

# Knighton Community Meeting

## Your Community, Your Voice

### Record of Meeting and Actions

6:30 pm, Monday, 17 August 2009

Held at: 9th Leicester Scout Hut, 58 Stoughton Road

Who was there:

Councillor Andy Bayford
-------------------------

Councillor Ross Grant
-----------------------

Councillor Gary Hunt
----------------------



Leicester  
City Council

## 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.

<p><b>Ward Councillors and General Information</b></p> <p>Members of the public were able to talk to their Ward Councillors and Council Officers and raise general enquires or issues.</p>	<p><b>Leicester City Council Housing Benefits</b></p> <p>An Officer from the Council’s Housing Benefits section was present to deal with any Housing Benefit queries.</p>
<p><b>Leicester City Council Hot Lofts Home Insulation</b></p> <p>An Officer from the Council was present to provide information on the Council’s Hot Lofts Home Insulation scheme.</p>	<p><b>Knighton and Clarendon Police and Community Support Group</b></p> <p>A representative from the Knighton and Clarendon Police and Community Support Group was present.</p>
<p><b>Leicester City Council Customer Services</b></p> <p>An Officer from the Council’s Customer Service section was present to deal with any Customer Service queries.</p>	<p><b>Police Issues</b></p> <p>Police Officers for the area were present.</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.

#### **45. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

Councillor Bayford was elected as Chair for the meeting.

#### **46. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

#### **47. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were made.

#### **48. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Chair praised the work done in the ward by Pc Guy Swatland who had recently passed away. He commented that he was a very nice person and had won the beat officer of the year award in 2008.

The Community Meeting was introduced to the new police officer for the area, Pc Steve Douglas who would be taking over from Pc Swatland. Pc Douglas commented that he was looking forward to the challenge of policing in the ward and he would try his best to ensure the area was a safe place.

RESOLVED:

that the minutes of the meeting of the Knighton Community Meeting, held on 1 June 2009, be confirmed as a correct record.

#### **49. HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT**

Satish Shah, Head of Transport Systems was present to talk about the Highways and Transport action plan which showed how the highways and transport issues raised at the last meeting were being dealt with.

The action plan, which outlined how the Highways and Transport issues raised would be addressed, was circulated.

Satish explained that the Highways department would start working on the new Local Transport Plan for beyond 2011 and any new development schemes that were being planned would be brought before the meeting. With regard to the issues raised, the following discussion took place:

##### **Speeding**

Satish stated that not having traffic calming features and the results from the speed survey conducted in October 2008 did not qualify Guilford Road for a 20mph limit. However, he would undertake research to see if other means of introducing 20mph were available and would be speaking to Councillor Grant regarding it.

With regard to the speeding on Overdale Road, officers from the highways department would be meeting the ward Councillors about the traffic calming scheme and there would be feedback brought to the next meeting.

Action	Officer/Councillor Identified	Deadline
Feedback from the meeting with officers regarding speeding on Overdale Road be provided to the Community Meeting.	Ward Councillors.	The next Community Meeting.

### **Vehicle Activated Sign**

Satish stated that the vehicle activated sign on Shanklin Drive had been reported by Officers to be in the correct position. With regard to the sign that was covered by a tree, this had been discussed with the resident of the property with a view to getting the tree trimmed.

### **London Road**

Satish informed the meeting that an officer from the Highways department would be meeting Councillor Grant next Wednesday to discuss the transport study on London Road.

### **Dangerous Junctions**

It was reported that the Overdale Road / Welford Road and Welford Road / Chapel Lane / Knighton Road junctions had been identified as part of accident cluster sites and officers were investigating the problem. It was stated that feedback would be available at the next meeting.

Action	Officer/Councillor Identified	Deadline
Feedback from Officers regarding dangerous junctions	Highways Officers	The next Community Meeting.

### **Condition of Pavements**

Satish commented that officers from the Highways Department would be reporting back at each meeting on what improvements had been carried out. It was also reported that maintenance work had been carried out on Aberdale Road, Asquith Boulevard and Carisbrooke road on 5 and 6 July 2009. With regard to concerns raised about rocking concrete slabs on Oakdene Road and Lambourne Road, Satish stated that this would be investigated and there would be a report back at the next meeting. Satish also stated that the matter of advertising on Asquith Boulevard would be investigated and reported on at the next meeting.

Action	Officer/Councillor Identified	Deadline
Report back on the rocking concrete slabs at Oakdene Road/Lambourne Road	Satish Shah, Head of Transport Systems	The next Community Meeting.
Report back on the advertising on Asquith Boulevard	Satish Shah, Head of Transport Systems	The next Community Meeting.

