

## KNIGHTON COMMUNITY MEETING

TUESDAY, 6 AUGUST 2019

Held at: 9th Leicester Scout Hut- 58 Stoughton Rd, Leicester, LE2 2EF

### ACTION LOG

Present:

Councillor March

Councillor Dr Moore

Councillor Whittle

<b><u>NO.</u></b>	<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>ACTION REQUESTED AT MEETING</u></b>
1.	<b>INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS</b>	<p>Councillor Dr Moore as Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and all present introduced themselves.</p> <p>No declarations of interest were made.</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from the Police, Knighton Green, Friends of Knighton Park and from City Warden Harvey Roberts.</p>
2.	<b>ACTION LOG OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b>	<p>The Action Log of the previous meeting held 26 February 2019 was agreed as a correct record.</p> <p><b>Item 32</b></p> <p>Councillor Dr Moore noted that the Tree Strategy had been made available and had been distributed at the meeting.</p> <p><b>Item 34</b></p> <p>Councillor Dr Moore reported that ward funding had enabled speed cameras to be fitted throughout the ward. It was intended that the cameras would be moved around the ward to increase their effectiveness.</p>
3.	<b>COUNCILLORS' FEEDBACK</b>	<p>Councillor Whittle reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A bench on Washbrook Nature Reserve had been unlawfully removed. Councillor Whittle had made arrangements through the Parks and Open Spaces Department to get it replaced.</li><li>• Parks and Open Spaces had also mown overgrown verges and overgrown areas on Chiltern Green.</li><li>• A lot of litter had been left in the area around</li></ul>

		<p>the racecourse following Ladies' Day. <b>Action:</b> Councillor Whittle to monitor litter in the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor Whittle had been approached by residents of Welford Court regarding an area that was overgrown and littered. <b>Action:</b> Councillor Whittle to consider options.</li> </ul> <p>Councillor March reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tree Preservation Orders were being worked on to ensure that ancient trees were preserved.</li> <li>• Councillor March had spoken at Planning and Development Control Committee on behalf of residents who were concerned about the ecological impact of developments.</li> <li>• Councillor March was considering options to tackle littering in the ward.</li> </ul> <p>Councillor Dr Moore reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work was ongoing on trying to get the ground next to the Scout Hut converted into an adventure playground, however funding was an issue.</li> <li>• Outdoor activities for young people were being explored in order to mitigate anti-social behaviour.</li> <li>• Following a meeting on the issue of speeding cars on Shanklin Drive, islands were being installed in order to slow traffic. A consultation would be held following the pilot scheme to assess its effectiveness.</li> <li>• A meeting would take place in September with the City Mayor and Highways Officers to discuss speeding issues.</li> </ul> <p>Concern was raised that one of the islands was planned to be installed near the bus stop. <b>Action:</b> Councillor Dr Moore to email Martin Fletcher.</p>
4.	<b>LOCAL POLICING UPDATE</b>	<p>Apologies were received from Leicestershire Police.</p> <p>Concern was raised about a series of break-ins in the Overdale Road area and a request for greater police presence and visibility was heard. <b>Action:</b> Councillor March to arrange a meeting with Police at a community venue to discuss with local residents how to increase police presence and visibility.</p>

