

# **Castle Community Meeting**

**DATE:** Wednesday, 27 November 2019

**TIME:** 6:30 pm

**PLACE:** Quaker Meeting House, 16 Queen's  
Road, Leicester, LE2 1WP

**YOUR community. YOUR voice.**

**Your Ward Councillors are:**

**Councillor Patrick Kitterick  
Councillor Danny Myers  
Councillor Dr Deborah Sangster**

## **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**

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. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

## **3. ACTION LOG**

**Appendix A**

The Action Log of the meeting held on 25 July 2019 is attached for information and discussion.

## **4. WARD COUNCILLORS FEEDBACK**

Councillors will provide updates on issues and their recent activities in the Ward.

## **5. LOCAL POLICING UPDATE**

Representatives of Leicestershire Police will be present to provide an update on recent issues and activities in the Ward.

## **6. WYGGESTON AND QUEEN ELIZABETH I COLLEGE UPDATE**

A representative of the Wyggeston and Queen Elizabeth I College will be present to provide an update on developments at the College.

## **7. VICTORIA PARK UPDATE**

Parks Services will provide an update on the recent works affecting Victoria Park.

## **8. HIGHWAYS UPDATE**

Highways Officers will be present to provide an update on highways and transport issues in the Ward, including cycle lanes, the Clarendon Park West 20mph zone, and a London Road scheme update.

## 9. CITY WARDEN UPDATE

The City Warden will be present to provide an update on environmental and enforcement issues in the Ward.

## 10. CLIMATE EMERGENCY CONVERSATION

The Project Manager will be in attendance to give a presentation concerning the conversation on the Climate Change Emergency.

## 11. COMMUNITY MEETING BUDGET

The Community Engagement Officer will provide an update on the Ward Community budget.

## 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**

Punum Patel (Community Engagement Officer)  
Phone: 0116 454 6575  
Email: Punum.Patel@leicester.gov.uk

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

Or

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

# Appendix A

## CASTLE COMMUNITY MEETING

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

Held at: Holy Trinity Church, 2 Upper King Street, Leicester LE1 6XE

### ACTION LOG

Present:  
Councillor Kitterick  
Councillor Myers

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION REQUESTED AT MEETING</u>
1.	<b>INTRODUCTIONS</b>	<p>Councillor Myers (in the Chair) led introductions.</p> <p>There were no Declarations of Interest.</p>
2.	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	<p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Sangster and Harvey Roberts (City Warden).</p>
3.	<b>ACTION LOG</b>	<p>The Action Log of the meeting held on 26 February 2019 was confirmed as a correct record.</p> <p>It was reported that Crowdfund Leicester would be invited to make a presentation to a future meeting.</p> <p>Updates were noted in respect of the Draft Local Plan, the proposed Lancaster Road scheme, and ongoing works at Victoria Park arising from the London Road improvement scheme. It was suggested that the next meeting to be held on 27 November 2019 be dedicated to issues concerning Victoria Park, including proposals for the development and future café operation at the pavilion.</p>
4.	<b>WARD COUNCILLORS FEEDBACK</b>	<p>Councillors Kitterick and Myers referred to the ongoing progress of the London Road transport improvement scheme and its positive impact on Victoria Park.</p> <p>Various discussions had been held with interested groups concerning the future of the park in general, including enhancement of the wildlife area and the possibility of establishing a bandstand.</p> <p>The suggestion to submit updates at the next meeting, in order to provide more detailed information on proposals and issues concerning Victoria Park was welcomed.</p>

<p>5.</p>	<p><b>NEW WALK CONSERVATION AREA CONSULTATION</b></p>	<p>Justin Webber (Senior Building Conservation Officer) presented details of the Consultation Draft of the New Walk Conservation Area Appraisal Management Plan.</p> <p>The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Conservation Area was noted and the special character and architecture of the area was recognised. The boundary and extent of the Conservation Area was noted.</p> <p>Copies of initial thoughts and ideas for improvements to Museum Square, De Montford Square and The Oval were submitted for information. The suggestions to increase tree planting and establish wild flower meadow areas were particularly supported. Photographs showing other areas within the Conservation Area that had also been identified for suggested upgrades were also presented.</p> <p>In terms of specific initiatives, it was noted that discussions were ongoing with the Holy Cross Church concerning the current security meshing. It had been proposed that replacement mesh in keeping with the heritage of the site should be considered as a more appropriate solution.</p> <p>The initiative to replace railings was welcomed and it was confirmed that all existing railings would be retained, and where necessary improved.</p> <p>In respect of New Walk specifically, concern was expressed at the recent installation of blocks, intended to discourage cyclists. It was confirmed that the blocks were temporary measures, which would be removed once the London Road cycle scheme had been completed. It was also noted that the controversy arising from the installation of the blocks had led to press interest, which had increased the awareness of the issue.</p> <p>Further concerns were expressed due to maintenance and associated resurfacing works on New Walk. It was noted that the surface had become patchy with temporary tarmac repairs. In response it was reported that the resin bond surface treatment used could only be applied in certain weather conditions and that a number of temporary repairs would be tolerable awaiting full repair, due to economies of scale and the engagement of contractors.</p>
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		<p>In conclusion, it was reported that the consultation exercise would continue until 5 September 2019. The means of accessing materials and information on the consultation process were provided, at:</p> <p><a href="https://consultations.leicester.gov.uk/">https://consultations.leicester.gov.uk/</a></p> <p>Formal responses and comments were encouraged.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>LOCAL POLICING UPDATE</b></p>	<p>Insp Adam Archer (Police Commander for the City Centre) introduced himself to the meeting, and thanked Councillors and the public for his generous welcome in his new role. He referred to the outstanding contribution and progress made by his predecessor, Insp Manjit Atwal.</p> <p>Insp Archer submitted recent crime figures for the Ward and informed the meeting of the analyses of trends, which allowed for priorities to be identified.</p> <p>Particular areas of concern in the city centre involved regular and continued anti-social behaviour around the vicinity of the Clock Tower, the Haymarket Bus Station and the Market. Initiatives to challenge these behaviours and confirmation of recent arrests were also provided.</p> <p>A previously reported problem of cycle thefts was discussed and it was noted that the numbers of reported thefts was reducing. The enhanced education and liaison with cycling groups, together with the increased availability of affordable high security D-locks was recognised.</p> <p>Statistics concerning domestic burglaries, burglaries at locations other than dwellings, specific incidents in the Cultural Quarter, Clarendon Park, and the Freeman’s Common leisure site were also submitted and noted.</p> <p>In respect of the problems expected from the upcoming ‘Freshers’ events, the links to universities and enhanced liaison was confirmed. Issues concerning the policing of the forthcoming Caribbean Carnival were also reported and noted.</p> <p>In conclusion, the public were encouraged to use the 101 phone number to report crime, or to use crimestoppers.</p>

