

Thurncourt Community Meeting

**Thurnby Lodge Youth & Community
Centre, Thurncourt Road, LE5 2NG
On Monday, 22 October 2012
Starting at 6:00 pm**

**The meeting will be in two parts
*Please note the time of each part***

6:00 pm – 6:15 pm

**Meet your Councillors and local
service providers dealing with:-**

- Welfare Reform
- “Hot Lofts” Energy Scheme
- City Warden Service
- Police Issues in the Ward
- Community Meeting Budgets
and Enquiries
- Feedback on Previous Grants

6:15 pm onwards

**Get involved in your area and
planning for the future. There will be
presentations and discussions on:**

- “Hot Lofts” Energy Scheme
- Welfare Reform
- Youth Services in the Ward
- Housing Issues
- City Warden Service
- Police Issues
- Feedback on Ward Patch-Walks
- Ward Community Budget

YOUR community. YOUR voice.

Your Ward Councillors are:

**Councillor Luis Fonseca
Councillor Rob Wann**

INFORMATION FAIR

You can raise matters of concern, give opinions and find out information which may be of use about the following:-

- **Welfare Reform**
 - **“Hot Lofts” Energy Scheme**
 - **City Warden Service**
 - **Police**
 - **Feedback on Grants previously awarded**
 - **General Council Matters and Other Issues**
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Making Meetings Accessible to All

WHEELCHAIR

Meetings are held in a variety of community venues. We will only hold meetings in venues where there is suitable access for wheelchairs. If you have any concerns about accessing a venue by wheelchair, please contact the Democratic Services Officer on the details provided.

BRILLE / AUDIO TAPE – CD / TRANSLATION

If you require this agenda or a particular part of it to be translated or provided on audio tape, the Democratic Services Officer can organise this for you (production times will depend on equipment facility availability). In certain cases, subject to the agreement of the local Councillors, translation facilities can be provided at the meeting.

INDUCTION LOOPS – HEARING AT MEETINGS

We provide a loop system at every meeting for people with hearing aids. If you have a hearing aid, please speak to the Democratic Services Officer at the meeting for further assistance if you think you won't be able to hear what's being discussed. There is also a facility which can help people hear better if you don't have a hearing aid but are hard of hearing, again please speak to the Democratic Services Officer about this.

The first part of the agenda covers formal items which the Councillors need to deal with to ensure that regulations on holding meetings are kept to

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Members are asked to elect a Chair for the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The first main item on the agenda is Declarations of Interest where Councillors have to say if there is anything on the agenda they have a personal interest in. For example if a meeting was due to discuss a budget application put forward by a community group and one of the Councillors was a member of that group, they would not be able to take part in the decision on that budget application.

Councillors are asked to declare any interest they may have in the business on the agenda, and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to them.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Appendix A

The minutes of the following Thurncourt Community Meetings are attached and Members are asked to confirm them as a correct record:-

- a) the ordinary meeting held on 19 March 2012 (Appendix A1); and
- b) the special meeting held on 24 September 2012 (Appendix A2).

This next part of the agenda covers items where input from you on issues that affect your community is welcomed

5. "HOT LOFTS" HOME ENERGY PROGRAMME

Officers from the City Council's Energy Services will be at the meeting to talk about the "Hot Lofts" home energy programme.

6. WELFARE REFORM

City Council officers will be at the meeting to explain the forthcoming changes to benefits.

7. YOUTH SERVICES IN THURNCOURT WARD

Officers will be at the meeting to discuss youth services in the Ward and give feedback on how previously approved grants have been used.

8. HOUSING ISSUES

Officers will be at the meeting to provide an update on housing issues in the Ward, including progress with work scheduled under the Housing Capital Receipts Initiative.

9. CITY WARDEN

The City Warden will give an update on issues in Thurncourt Ward.

10. POLICE ISSUES UPDATE

Officers from Leicestershire Police will be at the meeting to provide an update on police issues in Thurncourt Ward.

11. FEEDBACK ON WARD PATCH-WALKS

Councillor Fonseca will give feedback on the Ward patch-walks held earlier in the year.

