

# Knighton Community Meeting

## Your Community, Your Voice

### Record of Meeting and Actions

6:30 pm, Monday, 16 February 2009

Held at: Knighton Memorial Hall, Holbrook Road, Leicester

Who was there:

Councillor Andy Bayford
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Councillor Ross Grant
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Councillor Gary Hunt
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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 the local Police and to bring enquiries and raise and issues.

- Table 1**     **Ward Councillors and General Information**  
Members of the public were able to talk to their Ward Councillors and Council Officers and raise general enquires or issues
- Table 2**     **Police**  
Police Officers for the area where present.
- Table 3**     **Knighton and Clarendon Police and Community Support Group**  
A representative from the Knighton and Clarendon Police and Community Support Group was present.
- Table 4**     **South Knighton Community Events Group**  
A representative from the South Knighton Community Events Group was present.
- Table 5**     **CASCET (Campaign Against Stoughton Co Op Eco Town)**  
A representative from the CASCET was present.
- Table 6**     **68<sup>th</sup> Leicester (St Guthlac’s) Scout Group**  
A representative from the 68<sup>th</sup> Leicester Scout Group was present.

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.

## **27. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

Councillor Grant was elected as Chair for the meeting.

## **28. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

## **29. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were made.

## **30. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED:

that the minutes of the meeting of the Knighton Community Meeting, held on 17 November 2008, be confirmed as a correct record.

## **31. WARD ACTION PLAN**

This item was not considered at the meeting.

## **32. BUDGET**

Steve Letten, Member Support Officer reported that there had been eight applications submitted for funding.

Steve went through the applications and gave details of the bids. The following bids were submitted:

### **1) Knighton Parish Centre – disabled access improvements, £498**

Steve commented that the application was for the installation of a handrail.

RESOLVED:

that the application be supported and £498 be allocated from the Community Cohesion Fund subject to final approval from the Cabinet Lead for Front Line Service Improvement and Neighbourhoods.

### **2) Friends of Queen's Road Allotments – fencing, £2,500**

Steve informed the meeting that this was a joint application with the Castle Ward where £2,500 would be requested from that ward as well.

RESOLVED:

that the application be supported and £2,000 be allocated from the Ward Action Plan Budget subject to final approval from the Cabinet Lead for Front Line Service Improvement and Neighbourhoods and £500 be considered from next year's budget when it is available

**3) South Knighton Community Events, South Knighton Community Cinema, £3,000**

RESOLVED:

that the application be supported and £253 be allocated from the the Ward Community Fund, £1,502 from the Community Cohesion Fund and £1,245 be allocated from the Ward Action Plan Budget subject to final approval from the Cabinet Lead for Front Line Service Improvement and Neighbourhoods.

**4) Rianne O’Grady - rugby training support, £500**

The applicant commented that she had been selected for the British College under 18 and under 20 East Midlands Teams. She commented that her current college had helped her with regional funding however she needed assistance with national funding.

RESOLVED:

that the application be supported and £500 be allocated from the Ward Action Plan Budget subject to final approval from the Cabinet Lead for Front Line Service Improvement and Neighbourhoods.

The Chair congratulated Rianne on her achievement

**5) Police and Community Support Group – Rewards for school children achieving 100% attendance, £500**

A representative from the Police and Community Support Group was present to provide information on the application. She commented that there had been a pilot scheme last year and it had been a success. It was noted that similar bids for funding had been submitted to Community Meetings in the Eyres Monsell, Freeman, Castle and Aylestone wards.

RESOLVED:

that the application be supported and £500 be allocated from the Ward Action Plan Budget subject to final approval from the Cabinet Lead for Front Line Service Improvement and Neighbourhoods.

**6) Welford Road Local Policing Unit - Delivering Service Excellence – Reward for people working with or for the Welford Road Local Policing Unit and its area of operation, £50**

Steve commented that requested for funding for similar schemes had been submitted in other wards as well.

RESOLVED:

that the application be supported and £50 be allocated from the Ward Action Plan Budget subject to final approval from the Cabinet Lead for Front Line Service Improvement and Neighbourhoods.

**7) Friends of Knighton Park - Knighton park community day, £1,200**

A representative from the group gave some information on the event and commented that they were looking to put in a Traffic Regulation Order for the event. They added that a licence had also been purchased

RESOLVED:

that the application be supported and £1,200 be allocated from the Ward Action Plan Budget subject to final approval from the Cabinet Lead for Front Line Service Improvement and Neighbourhoods.

