

Your Community, Your Voice

Record of Meeting and Actions

2:00 pm, Monday, 24 September 2012

**Held at: THE ANTE ROOM - FIRST FLOOR, TOWN HALL,
TOWN HALL SQUARE, LEICESTER**

Councillors in Attendance

Councillor Luis Fonseca

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillor Fonseca was elected as Chair for the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Wann.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Fonseca declared an Other Disclosable Interest in respect of the Ward Community Budget as he was a member of the Thurnby Lodge Community Association.

In accordance with the Council's new Code of Conduct this interest was not considered so significant that it was likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest. The Member therefore was not required to withdraw from the meeting.

4. APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS APPROVED UNDER FAST TRACK PROCEDURES

a) Concrete Paths at Colchester Road Allotments

It was noted a visit had been made to the allotment site during a patch walk earlier in the year, when the condition of the paths had been seen.

The meeting was reminded that surplus grant funds from the 2011/12 financial year had been pledged towards projects and issues arising from the Thurncourt Ward Patchwalks in May 2012. This grant therefore would be made from this allocation.

NOTED:

That a grant of £500 had been approved under the Council's fast track procedure to the Rowlatts Hill Allotment Association to extend the laying of concrete paths in the Colchester Road allotment site.

b) Dream Academy of Dancing Performance at Her Majesty's Theatre, London

NOTED:

That a grant of £500 had been approved under the Council's fast track procedure to the Dream Academy of Dancing towards the cost of hiring a coach for a return trip to Her Majesty's Theatre, London where children from the Academy would be performing.

c) Purchase of Medium Duty Meat Slicer

NOTED:

That a grant of £300 had been approved under the Council's fast track procedure to Thurnby Lodge Lunch Club for the purchase of a medium duty meat slicer.

d) Jubilee Lunch

NOTED:

That a grant of £275 had been approved under the Council's fast track procedure to Thurnby Ladies Circle for a lunch in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

5. GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL

a) Grant Applications

i) Improvements to Ball Court

It was noted that the applicant had submitted three quotes for the proposed work, as required under the Council's financial procedures.

AGREED:

That a grant of £2,880 to Thurnby Lodge Community Forum for improvements to the ball court be supported.

ii) Raven Youth Centre Fencing

It was noted that the replacement fencing would be more robust than that currently at the Centre and would be similar to the green fencing already in place on the other side of the Centre. Quotes had been received for this and submitted with the application.

AGREED:

- 1) That a grant of £860 to Callie Buchanan for the repair and replacement of fencing at the side of the Raven Youth Centre be supported; and
- 2) That Callie Buchanan be asked to attend a future meeting to give feedback on how funding approved to the Raven Youth Centre had been used and impact it had had.

iii) Police Room Door

Trevor Taylor, Chairman of the Community Association, explained that it had been suggested that a door be installed as the Police needed some privacy while working at the Community Centre. This needed to be a fire door.

The Police had been approached for a contribution towards the cost of the door and had agreed to pay half. However, since the application had been submitted, the Police had indicated verbally that they could meet the whole cost.

AGREED:

- 1) That, subject to written confirmation being received from the Police about the proportion of this project they were able to fund, a grant of up to £600 to the Thurnby Lodge Community Association towards the purchase of a fire door for the Police room at Thurnby Lodge Youth and Community Centre be supported; and
- 2) That the grant referred to in 1) above should not be paid until the written confirmation requested has been received.

iv) Running A Local Youth Football Team in the Thurnby Lodge Area

The meeting was advised that the people playing in this team were mainly young people from Thurnby Lodge who were between 16 and 20 years old. Many of these found it difficult to pay the fees necessary to play in local leagues as some were still in education, some were in employment and some were not in either. Approximately 26 young people were signed up to this team.

AGREED:

That a grant of £490 to Mr Liam Ferrar towards the running of a youth football team in the Thurnby Lodge area be supported.

v) Jubilee Event

The Members Services Officer reported verbally that an application had been received from local residents in Thurnby Lodge for a grant towards an evening event to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. It was noted that, although this event had now been held, the application had been received beforehand.

AGREED:

That a grant of £600 to residents of Thurnby Lodge towards a Jubilee evening event be supported.

vi) Royal Horticultural Society Project

The meeting was reminded that details of this application had been circulated separately to the main agenda for this meeting.

It was noted that a grant had been given during 2011/12 towards the first phase of this project. The current request was for a grant for tools and equipment to be used in establishing a sustainable garden at Thurnby Lodge Youth and Community Centre that would provide produce for use at the Lunch Club. Match-funding would be provided by the Royal Horticultural Society.

Some concern was expressed that very little background information had been provided to this application and it was suggested that the applicant should be asked to provide more detail with any other applications submitted.

AGREED:

- 1) That a grant of £500 to Allan Gratrix towards developing the Royal Horticultural Society Project at Thurnby Lodge Youth and Community Centre be supported; and
- 2) That the Members Support Officer ask the applicant to provide more background information in any future grant applications to help the Councillors determine the applications and members of the public see what is being proposed.

b) Budget Update

The Members Support Officer tabled an update on the Thurncourt Ward Meeting Budget, a copy of which is attached at the end of these minutes for information.

It was noted that this did not include the grant approved towards developing the Royal Horticultural Society Project, (see above). In addition, if the grant approved towards the door of the Police room at Thurnby Lodge Youth and Community Centre was not needed, (see above), the balance would increase by £600.

6. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

a) Driver for Thurnby Lodge Tenants and Residents Association Minibus

Representatives of Thurnby Lodge Tenants and Residents Association reminded the meeting that they had previously been given a grant to enable two people to be trained to drive the Association's minibus. One person had been trained, but despite extensive advertising, it had not been possible to find a second driver.

It was suggested that organisations such as Voluntary Action LeicesterShire could be able to help find a volunteer for this.

b) Changes in Officers at Thurnby Lodge Community Association

It was noted that Trevor Taylor had resigned as Chairman of the Community Association and Allan Gratrix had resigned as Treasurer.

c) Thurnby Lodge Carnival

The meeting was reminded that the Thurnby Lodge Carnival had been cancelled, due to bad weather over the summer. A grant of £3,000 had been approved from the Ward Community Budget towards the Carnival, but it was not known at present how much of this grant had been used.

AGREED:

That the Members Services Officer be asked to:-

- a) establish how much, if any, of the grant approved towards the Thurnby Lodge Carnival has been used; and
- b) if any grant remains, recover the unused portion.

7. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 2.35 pm

Thurncourt Ward Meeting Budget as of 24 September 2012

	Ward Community Fund	Notes
Committed Funds from 2011/12		
Priorities identified via patchwalks	£5,485	
- Colchester Road Allotments – Concrete Paths	£500	
- Improvements to Ball Court	£2,880	
- Raven Youth Centre	£860	
-		
Total Remaining from 2011/12	£1,244	
Opening balance 12/13	£18,000	
New Applications to be considered		
Dream Academy of Dancing	£500	Already fast-tracked
Purchase of Medium Duty Meat Slicer	£300	Already fast-tracked
Jubilee Lunch – Thurnby Ladies Circle	£275	Already fast-tracked
Police Room Door	£600	
Running a football team	£490	
Jubilee Lunch – Thurnby Lodge TARA	£600	
Balance remaining if above are approved	£15,235	

This page is left blank intentionally.