		Councillor Dr Moore further recommended that local residents start a Neighbourhood Watch group to improve security in the area, and suggested that the Police can often provide resources to such groups.
5.	<b>CITY WARDEN UPDATE</b>	Apologies were received from the City Warden.
6.	<b>HIGHWAYS UPDATE</b>	<p>Robert Bateman provided an update on highways which included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seven traffic islands would be installed on Shanklin Drive on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> August. A road closure would be in place while they were installed. Notice would be given for the closure.</li> <li>• Surface dressing and patching had been taking place throughout the ward.</li> <li>• Two vehicle-activated speed signs had been installed on Carisbrooke Road.</li> <li>• Speeding on Asquith Boulevard was being investigated.</li> <li>• Officers had been working with Schools on the School Run Parking Initiative to discuss ideas for physical features in roads to discourage parents using cars and to encourage walking.</li> </ul> <p>An enquiry was made as to whether there were any plans for road improvements given that it was a busy road with a school, and major junctions. There was particular concern over fading road-markings.  <b>Action:</b> Robert Bateman to feed information back to the Highways Department.</p> <p>Councillor March informed that there would be a meeting between councillors in September to identify issues and to ascertain what actions can be afforded.  <b>Action:</b> Councillor March to raise issue of Overdale Road at the meeting.</p>
7.	<b>KNIGHTON FORUM</b>	<p>Andrew Oldershaw of Knighton Neighbourhood Forum read out a written update (attached).</p> <p>Councillor Dr Moore thanked the forum for their work.</p>
8.	<b>KNIGHTON GREEN</b>	<p>Apologies were received from Knighton Green. A written update was distributed (attached).</p> <p>Councillor Dr Moore encouraged those present to visit Knighton Green and attend their activity morning on 24<sup>th</sup> August.</p>
9.	<b>FRIENDS OF</b>	Apologies were received from Friends of Knighton

	<b>KNIGHTON PARK</b>	Park. A copy of an email from a representative from the group was circulated (attached).
10.	<b>WARD COMMUNITY BUDGET</b>	<p>From an opening balance of £18,000 at the beginning of the municipal year, the following bids had been supported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leicester Progressive Jewish Congregation for restoration of main hall flooring- £350</li> <li>• Leicester Civil Service Holiday Play Scheme for play equipment- £500</li> <li>• Knighton Park Gardening Club for a visual board- £2000</li> <li>• Knighton Christmas Tree Festival Group for the Christmas Tree Festival- £700</li> <li>• Stoneygate Baptist Church for heating improvements- £500</li> <li>• Knighton Ward Councillors for litter bins- £400</li> </ul> <p>There was a remaining balance of £13,550.</p> <p>Thanks were received for funding for the sensory garden in Knighton Park which had paid for an information board with a QR code and an audio recording to be heard at listening-posts around the garden.</p> <p>Thanks were also received for funding received by a representative of St Mary's Church for the Christmas Tree Festival who reported that the festival would involve trees being decorated by local schools, charities and businesses. Proceeds from the festival would go towards the church spire and a charity to be decided on 21<sup>st</sup> August.</p> <p>A representative of Stoneygate Baptist Church for the heating improvements also expressed thanks for the funding received for heating improvements and expressed hope that with these improvements would allow the church to take part in the Winter Night Shelter scheme.</p>
11.	<b>ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS</b>	<p>Anna Parr of Leicester Adult Skills and Learning Service made those present aware of courses offered including Digital Skills and Employment Skills as well as various Level 1 and 2 courses which were free for those on a low income (under £16,000 p/a) or benefit claimants on low incomes.</p> <p>She also informed those present of an Open Day that would be held at Pork Pie library on 6<sup>th</sup> September. She informed that people could sign up to courses</p>

		<p>either online, at the Open Day, or at their main site on Wellington Street.</p> <p>A resident raised concern that dog-waste bins had been removed around Overdale Road and the hygiene, recycling and space issues associated with it. <b>Action:</b> Councillors to consider options.</p> <p>Councillor Dr Moore distributed posters about the Councillors' Surgeries and informed that other posters would be on display around the ward.</p> <p>The next Knighton Ward Community Meeting would be on 12 November 2019 at Neve Shalom Synagogue on Avenue Road.</p> <p>There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.45pm</p>
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# Minute Item 7

## Knighton Neighbourhood Forum

Update for Knighton Ward Community meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Since the last Ward Community meeting in February there have been a number of changes to the Knighton Forum Steering Group. Simon Bennett resigned the Chair in May and Ruth Cheney has taken over this role. Simon served as Chair since 2015 and had been the main driving force behind establishing the Forum. However he continues to be involved in two of the Forum's Working Groups. Dennis Foxon, Geoff Whittle and Matt Stevenson have continued in the Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer roles respectively.

