

## KNIGHTON COMMUNITY MEETING

TUESDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2019

Held at: Neve Shalom Synagogue, 24 Avenue Road, Leicester, LE2 3EA

### ACTION LOG

Present:

Councillor March

Councillor Dr Moore

Councillor Whittle

| <u>NO.</u> | <u>ITEM</u>  | <u>ACTION REQUESTED AT MEETING</u>  |
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| 12.        | <b>INTRODUCTIONS,<br/>DECLARATIONS<br/>AND APOLOGIES<br/>FOR ABSENCE</b> | <p>Councillor Whittle as Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and all present introduced themselves.</p> <p>Councillor Whittle declared an interest in Knighton Forum and as such could not be involved in any bids from the group.</p> <p>Apologies were received from John Crooks of Knighton Green and from the Flood Manager.</p>   |
| 13.        | <b>ACTION LOG</b>  | <p>The Action Log of the previous meeting held 6 August was confirmed as a correct record.</p> <p><b>Item 3</b></p> <p>Councillor Whittle reported that he had been monitoring litter around the racecourse and there had not been a repeat of the high-level of litter following Ladies Day but suggested that another bin may still be necessary in the area.</p> <p>Regarding Welford Court, litter had been removed by the Leicester Wombles group. Councillor Whittle had been in touch with Highways who had cleared the overgrowth around the highways. He had also contacted Parks and Open Spaces who would clear and prune other overgrown and littered areas over winter. The situation would be reviewed in Spring.</p> <p><b>Item 6</b></p> <p>Councillor Dr Moore had observed traffic movements on Shanklin Drive and reported that the average speed of vehicles on the road had decreased since the islands had been installed.</p> <p>Residents raised concern that cars were speeding up</p> |

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|                   |  | <p>as they came away from the islands. Councillor Whittle raised the possibility of installing a further island at the end of the road.</p> <p>Carisbrooke Road would be on the list of priorities for traffic calming due to accidents on the road.</p> <p><b>Item 10</b></p> <p>Whilst bins to be installed around Overdale School were outstanding, one bin had been placed near the infant school. Councillor March encouraged those present to report litter problems in the ward.</p>  |
| <p><b>14.</b></p> | <p><b>WARD COUNCILLORS' FEEDBACK</b></p> | <p>Councillor Dr Moore reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There had been concerns over break-ins and car-thefts in the ward. Councillor Dr Moore asked the Police to feed back on the issue.</li> <li>• There had been disquiet amongst residents in Carisbrooke Gardens due to people parking across driveways and the anti-social behaviour of children from a local school. Following meetings between Councillor Dr Moore, the residents, the head and the governors of the school, a degree of reconciliation had been achieved.</li> </ul> <p>Councillor March reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trees had been pollarded on Sidney Road following complaints by residents.</li> <li>• Progress had been made on the maintenance of Bowling Greens.</li> <li>• The 'Little Wombles' group had been clearing litter in the area. Councillor March expressed hope that residents were not mistaking them for litterers.</li> <li>• Councillor March had been talking to residents about benefits casework and planning.</li> <li>• Work was being done to bring young people into care homes following a pledge to bring generations together.</li> <li>• Following a review in Adult Social Care, ways in which to retain staff in care homes was being explored. It was acknowledged that Knighton had a high proportion of care homes.</li> </ul> <p>Concern was raised by a resident over the use of money ringfenced for Adult Social Care. Councillors stated that individual cases could not be discussed at the meeting, but encouraged the resident to talk to</p> |

