

Oadby and Wigston Borough Council

TO COUNCILLOR:

G S Atwal
E R Barr
L A Bentley
Miss A R Bond
G A Boulter
J W Boyce
Mrs L M Broadley
F S Broadley
D M Carter

Ms K M Chalk
Miss M V Chamberlain
M H Charlesworth
M L Darr
B Dave
R F Eaton (Mayor)
Mrs L Eaton
R E Fahey
D A Gamble

Mrs S Z Haq (Deputy Mayor)
J Kaufman
Dr T K Khong
Mrs H E Loydall
K J Loydall
Mrs S B Morris
R E R Morris
R H Thakor

Dear Councillor et al

I hereby summon you to attend a meeting of the COUNCIL to be held at the COUNCIL OFFICES, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON on THURSDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2017 at 7.00 PM for the transaction of the business set out in the Agenda below.

Yours faithfully

Council Offices
Wigston
21 February 2017

July Ju

Mark Hall Chief Executive

ITEM NO.

AGENDA UPDATE

PAGE NO'S

15. Receiving of Minutes for Information

The Council will receive the minutes from the meetings of the below-mentioned Committees, Forums, Working Groups and Outside Bodies for the purposes of information in accordance with Rule 17 of Part 4 of the Constitution.

b)	Minutes of the South Wigston Residents' Forum held on Tuesday, 08 November 2016	1 - 9
m)	Minutes of the Development Control Committee held on Thursday, 19 January 2017	10 - 16
p)	Minutes of the Policy, Finance and Development Committee held on Tuesday, 31 January 2017	17 - 29

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SOUTH WIGSTON RESIDENTS' FORUM HELD AT THE FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHESHIRE DRIVE, SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE, LE18 4WA ON TUESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2016 COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair - Councillor Mrs S B Morris

COUNCILLORS (3):

G A Boulter J W Boyce R E R Morris

RESIDENTS IN ATTENDANCE (27):

C Walter, T Sumpter, M Ray, R Pearce, M Webster, P Hyatt, G Flaviani, T Tetley, M Tedd, R J Carter, D J Davey, R Hughes, J Jones, M Wilmot, L Howe, J B Smith, S Mosley, D Johnson, Y Johnson, D Tebbutt, P Tebbutt, R Muggleton, S Avery, P Picton, C Sutton, J Sealey, J Guesford, S Malik.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE (5):

V Quintyne (OWBC) J. Cooke (Local Peoples Programme / The Conservation Volunteers), PC C Sutherley, K Jebson-Hambly (OWBC), G Lamb (Pride of the Borough)

Min Ref.	Na	arrative		Officer Resp.
22.	LOCAL POLICING ISSUES			
	Police provided an update on crime Forum last met. This is summarised		eriod since the	
		Last 3 months	Previous 3 months	
	Burglary Dwelling Burglary other than Dwelling (sheds/garages/business premises)	6 2	6 3	
	Theft of Motor Vehicle Theft from Motor Vehicle Robbery	2 6 -	0 10 0	
	Other Crime Issues			
	An elderly lady was distracted by bu property.	ırglars who stole iter	ns from her	
	An Asian family`s property was burg have targeted the property with the			
	Vehicles around the Saffron Road c	orridor were targete	d.	
	The Police are targeting illegal and	inconsiderate parkin	g.	
	The Police continue to consult resid area. This includes their perception reporting of crime stats, no major po	of anti social behavi	our. Since the last	

A resident requested the Police to address the issue of motorists being forced to use the red marked bus lane as a cut through, as they are driving towards Leicester City. The understanding was those bus lanes were not to be used by cars.

In Wigston Magna, Fredrick Street, teenagers were spotted riding at speed on pavements, without bicycle lights or visibility clothing. Concern was expressed that this may lead to collision with pedestrians.

A request was made for the alleyway to be prescribed as pedestrians only.

Action: The Council is to address this concern

A concerned resident wished to see Bell Street be a cycle free zone. It was explained that the County Council has allowed cyclists access, although the Council did not agree with this decision.

Action: Councillor Boulter agreed to discuss this issue with the resident.

23. AMENDED MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 08 JUNE 2016

The amended minutes of June 6th 2016 were agreed as a true and accurate record. The minutes were proposed and seconded for the Forum's acceptance. There were no dissenters.

A resident requested the Forum include fewer presentations and that the next Forum meeting agenda set aside an hour to discuss how to make the Forum work.

24. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

24a. SIR EDWARD GARNIER & OADBY AND WIGSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

A vote was taken on a proposal to bring forward the Sir Edward Garnier issue previously raised. Fifteen people voted in favour of this. Following the vote, the Chair brought the item forward for open discussion. This was previously to be discussed under item 8 on the agenda.

The following points made were recorded as follows:

The Chair stated the current issue relating to the grievance between the Council and employees cannot be discussed. The matter is covered by law and Human Rights legislation.

A printed written response by the Council on this matter was circulated at the meeting.

Action: Circulate the written response to residents.

The grievances raised were made back in May 2015. An investigation concluded in 2015. 214 grievances and more were said to have been made. The investigation dismissed them.