12. WARD COMMUNITY BUDGET 2012/13

Councillors are reminded that they will need to declare any interest they may have in budget applications, and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to them.

- a) The Members Support Officer will provide an update on the Ward Community budget for 2012/13; and
- b) The following grant application is submitted for consideration:-

Applicant: 1st Thurnby Lodge Brownies

Amount Requested:

Item	Cost (£)	Estimate/ Actual cost?	Request to Ward Meeting (£)
Cost of air beds	14.99 x 5 = £74.95	Actual (Argos)	£74.95
Cost of Tilton Village Hall	7 nights @ £60 per night = £420	Actual	£420
Total	£494.95		£494.95

Summary:

It is planned to take a number of Brownies away in the October half term holiday. Tilton Village Hall has been booked for 7 nights.

Some of the Pack's airbeds are no longer suitable for their purpose, so five new ones need to be bought.

To reduce the cost to the Brownies, the leaders also pay towards the overall cost. This would be unusual for such events in other areas within the Guide Association, where the volunteer leader costs are usually covered by children who attend.

If approved, the grant would be used to lower the cost for everyone attending, (Brownies and leaders).

13. DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Further Thurncourt Community Meetings will be held on Monday 28 January 2013 and Monday 25 March 2012.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Help us to make improvements!

Please help us to improve Community Meetings by filling in an **Evaluation sheet** to let us know what you thought of the meeting. Thank you.

For further information contact

Elaine Baker, Democratic Services Officer or Francis Connolly, Members Support Officer, Leicester City Council, Town Hall, Town Hall Square, LEICESTER, LE1 9BG

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www.leicester.gov.uk/communitymeetings

Your Community, Your Voice

Record of Meeting and Actions

6:00 pm, Monday, 19 March 2012

Held at: Ocean Road Community Centre, Thurnby Lodge, LE5 2ER

Councillors in Attendance

Councillor Luis Fonseca

Councillor Rob Wann

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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.

<p>The Prince’s Trust Find out more about the work of the Princes’ Trust</p>	<p>NHS Cancer Awareness Members of the community were informed of the advice being given by the NHS to raise awareness of cancer and to increase detection.</p>
<p>City Warden Service Talk to the City Warden about issues in the Thurncourt Ward</p>	<p>Police Issues Talk to your Local Police about issues or raise general queries</p>
<p>Ward Councillors and General Information Talk to your local councillors or raise general queries</p>	<p>The 55th Scout Hut Building Talk to officers about plans for the future of this building.</p>

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.

39. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillor Fonseca chaired the meeting.

40. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Wann.

41. 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.

Councillor Fonseca declared a personal interest in respect of the Ward Community Budget as he was a member of the Thurnby Lodge Community Association.

42. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2012 be confirmed as a correct record.

43. LEICESTER PARTNERSHIP NHS TRUST COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNS

Teresa Spilsbury, Community Health Development Co-ordinator with the NHS was present to talk about a range of activities being carried out across the City, including community campaigns around cancer awareness and cardio vascular disease. It was noted that due to the success of the work, the project had recently expanded and was now working in partnership with a number of stakeholder agencies.

Teresa explained that the project was largely supported by volunteers and operated on a city wide basis. She welcomed others to join one of the projects' volunteer teams.

It was made clear that the Partnership Trust predominantly performed a referral role and did not carry out any diagnosis.

For the information of those present, Teresa briefly described the key signs and symptoms for breast, bowel and lung cancer, and generally encouraged anyone who noticed an unusual change in their health to consult their GP.

44. THE PRINCE'S TRUST

Representatives from Leicestershire Fire and Rescue were in attendance to present an overview of their work with the Princes' Trust and provided guidance on how local people could become involved with the trust.

They conducted a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation which gave detail of the Princes' Trust 12-week Team Programme and the accreditation awarded to those who completed the course.

It was explained that those who were primarily targeted for team programme work included the unemployed, offenders or ex-offenders, those in or leaving care and educational under-achievers. Referrals were made via a number of channels such as the JobCentre, Glen Parva Young Offenders institution, Connexions and through Social Workers. The teams often undertook projects that provided immediate benefits to local communities and neighbourhoods and it was acknowledged that several of these had recently taken place locally.

