

Castle Community Meeting

DATE: **Monday, 18 October 2021**

TIME: **6:00 pm**

PLACE: **Meeting Rooms G.01 and G.02,
Ground Floor, City Hall,
115 Charles Street,
Leicester, LE1 1FZ**

YOUR community. YOUR voice.

Your Ward Councillors are:

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

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

You have the right to attend formal meetings such as full Council, committee meetings, and Scrutiny Commissions and see copies of agendas and minutes. However, on occasion, meetings may for reasons set out in law need to consider some items in private.

Due to ongoing mitigations to prevent the transmission of COVID, public access in person is limited to ensure social distancing. If you wish to attend a meeting in person, you are required to contact the Democratic Support Officer in advance of the meeting regarding arrangements for public attendance.

A guide to attending public meetings can be found here on the [Decisions, meetings and minutes page](#) of the Council website. Dates of meetings and copies of public agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website at www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk or by contacting us using the details below.

To hold this meeting in a Covid-safe a way as possible, all attendees are asked to follow current Government guidance and:

- maintain distancing while entering and leaving the room/building;
- remain seated and maintain distancing between seats during the meeting;
- wear face coverings throughout the meeting unless speaking or exempt;
- make use of the hand sanitiser available;
- when moving about the building to follow signs about traffic flows, lift capacities etc;
- comply with Test and Trace requirements by scanning the QR code at the entrance to the building and/or giving their name and contact details at reception prior to the meeting
- if you are displaying Coronavirus symptoms: a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste, you should NOT attend the meeting, please stay at home, and get a PCR test.

NOTE:

Separate guidance on attending the meeting is available for officers. Officers attending the meeting are asked to contact the Democratic Support Officer in advance to confirm their arrangements for attendance.

CONDUCT GUIDANCE:

The behaviour of people at ward community meetings is important to the success of the meeting.

Everyone attending the 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 will be warned that they may be asked to leave the meeting.

JOINING THE MEETING VIRTUALLY

To join the meeting on Zoom please use the following link: <http://ow.ly/WzqJ50Gphd8>

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND 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 LOG

Appendix A

The Action Log of the previous meeting held on 30 September 2020 (virtual meeting on Zoom) is attached for information and discussion.

3. WARD COUNCILLORS FEEDBACK

Councillors will provide an update on their recent activities in the Ward.

4. POLICING UPDATE

The Police will provide an update on issues within the Ward.

5. CITY WARDEN UPDATE

The City Warden will provide an update on environmental and enforcement activities in the Ward.

6. HIGHWAYS UPDATE

A member of the Traffic Operations Team will provide an update on Highways related matters in the Ward.

7. COMMUNITY MEETING BUDGET

Councillors are reminded that they will need to declare any interest they may have in budget applications.

An update will be given on the Ward Community budget.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

For further information, please contact

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

www.leicester.gov.uk/communitymeetings

Appendix A

CASTLE COMMUNITY MEETING

THURSDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

(Held virtually via Zoom)

ACTION LOG

Present:

Councillor Kitterick

Councillor Myers

Councillor Dr Sangster

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION REQUESTED AT MEETING</u>
1.	INTRODUCTIONS AND DECLARTIONS OF INTEREST	<p>Councillor Kitterick (in the Chair) led introductions.</p> <p>It was noted that due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, this was the first of any of the Council's Ward Community meetings to be held on 'Zoom'. The public, representatives of partner organisations and officers were welcomed to the virtual meeting and were asked and encouraged to participate in the proceedings.</p> <p>There were no Declarations of Interest.</p>
2.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	<p>There were no apologies for absence.</p>
3.	ACTION LOG	<p>The Action Log of the meeting held on 27 November 2019 was confirmed as a correct record.</p>
4.	COUNCILLORS FEEDBACK	<p>Councillors referred to the ongoing issues affecting their Ward and casework due to the Covid-19 lockdown.</p> <p>It was advised that residents could continue to contact the Ward Councillors by phone or email, but in the circumstances, communication had obviously been limited.</p>
5.	CITY WARDEN, POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY	<p>Mikail Mandhu (City Warden), Insp. Adam Archer (Police), and Daxa Pancholi (Head of Community Safety) addressed the meeting.</p> <p>The key issues affecting the Wardens service related to the continued problems with bins on streets.</p>

A heightened awareness and enforcement activity in the terraced streets within the Ward was notified, and the liaison with student representatives and the universities was clarified and welcomed.