The Local Government Association was brought in to do a thorough investigation. Only those interviewed were allowed to talk about it.

A question was asked as to if any of the 214 grievances were upheld. The Chair stated she could not discuss the grievance matter any further as it is not yet concluded.

The Chair was asked if she or any other Councillors apart from the Leader of the Council were involved in the grievance. The answer was in the negative. This was done so Councillors were "kept clean" from the matter.

The question was asked if HR was involved at this point. The Chair stated this could not be answered at this time.

Questions can be asked once the process is over. Councillors can only raise questions once the process is over.

A resident noted that 214 grievances were raised against middle to senior management and it seemed suspicious that none can be questioned about.

The Chair stated Councillors and the Public must be careful not to say anything on this matter as they may be liable to be sued if they say the wrong thing.

It was noted that some residents are upset by this matter and the monetary cost.

A Resident made observations from the Penn document referred to in the meeting. Quotes were made from Hansard. It was noted Mr Penn did not give Oadby and Wigston a "clean bill of health". Mr Penn's report is available on the worldwide Web. The Resident expressed concern residents were not told anything. She felt there was nothing to stop the Council talking about the governance of Oadby and Wigston. She read a section from the report which noted that "culture change may take longer" at the Council.

The Council's Change Management Committee were said to be concerned residents had not been told anything.

The resident expressed an opinion that the Council is doing a "cover up".

Another resident expressed the view that "nine peoples' lives have been made hell".

Councillor Boyce stated that 15 people were involved in the grievance. He noted that action is still being taken. The Penn Report went to the Change Management Committee and all reports do not go to all Residents Forums.

A resident is concerned there is an issue of trust between the Council and residents.

A resident noted the situation between Sir Edward Garnier and the Council has adversely affected the Council.

A resident noted that Sir Edward Garnier is acting on behalf of the residents and some officers gave no response.

The Chair stated the Penn document has many parts of it redacted. As it

mentions peoples identities.

Councillor Boyce explained how grievances are dealt with in the Council.

The Penn report is freely available online.

Richard Penn was suggested as an adviser to Oadby and Wigston Council by the Local Government Association. The grievance reports are not on the website. A second part of Mr Penn's report is on the website. Elements are redacted.

On Change Management training at the Council, there are two more months of training for Councillors. The Change Management Committee will not exist forever. The Council is doing all it can to resolve this situation acting within the law and therefore cannot resolve it until the law allows for resolution.

The Chair will come to the next forum meeting and provide an update on progress.

A resident stated his behaviour was such at the previous meeting because he had been "unnecessarily provoked".

A question was asked as to whether Mr Penn was known by a person in the Council. It was stated that Councillor Darr was a Councillor in Bradford twenty years ago and Mr Penn was an officer there.

The Penn report was noted as critical of the Council's local structure.

Questions were raised as to why the Council needs a Change Management Programme, which should have been in place twenty years ago The Chair noted the Council had gone through change in, 2000 and 2008.

A resident stated the Council should have used the Forum as an opportunity for discussion when things go wrong.

The Chair stated this Forum does not stop the opportunity to bring challenges to services by residents.

Noting the Penn report the Chair stated this Council has done a significant amount but cannot share all the information.

A resident called for an extraordinary meeting to be held.

Councillor Boyce would like to brief Members on this issue but is unable to widely at this stage.

A resident noted a petition could be called to have an extraordinary meeting. The Chair noted that if the Council gets to the end of the employment process, the Chair can then call an extraordinary meeting.

The Chair is concerned that if this is done next month and the issue is still not resolved she would still not be able to provide answers to questions in full.

A resident asked if Sir Edward Garnier was invited to come and have a chat in the recent past with, the Chief Executive and the offer is clear he should

come.

Councillor Boyce noted that since February no invitation had been made to Sir Edward Garnier. On the last discussion with Sir Garnier it was expressed that Sir Garnier was to assist the Council to access funding.

There is a future commitment from the Chief Executive, Mark Hall, once the process is complete to, inform residents what has happened and when.

The Chief Executive will provide a briefing on where the Council is at and make a statement once everything is over residents will be able to say what the case was about and know the cost.

A resident stated that he thought tonight's meeting was a waste of time and he had come to the meeting to talk about an issue that affected South Wigston

The Chair stated she is open to putting information about the Change Management training on the next Forum agenda. At the end of the Change Management Programme there will be some culture change and the Council will change if it is needs changing.

25. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 07 SEPTEMBER 2016

A resident raised that they had a document with proposed amendments to the minutes of the meeting. A copy of the document was handed to the Community Engagement Officer and Councillor Boyce.

A copy of this document, marked as 'Addendum No. 1', is filed with these minutes.

A resident raised that they had document of proposed changes to the forum meetings. The resident requested that further consideration be given at a future meeting as to how the forum meetings were to work.

A copy of this document, marked as 'Addendum No. 2', is filed with these minutes.

26. CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT OADBY AND WIGSTON COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN

The other matters.

27. RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY RESPONSE PLANS

The other matters.