It was pointed out that the Princes Trust had its own delivery partner in each county, and in Leicestershire, the programme was delivered by Leicestershire Fire and Rescue, who received funding to do so from Central Government.

Those present were encouraged to inform anyone who they knew who may benefit from engaging with the work of the Princes' Trust or to suggest projects within the Thurncourt Ward which could be undertaken by the Trust.

In response to a question, it was confirmed that once a young person had completed the 12 week programme, they were provided with a progressive action plan in order to help them achieve personal aims.

In response to a further question in relation to the application process, the meeting heard that the Princes Trust was currently over-subscribed due to the high volume of demand from young people to participate. It was however made clear that programmes were continually initiated, and open days were held to allow young people to apply.

45. UPDATE ON POLICE ISSUES

PC Ben Orton was in attendance to provide an update on Police matters in Thurncourt. The following points were raised:

- Two people had been charged in connection with the murder case on Flamborough Road, and as a result had been sentenced to 22 years imprisonment.
- A burglary target hardening initiative had commenced in the Peters' Drive area following a recent series of burglaries.
- A full investigation had taken place following a gang fight in Willowbrook Park. This was seen by police as an isolated incident.
- Many officers from within the local Neighbourhood Team were to be deployed to London during the Olympic Games. There would therefore be a diminished visible police force in Thurncourt during this period.
- The Police were to undertake a project in relation to school parking. Further details in relation to this would be brought to the next meeting.

46. CITY WARDEN SERVICE

Nicole Powell and Charlotte Williams-Glover from the City Wardens Team were in attendance to discuss their recent work in Thurncourt. They reported on the following issues:

- It was acknowledged that residents had concerns around cars being persistently parked on particular streets, though Nicole and Charlotte explained that no action could be taken against owners if the vehicles in question were appropriately taxed and insured.
- The Wardens had recently targeted incidents of dog fouling on Willowbrook Park.
- The Wardens were now holding monthly surgeries at the Thurnby Lodge Youth and Community Centre and would continue to attend the TARA coffee mornings.
- A further priority area was in relation to fly-tipping, especially around the recycling centre on Thurncourt Road.

Questions were asked in respect of the amount of time the wardens spent specifically in the Thurncourt Ward. It was confirmed that there were no fixed times that the wardens would be patrolling in Thurncourt, though it was stated that they spent at least two hours per day patrolling the ward. It was explained that Charlotte and Nicole were also responsible for patrolling the Coleman and Evington Wards.

Residents were generally in agreement that the Wardens should be dedicated to the Thurncourt Ward for at least an hour and a half each week.

47. HOUSING ISSUES

Chrissie Field, Area Housing Manager, was in attendance to discuss housing issues in Thurncourt.

Chrissie explained that a total of £50,000 was available last year to spend on Capital Receipt Initiatives in the ward which reflected local priorities and that the vast majority of these had been completed.

In respect of the knee rail fencing for Roborough Green, it was confirmed that the order for this had been placed and was due to be installed by 31 March.

In terms of the benches for Thurncourt Road, it was made clear that there were problems with the procurement process for these, but the necessary money had been carried over to the 2012/13 financial year.

In response to a query, Chrissie confirmed that she would look in to the possibility of providing lighting on the footpath at the bottom of Colthurst Way. It was generally felt that the level of lighting at Willowbrook Park was poor, particularly for dog walkers.

A resident raised awareness of a property on Ocean Road which had been vacant for a significant period of time. The Police Officers present confirmed that they were aware of this. Chrissie Field also confirmed that the officer responsible for this particular area would make contact with the empty homes team.

48. LOCAL HIGHWAY ISSUES

The following issues were raised in connection with highways and transportation matters:

- There were problems with speeding traffic on Thurncourt Road between Nursery Road and Scraftoft Lane.
- Parents at Thurnby Lodge Primary School had raised concerns with crossing the road outside of the school and it was felt that the possibility of employing a school crossing patrol officer should be pursued.
- A truck was persistently parking on the corner of Ocean Road and Thurncourt Road.
- There was also a problem with persistent and obstructive parking on the corner of Havencrest Drive and Scraftoft lane.

