

## BRAUNSTONE PARK & ROWLEY FIELDS COMMUNITY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2014

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

<b>NO</b>	<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>ACTION REQUESTED AT MEETING</u></b>
15.	<b>INTRODUCTIONS</b>	The Chair, Councillor Cooke welcomed everyone to the meeting and led introductions.
16.	<b>ONE MINUTE REFLECTION</b>	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.	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	Apologies for absence were received from Rev Chris Burch.
18.	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>Both councillors indicated they would not take part in consideration of any application from Streetvibe.</p>
19.	<b>ACTION LOG OF LAST MEETING</b>	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.	<b>YOUTH COUNCIL INTRODUCTION</b>	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.	<b>BRAUNSTONE HALL PLANNING APPLICATION</b>	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.

		<p>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.</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p>
22.	<b>BRAUNSTONE FISHING CLUB</b>	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

		<p>people to join to educate them about environmental issues and it was hoped that a junior club would start next year</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Elaine Halford said that all were welcome to become a member of club.</p>
23.	<b>POLICE ISSUES UPDATE</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>It was noted that there was still an issue with motor bikes on parks and the police continued to try and address this issue.</p>
24.	<b>CITY WARDEN UPDATE</b>	<p>Noel Cazeley, City Warden gave an update on progress made in the area since the last meeting and distributed information leaflets to those present.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>

		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.
<b>25.</b>	<b>WARD MEMBER FEEDBACK</b>	<p>Councillor Cooke reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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> </ul> <p>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.</p>
<b>26.</b>	<b>WARD COMMUNITY BUDGET</b>	Noted that the total approved expenditure on grants so far this year for the Ward was £12,178.13 which left a balance of £6,346.64 for future applications

		<p>including those for consideration at this meeting.</p> <p>The following applications had been considered:</p> <p><u>Grants “Fast Tracked” since the last meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Braunstone Fishing Club Signage (1209) Application for £485 – Grant of £485 supported for Anita Robinson</li> </ul> <p><u>Applications considered at the meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Community Christmas Tree Festival (1216) – Application for £350. Grant of £350 supported for Mrs Susan Hulatt.</li> <li>• Braunstone Residents Network Committee (????) Application for £500. Grant of £500 supported to Geoffrey Stagg.</li> <li>• CTC National Cycling Charity (1218) – Application for £430. Grant of £430 supported for Elizabeth Bourner.</li> <li>• Braunstone Alert Advertising (1215) – Application for £756. Grant of £756 supported for Anne Short.</li> </ul> <p>It was noted there was now a balance remaining of £2340.64</p>
27.	<b>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</b>	<p><b>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:</b></p> <p><b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 5pm – venue to be confirmed</b>  <b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 5pm – venue to be confirmed</b></p> <p><b>Note: Meetings on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2014 and 17<sup>th</sup> February 2015 were cancelled.</b></p>

<p><b>28.</b></p>	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p>	<p>Westcotes Park benches, there were new benches available and waiting for installation. Councillor Cooke agreed to contact an officer to progress that.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>“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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 6.55pm.</p>
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# 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