28. SOUTH WIGSTON TRADERS' UPDATE

The other matters.

29. OADBY AND WIGSTON COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

The Oadby and Wigston Community Responders requested an award of £190 from the Residents Forum. This was for the purchase of two high visibility jackets. They requested the same sum from Oadby Residents Forum, which was agreed.

	The Responders are now seeking an award of £190 from South Wigston Residents Form to purchase two jackets. The same sum is to be requested from Wigston Residents Forum. The jackets will help to address the shortage of official equipment required. The jackets will be accessible to other Responders of which there are eleven in total. The jacket cost will include the embroidered crest of this Council and EMAS (East Midlands Ambulance Service). The proposal was agreed. There were no dissenters.	
30.	CHAIR'S UPDATES	
	The other matters.	
30a.	CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE	
	The other matters.	
30b.	REQUESTS FOR SPENDING AND UPDATE ON FORUM BUDGET	
30b.	REQUESTS FOR SPENDING AND UPDATE ON FORUM BUDGET The other matters.	
30b.	The other matters. ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE	
	The other matters.	
	The other matters. ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE ITEMS	
	The other matters. ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE ITEMS The other matters. Residents are reminded that should they wish to discuss issues that affect them before the full meeting begins, there is a confidential one to one surgery session with the Police and Councillors between 7.00pm and	

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.04 PM

Ø
CHAIR
TUESDAY, 07 MARCH 2017

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SOUTH WIGSTON RESIDENTS' FORUM HELD AT THE BASSETT STREET COMMUNITY HUB, BASSETT STREET, SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE, LE18 4PE ON WEDNESDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 2016 COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM

Amendments to draft minutes - amended wording to be added or corrected in italics

Min Ref 12: Addition of omitted item

The resident who raised the amendments to the minutes of the June meeting asked the Chair when in this meeting time would be given to discuss Edward Garnier's Adjournment Debate of the previous day, 6th September. The Chair said it could be at Chair's Update.

Min ref 15: Addition of omitted item

A resident asked that we be called citizens or residents because that means we have rights and duties. We are not customers and shouldn't be referred to as such as that takes our rights away. The Leader of the Council said this would be considered.

Min ref 20: Amendments to incorrect wording and to rectify omissions

Para commencing the issues in question – amend to:

The issues in question related to: 214 grievances taken by 9 senior managers against the senior management team; estimated £550,000 spent on investigation, legal costs etc; and critical comments concerning management and governance of the Council. Residents asked why Forum meetings had been told nothing in the eighteen months since the resignation letter of one of those staff appeared in the Leicester Mercury after the May 2015 election.

Immediately after bullet points recording Chair's comments, the draft record of residents' points is inaccurate and incomplete. Remove all 4 paragraphs purporting to record what residents said. Replace with amended items as follows:

A resident stated that there is no way that 214 allegations from 9 senior managers can possibly be 'just a staffing issue', it can only be a problem with management and governance.

A resident stated that the Council does not respond – doesn't reply to correspondence or phone calls, nor does the Senior Management, and that residents have nowhere to go with issues other than to their MP. Edward Garnier is acting on behalf of residents.

Another resident stated the view that the Liberal Democrats have had a majority for over 20 years, do not have a strong opposition, and have drifted to a position of protecting the Council instead of fulfilling their role of holding the Council to account, and representing residents. The same resident had to ask the Chair why he was shouting at her.

Another resident stated if they were a chief executive and had 214 grievances against them, they would be seriously considering their position. In addition, in the light of Edward Garnier's call for the Senior Management Team and the political leadership to resign, they asked of the Chair, 'Are you going to resign?" The Chair replied, 'no'.

Another resident expressed concern at the enormous cost of the issues and pointed out that this is Council tax money paid by residents.

Another resident asked that this matter be added to the agenda for the next Forum meeting

in November 2016. The Chair agreed to this.

The Chair stated that if any resident wrote to him with their e-mail he would forward relevant documents to them – although some would be redacted.



Changing the Forum Meetings

The present Forum meetings are very poorly attended, and don't appear to fulfil the purpose for which they are run.

Sharon has agreed to discuss the structure of these meetings.

I would like the following proposals discussed and voted on in the hope that the meetings work more in line with their purpose, and result in more positive outcomes.

- Reduce the number of presentations. Our last meeting had just 10 minutes to discuss Edward Garnier's adjournment debate. The swimming pool presentation was given over 20, and to which our input was irrelevant.
- 2. Give more time for residents to question and give their views. This is the only place for public discussion between residents and ward councillors. There has to be more space for views, opinions and ideas to be openly exchanged.
- 3. <u>Send agendas and minutes out a week in advance.</u> This should be standard practice. They shouldn't be given out on the night.
- 4. Give residents a big say on what goes on the agenda and order of discussion.
- 5. <u>Make agendas and minutes easily accessible on line</u> i.e. by typing in South Wigston Residents' Forum, and getting all relevant documents for that forum, in one place, in date order. An http link is useless for open resident access.
- 6. No vote on money applications on the night of any presentation. There should be a proper written presentation and costing the first time, for residents to take away and consider. They can then ask questions before voting at the next Forum.
- 7. Have an agreed quorum e.g 10 residents present before a vote can be taken.
- 8. <u>Have a discussion and review about increasing attendance.</u> The present system seems to be that only those who attended the last meeting are contacted for the following meeting. We need an action plan to involve more people.
- 9. <u>Keep an expanding list of people who attend forum meetings</u>. Add newcomers automatically so that the list can grow.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON ON THURSDAY, 19 JANUARY 2017 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair - Councillor L A Bentley Vice-Chair - Councillor Mrs L M Broadley