Membership of the Steering Group has been expanded. In April Chris Willmott was co-opted and at the Annual General meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> May a further three new members joined the Steering Group; Andrew Oldershawe, Tim Hartshorne and Debbie Sawday.

### Grant funding

A successful application for grant funding has been made to Locality, administrators of the Neighbourhood Planning Programme which is funded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. An award of up to £6,288 has been granted which will largely be spent on consultancy support for the development of our Neighbourhood Plan.

### Public meetings

So far the Forum has held two public meetings this year with guest speakers. In February Flood Risk Manager Philip Thompson spoke about the City Council's flood risk management plan. At the AGM in May Hannah Wakley from Leicester Friends of the Earth introduced their Healthy Air Manifesto.

### Working Groups

Four working groups are currently in progress, developing draft policies which are then discussed with the appropriate Council Officers. The Council has provided some helpful advice about further evidence and the documentation we will need to include in our Neighbourhood Plan.

Two pieces of work are planned for the **Housing and Planning** working group to provide evidence for our proposed policies. Firstly local estate agents will be consulted to ascertain the supply and demand for housing in Knighton. Secondly a face-to-face survey of local residents is planned through knocking on doors of randomly selected homes on each road within the Area.

The **Heritage and Conservation** working group was addressed in May by Paula Burbicka from the Council's Conservation Team. Paula is currently undertaking a character appraisal for the Knighton Village Conservation Area. This working group is considering whether the existing conservation areas within Knighton should be extended or whether it is more appropriate to seek 'Article 4' protection for some areas. A number of heritage walks have been held and more walks are planned. Work is also underway to create a photographic library of Knighton. The social media application 'Flickr' is being trialled as a potential online host for the library.

The **Open Spaces** and **Transport** Working Groups have both continued to meet and produce draft policies that were discussed with Council officers, now at the stage of gathering further evidence.

### Consultations

The Steering group undertook a public consultation in Knighton Park on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May, a first use of our voting boxes using coloured balls. We intend to use this device to gather public views outside local schools, shops and other locations.





# Minute Item 8

## Knighton Green Update: August 2019

Two objectives have been met so far:

- Seven heritage apple trees were planted early in Spring. Unfortunately, one was stolen and some of the others “transplanted”. The remaining trees were resited and all but one is thriving through the heat of the summer. One tree is in intensive care and receiving regular watering.
- A pictorial meadow was sown in Spring and germinated successfully despite a prolonged dry spell. The meadow is now in full flower and many passers by have commented positively on its appearance. We will resow in autumn with a perennial mix that will hopefully last for several years. A photograph of the meadow taken recently is at the foot of this report.

We have also planted a number of teasels and foxgloves that were raised by a friend and given to us.

We are currently discussing with the Council Parks department about the location of a bench and noticeboard. These will be made from recycled plastic.

We have included Knighton Green in Knighton Wild’s Its Your Neighbourhood scheme run by East Midlands in Bloom. We look forward to the assessor’s visit sometime in August.

On 24<sup>th</sup> August we are planning a family friendly activity morning and nature walk around Knighton Green and the churchyard. All are welcome.

John Crookes

Chair, Knighton Wild





# Minute Item 9

Hi again

Apologies firstly for not being to attend your meeting in person. The Friends of Knighton Park have been meeting on a monthly basis with the new Show Organisers and steady progress has been made and we are on track with all the arrangements for the show. We are using the funding you kindly allocated us towards the Show infrastructure namely towards the costs of picnic tables, benches, staging, first aid and lost children support, traffic plans, toilet facilities and security.

We have booked a variety of entertainment for the show too such as Mr Twister (juggling workshop and balloons) a Gospel Choir, a Birds of Prey demonstration and a Jazz band too. We are also planning a Karate demonstration and a local Dance School will also be performing for us and Radio Fox will be there also. As you can see we have been busy- if there is any further information you require please do not hesitate to contact us again.

Kind regards,

Sandra

Friends of Knighton Park