		<p>Insp Archer was thanked for his attendance and report.</p> <p>In discussing the issues raised, residents commented on problems frequently experienced when attempting to report crime and anti-social behaviour using the 101 number. It was noted that this often involved lengthy delays and on occasions unhelpful operators.</p> <p>In response Insp Archer agreed to refer the comments to colleagues and it was noted that reporting systems and methods were currently under review, including information and access to the police website.</p>
7.	<b>CITY WARDEN UPDATE</b>	<p>It was noted that the City Warden had submitted apologies. An update would be provided at the next meeting.</p>
8.	<b>PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE INCLUDING THE UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER</b>	<p>A written update was provided from the University of Leicester concerning the ongoing development works and was read by the Chair.</p> <p>Since the approval of planning permission for the development, a resident noted that reasons for refusal of separate later planning applications at other sites across the city had been given on the grounds of building height. It was considered that this apparent inconsistency should be challenged.</p> <p>It was reported that an unpublished Townscape Study had also been referred to in previous correspondence and the status of that study had been referred to the Council's Monitoring Officer. It was expected that the issues concerning the consistency of policies would be addressed during the ongoing process and consideration of the Draft Local Plan.</p> <p>It was not considered that a 'resolution' of the Ward meeting would be appropriate for this or any other matters, as the Ward Community Meetings were established to provide a consultative forum between Council members, officers and residents.</p> <p>It was considered preferable to maintain the informal nature of the meetings.</p> <p>The position and update was noted.</p>

<p><b>9.</b></p>	<p><b>CYCLE LANES UPDATE</b></p>	<p>Pravin Godhania (Project Manager) presented details of cycle schemes in the city centre, including the London Road scheme and proposed Lancaster Road scheme.</p> <p>It was noted that the London Road scheme had started and was progressing well with resurfacing works currently being undertaken. It was confirmed that the scheme had a completion date in September 2019.</p> <p>In terms of the Victoria Park section of the scheme the proposed routes and consideration of alternatives submitted by 'Friends of Victoria Park' and individuals were discussed. The difficulties in providing a cycleway on the carriageway 'out-bound' were expressed and consultation and reasons for the choice of route through the park were recognised and accepted.</p> <p>The behaviour of pedestrians and cyclists once the cycleway was in use remained an issue of contention. It was accepted that pedestrians often used the cycle lanes, and vice versa, and that conflicts at other previously implemented schemes had been witnessed regularly.</p> <p>It was reiterated that the next meeting would be dedicated to discussing this and other issues relating to Victoria park.</p> <p>The position and the update was noted.</p>
<p><b>10.</b></p>	<p><b>COMMUNITY MEETING BUDGET</b></p>	<p>The Chair referred to the availability of funds and reiterated previous comments that applications in the Castle Ward should show a specific benefit to the Ward and its residents, and not be related to an event or project held centrally for the wider benefit. The position concerning the determination of applications and allocation of the Ward Community Fund was noted and accepted</p> <p>The Community Engagement Officer provided an update on the Ward Community Budget.</p> <p>It was reported that Councillors were minded to approve four applications submitted within the period, as detailed below, with one other application being unsupported:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stoneygate Baptist Church – Improve heating in main hall £500.00</li> <li>• Jdearden Art – Shout Out Project £500.00</li> <li>• St Philips Centre – Interfaith Joke Spot £200.00</li> <li>• Leicester Progressive Jewish Congregation – Restoration of main hall flooring £350.00</li> </ul> <p>The balance remaining was confirmed at £16,450 and residents and community groups were invited to submit applications for funding.</p>
<b>11.</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	<p><u>Cashless Systems</u></p> <p>A resident expressed concern with the Council’s move towards cashless systems, making particular reference to elderly and other users of leisure facilities. It was felt that the policy would prohibit people from using and enjoying these much needed facilities, which were promoted to them by the Council on the basis of health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Other problems with accessing information on line were reported, including difficulties in accessing planning and licensing reports.</p> <p>The concerns were noted.</p>
<b>12.</b>	<b>CLOSE OF MEETING</b>	The meeting closed at 8.30pm.