COUNCILLORS (10):

G A Boulter R E Fahey
F S Broadley D A Gamble Mrs H E Loydall
D M Carter Mrs S Z Haq R E R Morris
B Dave J Kaufman

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE (5):

S J Ball Mrs A E Court
T Boswell Ms S Lane R Redford

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE (1):

Ms H Bearford

Min Ref.	Narrative	Officer Resp.
36.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
	An apology for absence was received from Councillor Dr T K Khong.	
37.	APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES	
	None.	
38.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	In respect of planning application number 16/00316/REM, the Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest insofar he had spoken to a number of residents regarding the same. He confirmed that he attended the meeting without prejudice and with an open mind.	
39.	READING, CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF MINUTES	
40.	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2016	
	RESOLVED THAT:	
	The minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 17 November 2016 be taken as read, confirmed and signed.	
41.	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 15 DECEMBER 2016	
	RESOLVED THAT:	
	The minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 15 December 2016 be taken as read, confirmed and signed.	

42. | PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None.

43. REPORT OF THE PLANNING CONTROL MANAGER

 Application No. 16/00316/REM – Land South, Newton Lane, Wigston, Leicestershire

Ms Helen Bearford spoke upon the application on behalf of the applicant.

Ms Bearford stated that David Wilson Homes (DWH) had produced a reserved matters proposal that it considered to be sympathetic to the immediate site surroundings, in-keeping with the character of the Principle Urban Area of Wigston and accorded to the principles of the outline planning permission including the approved Illustrative Masterplan and the Design Guide. She stated that the site was respectful to its edge of settlement location and the careful positioning of dwellings and proposed boundary treatment along the western boundary did not adversely affect the residential amenity of existing properties. The considerable use/amount of public open space, positioning of allotments along the eastern boundary and the retention of the majority of existing trees and hedgerows on site was said to allow the development to assimilate into the landscape and retain its rural-fringe character. The public space network was said to be interactive and fully integrated with the built development. She confirmed that the technical issues raised by the Highways Authority had been resolved and there were no objections from statutory consultees.

The Committee gave consideration to the application (at pages 17 - 25) as delivered and summarised by the Interim Planning Control Manager which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

The Interim Planning Control Manager emphasised that the application sought the approval of reserved matters only for the residential phase of outline planning permission (application no. 13/00403/OUT) previously incorporating 33 conditions, to which conditions 6 and 7 were of material consideration to the present application.

The Interim Planning Control Manager added that the Flood Risk Assessment provided that each dwelling was to have slab levels of 200mm above the ambient level to reduce or prevent the risk of flooding. He recommended an added condition that information regarding slab levels was to be received by the Planning Authority.

Councillor Mrs H E Loydall sought clarification as to conditions 6 and 7 so-referred.

The Interim Planning Control Manager clarified that condition 6 referred to the Sustainability Statement and condition 7 referred to the Design Guide.

The application was moved for grant of planning permission by the Chair and seconded by Councillor Mrs H E Loydall.

The Vice-Chair enquired as to what measures were to be taken, either by the applicant or Highway Authority, to provide for the future maintenance of the street trees, verges and blocked raised tables incorporating parts of the application site. The Interim Planning Control Manager advised that the Highway Authority would require a commuted sum to provide for the future maintenance of all highways, streets trees and verges. The collection of other open spaces were said to be collectively-conveyed to a private company made up of constituent residents who, in turn, would assume full responsibility for the future maintenance thereof.

Councillor Mrs H E Loydall stated that she did not accept a number of application's proposals, namely:

- the absence of any suitable-dwellings to accommodate prospective residents across the generations (viz. the elderly/bungalows);
- (ii) the future maintenance of the site's blocked raised tables;
- (iii) the omission of any reference to the particulars of the proposed community facility building;
- (iv) clarification as to community areas/allotments and their proximity to residential properties;
- (v) conditions relating to work constructions hours (viz. no work on Sundays, Bank Holidays and hours that are not unduly inconvenient to residents), the cleaning of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV's), and direction of travel of HGV's;
- (vi) the perceived monotony of the application's design scheme and unimaginative landscaping to mitigate the same;
- (vii) the dwellings' side elevations; and
- (viii) the type and style of materials intended to be used (viz. brickwork, roofing, cladding etc).

The Member requested that additional discussion be had with the applicant to address the aforementioned concerns and that the choice of material(s) be a matter reserved for this Committee.

