

BELGRAVE COMMUNITY MEETING

TUESDAY, 22 MARCH 2016

Held at: Mellor Community Primary School, Checketts Road, Leicester LE45EQ

ACTION LOG

Present:
Councillor Thomas (Chair)
Councillor Chohan
Councillor Sood

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION REQUESTED AT MEETING</u>
21.	INTRODUCTIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	<p>Councillor Thomas was invited to Chair the meeting. Councillor Thomas welcomed those present and led introductions.</p> <p><u>Declarations of Interest:</u> Councillor Sood disclosed an Other Disclosable Interest in the ward community budget, as all of the community meeting budgets fell within her portfolio as Assistant Mayor (Community Involvement). She advised that she was able to consider applications for funding in the Belgrave Ward.</p>
22.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	<p>Apologies were received from Barry Pritchard (Group Manager, Transport Strategy).</p>
23.	ACTION LOG OF PREVIOUS MEETING	<p>The action log of the Belgrave Ward Community Meeting held on 15 December 2015 was confirmed as an accurate record.</p>
24.	LOCAL POLICING - UPDATE	<p>Sgt Rich Lane provided an update on Police activities in the Ward.</p> <p>He reminded the public that crime statistics could be found on the police website at police.uk</p> <p>Reference was made to previous discussions where the Police had indicated that they were trying to engage more with the community and had held meetings at various venues across the Ward. Sgt Lane advised that the instances of crime could be reported anonymously using the 101 phone number. He also reminded the public of phone numbers reported to the previous meeting whereby police officers could be contacted directly: (07881 665736 or 07881 663508).</p>

		<p>Sgt Lane reported on increased recent reports of thefts from vehicles and of 'suspicious vehicles'. It was reported that an operation had begun to increase surveillance and to advise motorists of the need to ensure that valuables were not left on display in parked vehicles. Officers had also increased their activities concerning a rise in burglaries, and the public were reminded to keep doors and windows locked.</p> <p>Sgt Lane also commented on a local 'Problem Solving Plan' (PSP) implemented to tackle anti-social behaviour, street drinking and associated littering of cans and bottles.</p> <p>Offences of School site parking were being enforced and a greater PCSO presence had resulted in fewer problems. An initiative to educate parents including encouragement to use the 'walking bus' was ongoing.</p> <p>The Police powers of enforcement in respect of obstruction were explained and it was noted that the Council's enforcement officers were better placed to fine drivers of vehicles parked on 'zig-zags' by issuing Fixed Penalty Notices.</p> <p>In response to a question, Sgt Lane clarified that the details on the police Website could only detail statistical information and not details of individual crimes.</p> <p>A new PSP was being introduced to deal with issues of nuisance and litter caused by students.</p> <p>The forthcoming Belgrave Fun Day at Cossington Park was promoted and the Police confirmed their attendance and support for the event.</p> <p>In conclusion, Sgt Lane answered questions concerning the need for continuity in the service, and that he expected to be the local Police Sergeant for the Belgrave area for some time to come. In this regard he confirmed that he would consider the views of the public and provide reports to future Ward Community meetings.</p>
25.	CITY WARDEN AND COMMUNITY SAFETY - UPDATE	Mohammed Patel, City Warden gave an update on issues in the Belgrave Ward and distributed information leaflets to those present.

Particular updates were provided on the following areas of work:

- Bath Street and 'Bestway' sites – Recent Community Payback projects had involved improved fencing and increased security of the sites, with associated works to remove litter and rubbish.
- Dog fouling had increased, with the Catherine street area being identified as a significant area for offences leading to on-street notices being displayed. It was noted that the offence was difficult to enforce and the public were asked to report any instances witnessed to allow Fixed Penalty Notices to be issued to offenders. Offences of dog fouling on parks were also increasing and liaison with Parks Services was ongoing.
- Fly tipping enforcement had resulted in positive impacts reports. A large fly tip of over 50 bags of waste had been cleared and the culprit had been identified.
- Problems continued with the repeat offence of students leaving household goods on-street when vacating let properties. Efforts to educate landlords and the liaison with Cleansing Services were explained.
- It was reported that issues arising from an increase in the feeding of birds had continued, after a significant effort to educate the public, as reported to the previous meeting. Councillors expressed their disappointment, given the amount of work and signage undertaken to tackle the problem.
- In response to questions, the Warden agreed to investigate the following issues of concern:
 - Vehicles being repaired on-street, or causing obstruction by being parked adjacent to repair centres/garages.
 - The implications of vehicles being untaxed while awaiting repair were noted, it was also noted that the DVLA website allowed the public to identify vehicles that were untaxed.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cars ‘for sale’ on-street. ○ Spitting in the street. ○ Graffiti – and particular the ‘KS ST 16’ tag that had appeared throughout the Ward. <p>In conclusion, Mohammed reminded the public of the number to phone the service (0116 4541001). He also promoted the use of the LoveLeicester app.</p>
<p>26.</p>	<p>REDEVELOPMENT OF BELGRAVE ROAD - UPDATE</p>	<p>The Chair referred to the apology for absence received from Barry Pritchard (Group Manager, Transport Strategy).</p> <p>The apology was accepted and the following statement had been forwarded and was read out:</p> <p><i>“The result of the consultation exercise was that there were almost equal numbers in favour of keeping 2 lanes for traffic in each direction and for altering the road to 1 lane in each direction. As a result the consultants working on the project are being asked to develop two more detailed schemes, one retaining 2 lanes in each direction and the other with 1 lane in each direction. This work is at a very early stage; when the schemes have been designed a further consultation exercise will be undertaken. Although no date has yet been set this is likely to be during June”.</i></p> <p>In respect of the Sainsbury’s site, it was reported that Sainsbury’s development team were currently reviewing the development options. They had indicated once they have a draft scheme they would wish to consult the local community before they submitted a planning application. It was anticipated at this stage that consultation could take place in early Summer.</p> <p>The position was noted.</p> <p>The City Warden responded to questions concerning the upkeep of private premises and shops in the Ward, particularly those falling into disrepair at Loughborough Road and Belgrave Road.</p>
<p>27.</p>	<p>COMMUNITY MEETING BUDGET</p>	<p>The Chair explained that the decisions relating to the bids was that of the Councillors and would not be for discussion by the floor:</p>

It was reported that the following applications for ward community funding had been received and had been determined as follows:

- Highfields/Spinney Hills Homework Club
£3,200
– NOT SUPPORTED
- Highfield Rangers Sports and Social Club
£1,250
– NOT SUPPORTED
- Gujrat Hindu Association – Health event
£455
– SUPPORTED
- Belgrave Allotment Society – Toilet
£400
– SUPPORTED
- Shree Santan Mandir Community Centre
£1,000
– PART SUPPORTED
- Shree Guru Ravidas Temple – cultural event
£2,000
– PART SUPPORTED
- Waterfronts Sports Academy – Volunteer awards
£1,000
– PART SUPPORTED
- Shree Gurjar Kshatriya Samaj – Seaside visit
£350
– PART SUPPORTED (refreshments excluded)
- St Marks/Belgrave Task Group
£425
– SUPPORTED
- Community Safety Team – Secure Homes
£5,000
– SUPPORTED
- City Warden – Enforcement and Projects
£2,500
– SUPPORTED

28.	OTHER BUSINESS	<p><u>a) Tree Cutting</u></p> <p>Residents referred to access problems arising from an obstruction caused by overhanging trees in Claremont Street. Officers undertook to refer the matter to the appropriate department.</p> <p><u>b) Leicester Ageing Together</u></p> <p>Sam Larke provided an update since his report to the previous meeting. It was noted that lottery funding was being used to deliver partnership projects for the over 50s in the east of the city.</p> <p><u>c) Ward Venues</u></p> <p>It was confirmed that future Ward meetings would be held in various venues within the Ward to ensure that they were accessible to all residents.</p>
29.	CLOSE OF MEETING	The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.