**8) 68<sup>th</sup> Leicester Scouts – storage facilities, £1,445**

Steve commented that he was unable to speak on this item as his partner had submitted the application; therefore the Democratic Services Officer explained the funding application. A representative from the Scout Group was also present to provide information.

RESOLVED:

that the application be supported and £1,445 be allocated from the Ward Action Plan Budget subject to final approval from the Cabinet Lead for Front Line Service Improvement and Neighbourhoods.

**33. PENNBURY ECO TOWN**

Discussion took place on the proposed Pennbury Eco Town Development

The Chair stated that there was a number of issues on the newly proposed Pennbury Eco Town. He commented that the Co-operative Group had stated that they were not prepared to attend any more meetings however would be willing to meet the Members in a one to one situation.

Kevin Feltham, CASCET (Campaign Against Stoughton Co-Op Eco Town) was present at the meeting. He provided some background information about the group. The group had formed just over a year ago when the proposals about the Eco Town had been announced. He added that he and his co-ward Councillor had joined with Parish Councils to form the group. The group had since been joined by a number of experts and professionals. He commented that the Co-op had not attended an event concerning discussion on the proposed Eco Town since October 2008.

Kevin commented on the proposal for the express bus service. He commented that in the Eco Town there would be 15,000 houses and 60,000 people. The Co-op had predicted a 60% retainment rate where people would stay and work in the Eco Town. He commented that nowhere in the country had this sort of retainment rate and it would then mean that 40% of residents in the proposed town would be commuting. There would be increased traffic on London Road. Kevin commented that there would be no space for a corresponding bus lane going out of the city and that the County Council had said it would be unworkable without transport improvements.

A Member commented that if people would be kept within Pennbury then everyone would require servicing such as food. He stated that Knighton and Stoneygate would become full of traffic going in and out of the Eco Town. He stated that Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and North West Leicestershire had received funding to develop housing. North West Leicestershire was an ideal location to place houses as East Midlands airport had grown and the area was also served by the new railway station, East Midlands parkway and a considerable amount of people worked in East Midlands Airport.

A resident queried when the government make the decision. Kevin commented that the current planning policy statement was up for comment. There were currently 11 proposed locations on the list across the country for Eco Towns, which was reduced from the 15 there had been last year. He added that if the relevant Council, which was Harborough District Council, rejected the proposal then it would then go to the Secretary of State for decision.

A resident queried whether the tram proposal had been dropped. The Chair commented that the proposal was unbalanced as it would cost £300 million and only service 15% of traffic. He stated that Co-Op would not be funding the proposal and he could not see where funding for the scheme could be obtained. He also commented that it would have to be identified how to get the traffic in and out of Pennbury.

A resident stated that they wanted to use public transportation, however, there was no incentive to do so. The Chair commented that a substantive public transportation system was needed to convince people not to use their cars.

A vote was taken and the majority of the people attending were against the Pennbury Eco Town proposal. There was no one in favour of the proposal.

#### **34. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

A member of the public thanked the Member Support Team for their assistance.

Concern was raised about the speeding traffic on Shanklin Drive as there were two nursery schools on that road. A member of the public suggested that speed bumps or a series of mini roundabouts could be placed on the road to combat the problem. The Chair commented that there was an electronic sign on the road that monitored speeding, however, it underestimated the speed of the vehicles. A member of the public queried why the sign was not working properly. The Chair commented that the sign had been recalibrated a number of times and he would ask the officers to calibrate it again. He commented that this query would be placed in the action plan and officers would look at the problem. The Chair commented that there had been a proposal to bring a 20mph zone on Overdale Road and that there was a commitment to extend 20mph zone limits across the city.

Action	Officer/Councillor Identified	Deadline
That the concern regarding traffic on	Steve Letten	ASAP

Shanklin Drive be placed in the Ward Action Plan		
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A resident raised concern at the planning application on Knighton Church Road for the demolition of a detached house and to build 5 houses. Members also raised concern at the proposal and people were encouraged to make representations to the Council.

A resident raised concern that Welford Road had not been gritted during the recent heavy snowfalls. They commented that the road was a hazard, however, people were still allowed to go on it.

A resident queried what was happening with regard to the zebra crossing on Overdale Road. The Chair requested that there be an update on this at the next meeting.

Action	Officer/Councillor Identified	Deadline
That there be an update at the next meeting with regard to the Zebra Crossing on Overdale Road	Steve Letten	The next Community Meeting.

The Chair informed the Community Meeting that there would be a special guest appearance by Mark Cox at Leicester Tennis Club on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

RESOLVED:

that there be an update at the next meeting on the zebra crossing on Overdale Road.

### 35. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 8:15pm.