The Interim Planning Control Manager advised, accordingly:

- (i) the applicant's choice of proposed dwellings was market-driven and formed exclusively part of their own financial agenda;
- (ii) the blocked raised tables would form part of the wider highway adoption with the acceptance of a commuted sum to the Highways Authority;
- (iii) the agreement pursuant to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, section 106 ("s106 agreement") required a community facility building which may be sited upon a residual pocket of open space land:
- (iv) the community areas/allotments were to be sited along the eastern boundary of the application site;
- (v) condition 33 of the outline planning permission required the submission of a Construction Management Plan prior to development, to include Members' stipulations, with standard operation hours of c. 8:30 – 18:30;
- (vi) the application's design scheme was considered sympathic to the site's surroundings, including dwellings' side elevations; and
- (vii) a schedule of materials had been submitted, subject to change, in accordance with the approval required under condition 2.

The Interim Planning Control Manager noted that there was no specification as to the proposed materials intended to be used and that the matter could be so-reserved.

Councillor J Kaufman raised a concern in respect of shared parking areas insofar as the attraction of anti-social behaviour and the difficultly in rendering repairs to the same due to the difficulty in eliciting equal financial contributions from residents.

The Interim Planning Control Manager advised that the application incorporated only one shared parking area. The maintenance thereof was said to be mitigated by the enduring quality of the design. He advised that there was no feasible or enforceable future-proof solution that could to be found in respect of the Member's concern.

Councillor B Dave enquired as to whether there was any guidance defining 'severe' and 'residual cumulative impact' (at page 23, paragraphs 3 and 4) in respect of the application's impact upon the safe and efficient use of the highway network. The Member made reference to the cumulative impact envisaged by the permitted development at Cooks Lane, Wigston (application no. 16/00295/FUL).

The Chair advised that the expert determinations of the Highway Authority were to be taken as conclusive and that the proposed attention measures were to prove useful.

The Interim Planning Control Manager advised that the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was concerned with associated matters of highway safety *vis-a-vis* highway users' convenience in that the NPPF assumed a reasonable level of traffic congestion. 'Severe' was said to entertain a fatal risk to life. 'Residual cumulative impact' was said to refer to the effects of other developments once mitigation measures had been taken into account. He reported that the outline planning permission contained a number of amendments required to improve highway safety/efficiency before the commencement of the proposed development.

Councillor Mrs S Z Haq enquired as to:

- (i) if the scale of the propose development was sufficient to trigger the building of a primary school;
- (ii) whether the bus service subsidy was to be provided to the serviceprovider or service-user(s), and if the bus-service would continue to operation after the subsidy had dissipated; and
- (iii) if the requirement as to the future maintenance of pockets of open space could be drafted into the dwellings' deeds to bind current and successful dwellers-in-title.

The Interim Planning Control Manager advised, accordingly:

- (i) no primary school was envisaged under the application, but contributions paid under the s106 agreement were to improve and enlarge existing schools' provision and pupil capacity;
- (ii) the subsidy was to be provided to the service-provider and the bus service would continue to remain operation if it was deemed commercially-viable;
- (iii) covenants could be drafted into deeds at the conveyancing stage.

Councillor G A Boulter enquired as to:

- (i) the siting of the affordable dwellings within the application site;
- (ii) whether fencing enclosing the flood-basins were to be installed, citing

- safety concerns posed to children and young people;
- (iii) the number of playing fields and the size of land allocation for allotments;
- (iv) the exact specification of the proposed community facility building;
- (v) the delegation of responsibility between the two developers; and
- (vi) whether any residual pockets of open space land (otherwise unadopted by the Highway Authority) were, or ought to be, adopted by this Council or to ensure their future maintenance.

The Member further noted that there was to be no bus service subsidy forthcoming from Leicestershire County Council in the next four years and no representations had been submitted by Leicestershire Constabulary regarding the site's configuration.

The Interim Planning Control Manager advised, accordingly:

- (i) with reference to the application site plan, the siting of affordable dwellings were denoted by the blue markings thereon;
- (ii) the proposed public open space scheme included the planting-up of the flood basins' margins, whose purpose was not considered to be a sign cant safety risk insofar as holding a small volume of water for a temporary period of time;
- (iii) two playing fields were to be vested to the Council upon the development's completion, and that the size of the land allocation for allotments was to be in accordance with the Council's Core Strategy requirements;
- (iv) the community facility building's construction was to commence upon the erection of the 100th dwelling and completed upon the erection of the 250th dwelling, not exceeding the cost of £300,000 excluding disbursements:
- (v) the Planning Authority could not regulate the developers' contractual arrangements; and
- (vi) the future maintenance of any other residual pockets of open space land was to be managed by the applicant.

The Chair requested that the openings in the boundary fencing separating the old and new development sites be closed to avoid congregation and further enquired as to who was to maintain the fences and the open spaces enclosed thereby.

The Interim Planning Control Manager advised that the openings in the boundary fencing served a multitude of justifiable purposes (e.g. free-flow of water) and there were no opening susceptible to congregating persons. It was stated that it was not the developers' responsibility to repair or replace dwellers' fencing. The provision of boundary fencing was said be a matter capable of being reserved for this Committee.