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|     |                              | them individually outside the meeting. It was also suggested that the issue be raised in Scrutiny, which the public could attend.   |
| 15. | <b>LOCAL POLICING UPDATE</b> | <p>PCSO Lynette Steadman gave an update on Police issues in the ward. Points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to secure homes and cars was emphasised, and residents were advised to leave lights on and/or use timer switches when out.</li> <li>• Cars were being left unlocked in order to prevent windows being smashed. Residents were advised not to leave valuables in cars.</li> <li>• Residents were encouraged to access crime figures via the Leicestershire Police website.</li> <li>• Residents were encouraged to join <a href="http://neighbourhoodlink.co.uk">neighbourhoodlink.co.uk</a> which included services on security advice.</li> </ul> <p>Councillor March drew attention to the concern raised at the previous ward meeting about the level of burglaries in the ward and raised queries about concentrated targeting and seasonal crime figures. She also asked whether victims of break-ins were visited by the police as residents were feeling unsafe.</p> <p>PCSO Steadman informed that burglaries were often higher during religious festivals due to valuables in houses. She also noted that students in the area were often targets due to them having items such as laptops.</p> <p>Police did not always visit the victims of break-ins unless they were requested for assurance and/or security advice, or if forensics could be gathered. PCSO Steadman reported that the police did not have the staff to immediately visit a break-in unless the burglar was actually there.</p> <p>The vulnerability of keyless cars was raised as a concern and owners of such vehicles were encouraged to take measures to block signals.</p> <p>Residents were encouraged to report suspicious behaviour.</p> <p>Leaflets on security advice and crime prevention were being distributed throughout the ward.</p> |
| 16. | <b>CITY WARDEN UPDATE</b>    | <p>The City Warden was not present at the meeting.<br/> <b>Action:</b> Community Engagement Officer to follow up.</p>   |

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**HIGHWAYS AND  
TRAFFIC - WARD  
UPDATE**

Mark Govan provided an update on highways issues in the ward. Points included:

- There had been an overall reduction in speed of 4-5mph on Shanklin Drive following the installation of islands. Further suggestions on the issue were welcomed. **Action:** Mark Govan to feed suggestions back to Highways Department.
- There would be a meeting with Councillors followed by a local consultation on speed restriction measures on Carisbrooke Road with speed cushions (at an acceptable height for busses) being suggested as an option.
- Councillors had put together ward funding for vehicle activated signs on Knighton Road and Carisbrooke Road. It was suggested that the sign on Carisbrooke Road would remain in place, but the sign on Knighton Road could potentially be moved around the ward.
- Requests to make Asquith Boulevard one-way had been received. Nothing had been decided as yet. **Action:** Highways Officers to meet with Councillors to discuss options.
- Complaints about speeding on Guildford Road had been received. **Action:** Highways Officers to meet with Councillors to discuss options.
- Bollards had been installed and Patching and Maintenance had taken place on Sutton Avenue and Great Arler Road.
- 'Pencil bollards' had been installed around schools to control school-run parking.

In response to a query from Councillor March, Mark Govan confirmed that an objection had been received in relation to the proposed 20mph scheme on Morland Avenue. **Action:** Objection to be reviewed and responded to as part of the consultation process.

Concern was raised that during the Welford Road scheme, temporary bus stops had not been signed well enough. **Action:** Mark Govan to feed back to Highways Department.

In response to questions received from residents on Asquith Boulevard about resurfacing, Councillor Whittle reported that he had received a written response from the Highways Department that the road would be a priority for 2020.

A resident raised concern that maintenance works on

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|     |   | <p>Ratcliffe Road had led to an increase of speeding. Mark Govan explained the maintenance regime and suggested that the road may be considered for traffic calming in future.</p> <p>A resident asked if traffic calming and road safety measures could be made in a way that was in keeping with the local environment. <b>Action:</b> Mark Govan to feed back to Highways Department.</p> <p>Residents and Councillors reported that due to drain clearance and resurfacing, there had been no flooding on Welford Road or Aberdale Road despite recent heavy rain.</p> <p>A resident complained that she had been informed that the council had a 'two-hit' policy before replacing damaged railings. Mark Govan responded that he was unaware of such a policy. <b>Action:</b> Mark Govan to review with City Highways team.</p>          |
| 18. | <b>FLOOD PLAN</b>                       | <p>Apologies were received from the Flood Manager. The Flood Manager relayed a wish to be included on the agenda for the next meeting.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about flood risks on Lamborne Road, Woodcroft Avenue, Skelton Drive and Carisbrooke Road.</p> <p>Councillor Dr Moore explained that following meetings with the Environmental Agency and Severn Trent Water, the drains in the area had now been mapped and regularly cleared, flooding had not occurred since and work was ongoing.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Community Engagement officer to feed back to Flood Manager.</p> <p>A resident raised concern about overgrowth of a watercourse at the side of a residence on Shanklin Drive and asked if there were any plans to assess drainage. <b>Action:</b> Community Engagement officer to feed back to Flood Manager.</p> |
| 19. | <b>KNIGHTON NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM</b>     | <p>Vice-Chair of Knighton Neighbourhood Forum Dennis Foxon read out a written update (attached).</p>   |
| 20. | <b>KNIGHTON FUN DAY 2019 - FEEDBACK</b> | <p>The representative for Knighton Fun Day was not present at the meeting. <b>Action:</b> Community Engagement Officer to follow up.</p>   |