49. WARD COMMUNITY BUDGET 2011/12

Francis Connolly, Members Support Officer, introduced this item of business. It was made clear that as this was the final meeting of the 2011/12 municipal year, this was the only remaining opportunity for funding from the ward budget to be allocated.

Members considered the following applications:

- 1. Thurnby Lodge TARA Lunch Club Jubilee Celebration Event**– request for £500 to organise a lunch celebration for 90 people taking place on Thursday 5 June 2012 at Thurnby Lodge Community Centre.

RESOLVED:

That the application be supported and that a sum of £500 be allocated from the Ward Community budget.

- 2. The Raven Youth Club Cafe**– request for £150 to provide equipment and stock for the café.

RESOLVED:

That the application be supported and that a sum of £150 be allocated from the Ward Community budget.

- 3. Thurnby ladies Circle Networking Events**– request for £550 towards two outings/Networking Events.

RESOLVED:

That the application be supported and that a sum of £550 be allocated from the Ward Community budget.

As a result of the decisions outlined above, it was reported that a sum of £5,485 remained in the budget. It was reported that a series of patch-walks were to be undertaken in May 2012, and that the remaining money in the budget would be allocated towards projects and issues arising from the patch-walks.

RESOLVED:

That the remaining budget balance of £5,485 be pledged towards projects and issues arising from the Thurncourt Ward Patchwalks in May 2012.

50. PATCH WALKS

The Members Support Officer reported that three patch-walks were to take place in the ward during May, and that these would be led by Ward Councillors along with various stakeholders which included representatives from the Police, City Wardens, Housing, Highways and Community Safety.

It was explained that the first of these would take place in the Havencrest Drive area, with others being held within the Thurncourt Road/Nursery Road area and the Ocean Road/Willowbrook Park area.

On particular aims of the patch walks was to identify ways of spending the money remaining in the 2011/12 ward budget.

51. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair agreed to accept a further item of business in relation to the future of the 55th Scout Hut on Nursery Road.

Eddie Beilby, Property Management, Leicester City Council, was in attendance to provide an update in relation to this matter. Eddie explained that the Scout Group had agreed to surrender the lease of their building. It was confirmed that the Scouts owned the building and the City Council owned the land of the site surrounding the building.

The meeting was informed that once the Scout Group had indicated that they wished to surrender their lease of the building, the City Council marketed the site with the intention of granting a new lease. It was confirmed that expressions of interest had been received from three parties, and of these only one of the offers included a confirmed offer of payment to the Scouts Association. This offer was made by the As-Salaam Trust. The Scouts Association and the City Council therefore agreed to proceed with transferring the lease from the Scouts Association to As-Salaam.

In response to a number of questions, it was confirmed that of the 2 other interested parties one had been unable to satisfy the Scout Association financial requirements whilst the other group had failed to submit details for consideration. It was also confirmed that interested parties had a period of two weeks to submit an expression of interest, though it was acknowledged that the level of detail requested was not particularly extensive.

Members of the Public present were generally of the view that the building should be available for use of the whole community. Officers stated that the precise use of the building could not be controlled once a lease was transferred. It was however reported that the predominant expected use by the As Salaam group would be after-school activities.

Concerns were raised in connection with the potential for significant on –street parking should this particular lease be granted. It was felt that such an increase on what was a bus route would pose particular danger. Eddie confirmed that officers in Planning had been consulted over outline proposals for the future use of the site and currently did not have significant concerns over change of use within D1/D2 planning class orders. If parking became a significant issue then further actions could be considered by the Council as Highway Authority.

It was noted that a petition containing 260 signatures had been submitted to the Council which asked to ensure that the future use of the building was decided on the basis of an open and transparent bidding process and that the views of local residents were given full and proper consideration. It was agreed that, once complete, a response to the petition be brought a future Thurncourt Community Meeting.

52. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 8:10pm.

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	

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