The Vice-Chair sought clarification as to the meaning of 'affordable dwellings' and questioned why the same were clustered together and not dispersed over the application site.

The Interim Planning Control Manager advised that affordable dwellings were accommodation-units made available to registered Housing Associations offered out on variable rental rates (viz. social/reduced openmarket) and shared-ownership arrangements. It was said that affordable dwellings were clustered together to efficiently manage and organise the maintenance schedules thereof.

An amendment to the application was moved by the Chair and seconded by the Vice-Chair requiring that:

- (i) the conditions of the outline planning permission continue to be observed:
- (ii) a condition be added requiring information regarding the slab levels to be received by the Planning Authority;
- (iii) a condition be added stipulating work construction hours;
- (iv) the Construction Management Plan be duly completed;
- (v) clarification be provided in respect of:
 - (a) the maintenance of (public) open spaces;
 - (b) to the maintenance of the boundary fencing;
 - (c) the status of the footpath across the application site; and
- **(vi)** delegated authority be granted to Officers to ensure the aforementioned.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The motion be amended, accordingly.

Councillor D A Gamble reiterated Members' aforementioned concerns in respect of the future maintenance of (public) open spaces and requested that discussions be had with the applicant concerning a commuted sum to this Council to maintain the same. The Member opined that the affordable dwellings ought to be dispersed.

Councillor G A Boulter requested that the Highway Authority make sufficient provision for street-lighting.

RESOLVED THAT:

The application (as amended) be **PERMITTED** planning permission subject to conditions.

Votes For 11 Votes Against 0 Abstentions 1

Councillor D A Gamble left the Chamber at 8:44 pm.

2. Application No. 16/00479/TPO – 119 Saffron Road, Wigston, Leicestershire, LE18 4UQ

The Committee gave consideration to the application (at pages 26 - 30) as delivered and summarised by the Interim Planning Control Manager which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

The Interim Planning Control Manager reiterated that the foundation depths underpinning the affected conservatory in question were inadequate and that insufficient evidence had been submitted to substantiate the fact that the complained-of tree was the main and pivotal factor in the subsidence of the conservatory.

The application was moved for refusal of permission to remove the TG1

(Oak) by the Chair and seconded by Councillor R E R Morris.	
Councillor D M Carter commended the report.	
UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:	
The application be REFUSED permission.	

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.48 PM

<u>K</u>
CHAIR
THURSDAY, 16 MARCH 2017

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE POLICY, FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON ON TUESDAY, 31 JANUARY 2017 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair - Councillor Mrs S B Morris Vice-Chair - Councillor D A Gamble

COUNCILLORS (10):

G S Atwal
E R Barr
M L Darr
J Kaufman
L A Bentley
B Dave
R E R Morris
G A Boulter
R E Fahey

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE 4):

S J Ball M Hone Mrs A E Court A Thorpe

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE (1):

T Ridout

Min Ref.	Narrative	Officer Resp.
54.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
	An apology for absence was received from Councillors Mrs L Eaton and K J Loydall.	
55.	APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES	
	None.	
56.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	In respect of the item of business at agenda item 15:	
	 (i) Councillor L A Bentley declared a non-pecuniary interest insofar as he was a Committee Member of the Wigston Club for Young People which was affiliated to Young Leicestershire Limited (as declared as a disclosable interest on the Members' Register of Interests); (ii) Councillor J Kaufman declared a non-pecuniary interest insofar as he had assisted in devising the 'Oadby Youth Centre Business Plan 2013-15' filed as appendix 3 to the report (at pages 107 - 154); and (iii) Councillor R E R Morris declared a non-pecuniary interest insofar a young person was known to him who was both a representative on the Oadby Youth Centre Committee and Vice-Chair of the Oadby and Wigston Youth Council by virtue of the elected-Member being the Chair of the Children and Young Persons' Forum and its associated dealings with the said Youth Council. 	
	All Members confirmed that they attended the meeting without prejudice and with an open mind.	

57. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 01 NOVEMBER 2016

RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 01 November 2016 be taken as read, confirmed and signed.

58. ACTION LIST ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 01 NOVEMBER 2016

RESOLVED THAT:

The Action List be noted by Members.

59. | PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None.

The Chair entered the Chamber at 7:08 pm.

60. INTERNAL AUDIT - PROGRESS REPORT 2016/17

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendix (at pages 11 - 35) as jointly-delivered and summarised by the Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) and the Chief (Internal) Auditor at CW Audit Services, Mr Timothy Ridout, which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

The Chief Auditor reported that full or significant levels of assurance had been awarded to six reviews completed since the last progress report in November 2016. He advised that revised timetables had been implemented in respect of recommendations with the affirmative action(s) taken by managers detailed in the report. It was said that there were 8 high-risk outstanding issues which required attention.

Councillor J W Boyce moved the recommendation as set out at paragraph 2 of the report (at page 11).

The Vice-Chair seconded the recommendation.