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| 21. | <b>KNIGHTON GREEN<br/>- UPDATE</b>   | <p>Apologies were received from John Crooks of Knighton Green.</p> <p>Councillors reported that a bench made from recycled plastic had been installed along with signage and a notice board.</p>  |
| 22. | <b>WARD COMMUNITY<br/>BUDGET</b>     | <p>This municipal year there had been 13 applications for funding, 7 of which were supported. From an initial budget for the municipal year of £18,000: £4,645 had been spent and £13,355 was remaining in the budget for the rest of the municipal year.</p> <p>The Lilia Art Foundation had not been funded as it covered three wards with a bid for £1500 from each ward and it was difficult to see which Knighton artists would be represented. It was also noted that as a scheme to empower women led by a man, it did not seem representative of those it was claiming to be working for.</p> <p>Councillors were looking to support priority funds, such as those aimed at tackling air pollution issues.</p> <p>A resident complained that funding applications were inaccessible. <b>Action:</b> Community Engagement Officer to discuss with resident outside the meeting.</p> <p>A suggestion was made to use funding for memorial trees and benches on Dawson Way to commemorate three people killed in a shooting in the area in the 1970s. Councillors and the Community Engagement Officer encouraged the resident to submit a bid and the Community Engagement Officer offered to help them with the form.</p> <p>A representative of Neve Shalom Synagogue expressed thanks for the ward funding that had paid for a new floor.</p> <p>A resident reported difficulty applying for funding online on a tablet. <b>Action:</b> Community Engagement Officer to feed back.</p> |
| 23. | <b>ANY OTHER<br/>URGENT BUSINESS</b> | <p>There being no other urgent business, the meeting closed at 7:54pm</p>   |

# Minute Item 19

## Knighton Neighbourhood Forum

Update for Knighton Ward Community meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Since the last Ward Community meeting in August there have been further changes to the Knighton Forum Steering Group. Unfortunately our Chair, Ruth Cheney has had to resign for personal reasons. The Vice-Chair, Dennis Foxon is now acting as Chair until the next A.G.M. Andrew Oldershaw will act as Vice-Chair. Some of the activities that were undertaken by our former Chair, Simon Bennett, have now been spread more evenly across the Steering Group members.

While these changes have impacted on the public face of the Forum, the current working groups have still been active.

### **Working Groups**

The Housing and Planning group is close to completing its work on policy and at the last meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> November, began the process of defining and collecting the evidence needed to assess and support the proposed policies. The next meeting will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7.30 pm, Glass Meeting Room, College Court, Knighton Road.

The Conservation and Heritage group has conducted a number of evidence collecting walks over the period, which have led to detailed discussions about the form policy should take. The next meeting will be on Thursday 21st November 2019, at 7.30 pm, Glass Meeting Room, College Court, Knighton Road. The main topics for discussion will be conservation and heritage policies and evidence.

### **Public meeting**

Our next public meeting on Thursday 28th November will be open to everyone living or working in or around the City.

Lord Willy Bach, Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Police and Crime Commissioner, will be speaking on Crime Prevention and Community Safety at St Mary Magdalen Church. The meeting is expected to start at 7.30pm, although this is subject to confirmation. Light refreshments will be provided. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Vicar, Revd Adrian Jones and the PCC for offering the use of the church for this meeting.

### **Air Quality**

Air quality remains a topic of concern for many Knighton residents. However, it remains the case that no reliable figures for such pollution in the area are available – indeed it would appear that no reliable monitoring of air quality is taking place in Knighton.

It is our intention to renew the bid for funding for the Earthsense air quality monitoring equipment in January 2020.

