

**CASTLE COMMUNITY MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**  
**(Held virtually via Zoom)**

**ACTION LOG**

Present:  
 Councillor Kitterick  
 Councillor Myers  
 Councillor Dr Sangster

<b><u>NO.</u></b>	<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>ACTION REQUESTED AT MEETING</u></b>
1.	<b>INTRODUCTIONS AND DECLARTIONS OF INTEREST</b>	<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.	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	There were no apologies for absence.
3.	<b>ACTION LOG</b>	The Action Log of the meeting held on 27 November 2019 was confirmed as a correct record.
4.	<b>COUNCILLORS FEEDBACK</b>	<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.	<b>CITY WARDEN, POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY</b>	<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>

		<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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Residents welcomed the positive update but referred to the continuing problems of street crime and unacceptable behaviours including, rough sleeping, begging and alcoholism.</p> <p>The Council's ambitions concerning ongoing Community Safety were notified as shared PowerPoint presentation slides.</p> <p>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.</p>
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6.	<b>PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE</b>	<p>An update was provided concerning the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and the lockdown restrictions.</p> <p>The data concerning the numbers of cases and comparisons to the national statistics were noted.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.	<b>HIGHWAYS UPDATE</b>	<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"> <li>• Lancaster Road cycle route</li> <li>• Haymarket taxi ranks</li> <li>• St Margaret's Bus Station</li> <li>• Pocklington's Walk</li> <li>• Every Street / Horsefair Street Café seating</li> <li>• De Montfort Square</li> <li>• Welford Road resurfacing</li> <li>• Newarke Street Car park refurbishment</li> <li>• Putney Road</li> </ul> <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 to the expected positive impact on local businesses.</p> <p>It was noted that an updated situation would be available in 6 months.</p>
<b>8.</b>	<b>VICTORIA PARK</b>	<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>
<b>9.</b>	<b>COMMUNITY MEETING BUDGET</b>	<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>
<b>10.</b>	<b>CLOSE OF MEETING</b>	<p>The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.</p>