Councillor J W Boyce enquired as to which point outstanding issues were upwardly reclassified from 'medium-risk' to 'high-risk'. The Member further sought assurances from the Officers in attendance in relation to: when the high-risk health and safety (H&S) issues arising in the report were to be resolved; and that no person(s) had been endangered or put at physical risk as a consequence of same issues arising.

The Director of Services / Monitoring Officer assured Members that: the outstanding H&S issues were to be resolved by June 2016; and no person(s) had been so endangered or put at any physical risk.

Councillor B Dave raised a concern as to the lengh of time being taken to resolve the issue(s) in relation to Private Sector Housing/Disabled Facility Grants (DFG's).

Councillor J W Boyce and the Director of Services / Monitoring Officer jointly-advised that County-wide discussions were still ongoing in relation to

the feasibility of the Lightbulb Project (LbP) as the proposed DFG delivery mechanism advocated by Leicestershire County Council (LCC). The LbP was said to require policy uniformity across the seven Borough and District Councils and that, and as a result of the complexity in achieving the same logistically, no one Authority was further forward in being able to adopt the proposal at the present time. Members were informed that a full and detailed report was to be brought to the next meeting of the Service Delivery Committee to be held on Tuesday, 16 March 2016 addressing the subject-matter.

Councillor M L Darr sought clarification as to the definition of 'closed (e.g. supersede or system changed)' in the appendix (at page 15).

The Chief Auditor advised that 'closed' etc. referred to the closing of issues by virtue of a fundamental change in the system(s) formerly used to reconcile the means to achieve *vis-a-vis* the means to assess any given issue.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The content of the progress report for 2016/17 be noted by Members.

61. OVERALL GENERAL FUND REVISED FINANCIAL POSITION 2016/17 AND DRAFT BUDGET 2017/18

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (at pages 36 - 49) as delivered and summarised by the Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

The Interim Chief Finance Officer reported that the overall revised General Fund financial position for 2016/17 and Draft Budget for 2017/18 was predicated on the requirement incumbent upon Council to make a total of c. £1.4m efficiency savings by 2020 due to the progressive nature of cuts to the Revenue Support Grant (RSG).

The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) was said to have set a target of £860k in 2017/18, of which £710k of efficiency saving had already been found with the remaining £150k to be borrowed from General Reserves to balance the budget. It was added that no significant cuts to frontline services or redundancies were anticipated in 2017/18 but advised that, and in conjunction with the work being undertaken by the Change Management Committee in relation to the Four-Year Efficiency Plan, these heads were not exempt from future reconsideration in 2018/19.

Councillor J W Boyce moved the recommendations *en bloc* as set out at paragraphs 2.1 to 2.4 of the report (at page 36).

Councillor M L Darr seconded the recommendations.

Councillor B Dave raised a number of enquires, namely:

- (a) whether the report made reference to the MTFS as approved in September 2016 or a revised version;
- (b) the absence of any figures in relation to capital receipts and reference to future capital schemes at paragraph 3.18 (at page 43); and
- (c) an explanation as to the notable budget fluctuations in net committee

expenditure between financial years 2016/17 and 2017/18 at appendix 1 (at page 45).

He expressed his reservations about borrowing against the General Reserves and invited Officers to explore alternative options to bridge the funding gap. The Member announced that, for the aforementioned reason, he was to abstain from voting.

The Interim Chief Finance Officer advised, accordingly:

- (a) the report made reference to the MTFS as approved in September 2016 and that the MTFS was to be updated after the next meeting of the Council to be held on 21 February 2017 at which 2017/18 Council Tax and the Budget was to be set;
- (b) the financial information provided was necessarily based on a number of assumptions in respect of routine levels of the borrowing/re-paying of capital, that the Council was carefully considering its existing capital commitments and that no new capital schemes were to be proposed unless funding was to made available on a case-by-case basis;
- (c) a detailed breakdown of net committee expenditure explaining budget fluctuations would be provided to Members outside the meeting in due course.

Councillor L A Bentley enquired as to: the lengh of time New Homes Bonus (NHB) legacy payments were to continue to be paid; and if there was any systematic or progressive reduction in the allocation of NHB payments awarded over time.

The Interim Chief Finance Officer advised NHB legacy payments were to reduce year-on-year from 6 to 5 years in 2017/18, then to 4 years in 2018/19 etc. He advised that from April 2017, no NHB payments were be made to local authorities whose housing growth was less than 0.4% and from April 2018, NHB payments were to be withheld from local authorities not supporting housing growth, including the non-payment or reduced payment for dwellings built subsequent to a successful appeal. The Council's NHB was reported to have reduced by £37,000 for 2017/18.

Councillor J W Boyce commended Officers for the work undertaken. He reiterated the Draft Budget's resilience in there being no significant cuts to frontline services or redundancies anticipated. It was acknowledged that Members should be notified as soon as reasonable practicable when a revised version of MTFS is published. It was said that a capital programme was to be brought forward in either February or June 2017 that was to be revenue-neutral in terms of agreements made pursuant to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, section 106 ("s106 agreements"). The Member restated concerns regarding NHB's. The Member stated that to reduce Reserve General Fund levels in line with reducing turnover was a prudent and sensible decision as recommended by the Government. Over the coming years, it was said that service areas would need to be carefully re/assessed in addition to exploring opportunities to invest in Council services as a means to save.