Residents also raised the following concerns:

- Parking on the junction of Pendlebury Drive. It was agreed that this would be added to the Highways action plan;
- There was a crossing near to the Welford Rd / Overdale Rd junction which was used by a number of children going to school. It was queried whether this could be included in the Safer Routes to School Scheme and whether could the timings be changed at school opening and closing times to allow a longer crossing period.
- The footway on Asquith Boulevard had been re-surfaced but the camber was unacceptable as it encouraged water to run off from private residencies onto the public highway. Satish agreed to investigate and report back at the next meeting
- Speeding on Knighton Grange Road and Ratcliffe Road and people speeding on Ratcliffe Road and then turning on London Road;
- On Aberdale Rd cars parked on the pavement caused an obstruction because of the on road cycle lane. It was queried whether the cycle lane could be put on the pavement so cars could park on the road and
- Potholes on Moorland Avenue. It was agreed to add this to the action plan.

Councillor Grant stated that he had met with officers regarding the Overdale Road/Welford Road junction however there had been no progress since. He added that he would report back from the subsequent meeting he was due to have with officers on Wednesday at the next Community Meeting.

A resident queried whether there had been an analysis of the speeds of cars on Overdale Road and queried whether the results could be made available. Satish commented that there had been an analysis and he would look into finding the statistics for the next meeting.

Action	Officer/Councillor Identified	Deadline
Report on the speed analysis of Overdale Road.	Satish Shah, Head of Transport Systems.	The next Community Meeting.
That the issue about parking on the junction of Pendlebury Drive be	Satish Shah, Head of Transport Systems.	The next Community Meeting.

added to the Highways and Transport Action Plan.		
That the issue about potholes on Moorland Avenue be added to the Highways and Transport Action Plan.	Satish Shah, Head of Transport Systems.	The next Community Meeting.
That there be a report back at the next meeting regarding the flow of water onto the public highway on Asquith Boulevard	Satish Shah, Head of Transport Systems.	The next Community Meeting.

A paper was circulated at the meeting notifying residents of the closure of Palmerston Way Bridge for 5 weeks in order for maintenance work to be carried out.

Residents queried why it would take five weeks to repair the bridge. Satish stated that five weeks was the maximum time required as drawn from the assessment that had been made. Queries were also raised as to why the work had not started sooner to stop it interfering with the school term. Satish commented that funding had to be obtained from the Department for Transport and there had been a period whereby the Council was waiting for confirmation of the funding to come through.

## **50. PENNBURY ECO TOWN UPDATE**

Councillor Grant reported on the decision that had been undertaken regarding the proposed Pennbury Eco Town. Pennbury had not met the requirements regarding how green and environmentally sustainable the proposal was. The meeting was informed that the proposal had not made it through the first and second waves of applications, however the Co-operative group had still thought it was a good scheme. Councillor Hunt commented that there was a requirement to build houses in Leicestershire and there was a concern that small areas in the county would be enlarged if houses were chosen to be built in those areas.

Residents raised concern about the overdevelopment of houses. Councillor Hunt stated that there was currently an over-development of land in the city. This was related to people not purchasing properties. Councillor Hunt commented that a possible way of helping with this problem was for the Council to introduce Council Mortgages, which some other Councils were currently using.

A resident raised concern that there was a flood risk in Knighton. Councillor Grant stated that Councillors at the Council were about to start a Task Group to look at the issue of flood management in the city and Knighton was currently one of the wards affected. One of the issues that was going to be looked at was the position of flood barriers in the city. There was also an opportunity for members of the public to give their opinions and participate in the Task Group.

## 51. BUDGET

The Chair informed the Community Meeting that the application listed on the agenda from Sense experience had been withdrawn and there had been no further applications received. The balances remaining in the budget were as follows:

- Ward Community Fund - £4, 656
- Community Cohesion Fund - £1, 600
- Ward Action Plan - £9, 500

Members advised that it was best to spend the money in the current financial year and residents were encouraged to submit funding applications.

A resident commented that the funding could help small community groups and make a real difference to the groups. It was reported that a previous applicant who had received funding from the Community Meeting for her rugby training had been selected for the England under 18 and under 21 teams.

Helen Lang reported back on the funding the Knighton Park Play Area Project had received from the Castle and Knighton Area Committee in 2007. There had been £13, 900 allocated by the Committee and this had helped pay for various pieces of play equipment such as a Skateboard area. The Community Meeting was also informed of the fun day that was taking place in the Park on 6 September 2009.

A representation from Holbrook Hall provided a progress report on the Cinema project which he had previously received funding for from the Community Meeting. There was currently no equipment purchased yet and licensing regulations were currently being looked into. It was hoped that the first screening would be on the first Saturday in December 2009.

## 52. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A resident raised concern that the running track in Knighton Park had not been marked out, and that it had been done at the request of a local school. Councillor Grant commented that this had already been raised with the Director of Environmental Services previously and would be added to the Ward Action Plan and followed up.

Action	Officer/Councillor Identified	Deadline
That the issue regarding the marking of the Knighton Park running track be added to the Ward action plan.	Steve Letten, Members Support Officer	The next Community Meeting.

## 53. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 8:08pm.