In respect of neighbourhood policing, it was reported that there had been a change in the boundaries of the policing areas, particularly relating to the Clarendon Park area.

The changes in operational activity due to Covid-19 were notified and accepted. The issues concerning enforcement of breaches of the restrictions were recognised. It was reported that most businesses and residents were compliant with the Government's restrictions, however there were isolated incidents that required balanced and appropriate Police intervention and enforcement. The issues concerning the rise in domestic violence were debated, with the concerns of increased reports being observed.

It was noted that an enhanced multi-agency approach to tackle recent problems exacerbated by Covid-19 had been undertaken, including the involvement of community leaders. The participation of the Council's community safety team was highlighted and recognised.

In discussing city centre issues, the increased efforts due to Covid-19 to offer rough sleepers temporary accommodation was welcomed, with the view that more permanent accommodation and employment solutions would result.

Residents welcomed the positive update but referred to the continuing problems of street crime and unacceptable behaviours including, rough sleeping, begging and alcoholism.

The Council's ambitions concerning ongoing Community Safety were notified as shared PowerPoint presentation slides.

In conclusion, the Chair advised that any Police/Community Safety/City Warden cases, where residents felt uncomfortable in raising issues in the Community Meeting format/forum could be forwarded separately to officers for consideration and action.

6.	PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE	<p>An update was provided concerning the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and the lockdown restrictions. The data concerning the numbers of cases and comparisons to the national statistics were noted. It was also noted that a separate meeting had been convened on 15 October 2021, organised by the Friends of Clarendon Park, which would involve Public Health colleagues. The attendance of any interested parties was encouraged. A discussion ensued highlighting the worrying effect of the pandemic in terms of businesses in the city centre, particularly in respect of the retail and hospitality industry and venues. The ongoing position was noted and it was accepted that as continued advice was available it would be widely shared with community representatives.</p>
7.	HIGHWAYS UPDATE	<p>Martin Fletcher (City Highways Director) provided an update on current and expected highways issues, works and maintenance at various locations in the Ward, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lancaster Road cycle route • Haymarket taxi ranks • St Margaret's Bus Station • Pocklington's Walk • Every Street / Horsefair Street Café seating • De Montfort Square • Welford Road resurfacing • Newarke Street Car park refurbishment • Putney Road <p>In respect of school transport, it was reported that due to social distancing the service had become complex with additional busses required to support the existing fleet to ensure that all journeys were made.</p> <p>An experimental parking zone/TRO for Clarendon Park was debated and although the provisions, timings of restrictions and period of review were accepted, concerns remained at the scope and streets involved. Residents expressed concerns that unintentional consequences could mean that parking problems were displaced to other neighbouring areas.</p>

		<p>There were also concerns at the limited public consultation prior to the experimental scheme being announced, and the comparisons to other similar schemes implemented elsewhere. Support was expressed in regard top the expected positive impact on local businesses.</p> <p>It was noted that an updated situation would be available in 6 months.</p>
8.	VICTORIA PARK	<p>Adrian Edge (Landscape Development Manager) provided an update with ongoing and proposed works at Victoria Park.</p> <p>It was reported that the railings/fencing were to be removed around the south western play area to create an extension to the 'eco-area'. Concern was expressed by residents, as it was considered that the cost of removing the existing railings would be high and therefore an enhancement of the existing eco-area rather than an extension would benefit from the proposed spend.</p> <p>Officers agreed to consider the views of residents and their comments when developing the proposals.</p> <p>In regard to other issues at the Victoria Park, improved accessible seating was suggested at the bandstand.</p>
9.	COMMUNITY MEETING BUDGET	<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.</p> <p>The position concerning the determination of applications and allocation of the Ward Community Fund was noted and accepted.</p> <p>The Community Engagement Officer clarified the arrangements for receipt of applications and Councillors reiterated that applications were encouraged.</p>
10.	CLOSE OF MEETING	The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.