

Your Community, Your Voice

Record of Meeting and Actions

6:00 pm, Tuesday, 22 May 2012

Held at:

Who was there:

Councillor Harshad Bhavsar
Councillor Annette Byrne
Councillor Colin Marriott

INFORMATION SHARING – ‘INFORMATION FAIR’ SESSION

The following information stands were sited in the room. Members of the public visited the stands and were given an opportunity to meet Councillors, Council staff and service representatives.

Ward Councillors and General Information	Police Issues
To talk to your local Councillors and to raise general queries.	To talk to your local police or raise general queries.
Healthy Living Centre	City Wardens
To find out about the latest work taking place at the Healthy Living Centre.	To discuss environmental issues with your local city warden.
. Community First	The Festivals and Events Consultation Programme
To find out more about this recently established source of community action and funding.	Find out and have your say about proposals for changes to the City Council’s events and festivals programme, which includes projects relating to Abbey Park.
The Tenants and Residents Association	
Find out about the work of Mowmacre Tenants and residents Association.	

At the conclusion of this informal session members of the public were invited to take their seats and take part in the formal session of the meeting.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillor Byrne was elected as Chair for the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors were asked to declare any interests they may have in the business on the agenda and/or declare if Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applied to them.

4. FESTIVALS AND EVENTS CONSULTATION PROGRAMME

Simon Brown from the Arts and Museum Service was in attendance to discuss proposed changes to the City Council's events and festivals programme.

It was explained that a consultation in relation to city-wide festivals and events was on-going and was due to close on 27 July 2012.

In relation to festivals which took place locally, Simon reported that the most predominant one was the Abbey Park Annual Bonfire. In terms of how the event was financed, it was reported that the entire event cost roughly £90,000 with the City Council allocating £14,000. It was made clear that the majority of the remainder was funded via ticket sales.

Simon encouraged this present to complete the questionnaire online at <http://www.leicester.gov.uk/your-council-services/council-and-democracy/consultations-homepage/>.

5. COMMUNITY FIRST

Carlym Quantrill provided a short overview in relation to Community First; a new source of community action and funding which had recently been established within the Abbey Ward.

Carlym explained that at this stage, the full details of the initiative were not known. However, she did explain that the Government were to provide roughly £80m nationally towards which aimed to bring communities together. She reported that £50,000 was to be specifically allocated to the Abbey Ward.

It was stated that a steering group of local stakeholders and residents had been formed to facilitate how this money would be allocated. Carlym announced that there was a vacant space which could be filled by any interested local resident or by somebody who had worked in the ward for at least four years.

A key point highlighted by Carlym is that all projects awarded money had to be match-funded by other bodies, such as the Ward Community Meeting.

6. POLICE UPDATE

Sergeant Michelle Zakoscielny was in attendance to provide an overview of current policing priorities in the Abbey Ward.

Sergeant Zakoscielny explained that the Beaumont Leys PU had experienced the largest reduction of crime incidents in the City. In particular, it was stated that the burglary rate had fallen by 26%.

Those present were warned to be vigilant in protecting personal equipment such as mobile phones entering the summer months, where thefts of such devices were often more frequent.

It was also explained that a new system of managing cases of anti-social behaviour had been established which would allow these to be managed more efficiently.

Queries were raised by residents in relation to problems of double parking of vehicles on Parker Drive and the dangers that this posed to pedestrians. It was felt that the problems were particularly rife during mid-mornings. Sergeant Zakoscielny was of the understanding that the matter had been referred to the Council's Highways team, and agreed to obtain further information for the next meeting.

7. CITY WARDENS

The Abbey Ward City Warden explained that he covered both the Abbey and Beaumont Leys wards.

It was acknowledged that amongst the most commonly reported incidents, cases of dog fouling were particularly high. It was stated that the problem occurred frequently in the alleyways surrounding Kinley Road.

It was reported that a number of motor vehicles had been illegally sold in the area surrounding Abbey Lane. The City Warden responded by stating that it was often difficult to produce sufficient evidence to prosecute such offenders.

At the request of the Chair, the City Warden agreed to supply a stock of 'stubbies' for cigarette ends to the TARA office.

8. COMMUNITY PARTNER UPDATE

This item was withdrawn.

9. BUDGET

Francis Connolly provided the meeting with an update on the latest position with the Abbey Community Meeting budget.

Francis introduced the following applications:

1. **Tudor Pre-School – Pre-School Trip** Amount requested: £800

RESOLVED:

That a sum of £800 be supported towards this application.

2. **Mrs Cathy Boyes – Somerset Avenue Diamond Jubilee Street Party**
Amount Requested: £500

RESOLVED:

That a sum of £500 be supported towards this application.

3. **Mrs Cathy Boyes – Diamond Jubilee Street Party**
Amount Requested: £1,050

RESOLVED:

That this application be withdrawn.

4. **Cornerstone PCC– Community Fun Day**
Amount Requested: £500

RESOLVED:

That a sum of £500 be supported towards this application.

5. **Leicester Multi-Cultural Association – Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebration**
Amount requested: £500

RESOLVED:

That the application be deferred.

10. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was noted that Abbey Ward Community Meetings were scheduled to take place on the following dates:

21 August 2012
20 November 2012
19 February 2013

11. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 7:25pm.

