review, particularly with regard to the impact of the new school. It was reported that the City Mayor was aware of the situation and had begun discussions with the ward Councillors.</p> <p>The Chair noted the traffic issues in the area, which would be impacted by the school. He suggested further discussions should take place.</p> <p>He stated it was important that residents became involved in the consultations to influence the school project and wider Local Plan and transport schemes.</p>
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