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The overall revised General Fund revenues budget position for 2016/17 (Appendices 1 and 2) be considered and approved;
- (ii) The overall draft General Fund revenue Budget for 2017/18

MHo CR (Appendices 1 and 3) be recommended in principle to Council;

- (iii) The use of reserves (as outlined in Appendix 4) be approved; and
- (iv) The Council to remain in the Business Rate Pool for 2017/18 be agreed.

Votes For 8 Votes Against 0 Abstentions 4

62. DRAFT HRA BUDGET AND HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18

The Committee gave consideration to the report (at pages 50 - 52) as delivered and summarised by the Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

The Chair moved the recommendations *en bloc* as set out at paragraphs 2.1 to 2.2 of the report (at page 50).

The Vice-Chair seconded the recommendations.

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The report be noted by Members and the new levels of rent and service charges (as set out at paragraphs 4 and 5 of the report) be recommend to Council; and
- (ii) The totality of the Capital Programme (as set out at paragraph 6 of the report) be recommended to Council.

Votes For 11 Votes Against 0 Abstentions 1

63. RESIDENT FORUM OUTTURN BUDGET POSITION AND ALLOCATION REQUESTS

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (at pages 53 - 57) as delivered and summarised by the Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

The Interim Chief Finance Officer added that, since the writing of the report, two further allocation requests were awarded at the Wigston Residents' Forum meeting held on 16 November 2016, namely: (i) to the Wigston Girl Guides Group for the purchase of a 6ft x 8ft shed (£300.00); and (ii) to the Little Hill Residents Association for the purchase of a Makita 4-stoke leaf blower (£187.00).

Councillor J W Boyce moved the recommendations *en bloc* as set out at paragraphs 2.1 to 2.3 of the report (at page 53), subject an addition that the Interim Chief Finance Officer be granted delegated authority to expedite the two additional requests aforementioned.

The Vice-Chair seconded the recommendations.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The position of the Forums' budget be noted by Members;
- (ii) The allocation requested by the Forums (as set out at paragraphs 3.2 to 3.4 of the report) be approved;
- (iii) Delegated authority be granted to the Interim Chief Finance Officer to expedite the two additional requests (as given in the verbal update); and
- (iv) The allocation of further funding be considered by Members.

64. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES

The Committee gave consideration to the report (at pages 58 - 59) as delivered and summarised by the Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

The Chair and Vice-Chair confirmed that they were aware of the identity of Company A which (otherwise in accordance with section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972) could not be disclosed in open session as an exempted item of information (as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Act).

The Chair moved the recommendations *en bloc* as set out at paragraphs 2.(i) to 2.(ii) of the report (at page 58).

Councillor G A Boulter seconded the recommendations.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The preferred bidder for the Internal Audit contract, Company A, be noted; and
- (ii) The Interim Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Chair of Policy, Finance and Development Committee, be delegated authority to conclude and sign the contract with Company A.

65. REVIEW OF COMMUNITY LEASE - OADBY YOUTH CENTRE, WIGSTON ROAD

Having declared a non-pecuniary interest and having been properly cautioned by the Monitoring Officer, Councillor L A Bentley left the Chamber at 8:14 pm and took no part in the debate on the item of business and voting thereon.

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (at pages 97 - 154) as delivered and summarised by the Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

Councillor J W Boyce moved the recommendations as set out at paragraph 2.1 and 2.2.(a) of the report (at page 97) subject to that: (i) a term of 25 years be granted; and (ii) delegated authority to granted to the Senior Democratic Services Officer / Legal Officer to appropriately draft and complete upon the lease, accordingly.

Councillor R E Fahey seconded the recommendations (as amended).

Councillor R E R Morris advocated that the Council should not be minded to otherwise evict a charitable tenant operating a facility for the benefit of

young people in Oadby. The Member further asked whether the Oadby Youth Centre (OYC) was agreeable to the increased nominal ground rent of £50.00 per annum.

The Senior Democratic Services Officer / Legal advised that the OYC was agreeable.

Councillor G A Boulter stated that there was a pressing need to progress the adoption of land upon which the former scout hut was situated to extend the existing Oadby Cemetery so to increase the ever-diminishing burial capacity therein.

Councillor J W Boyce stated that the land in question urgently required reviewing as part of the ongoing Strategic Asset Management work being undertaken by the Chief Finance Officer under the remit of the Change Management Committee in order to ascertain the best long-term use(s) of the land for both the Council and the OYC.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) A renewal lease of land at Wigston Road, Oadby be granted in favour of the Oadby Youth Centre for a term of 25 years, at a nominal ground rent of £50.00 per annum and a 6-month notice to terminate period exercisable by either party; and
- (ii) Delegated authority be granted to the Senior Democratic Services Officer / Legal Officer to appropriately draft and complete upon the lease, accordingly.

Councillor L A Bentley returned to the Chamber at 8:23 pm.

66. | COLLECTION AND WRITE-OFF OF MISCELLANEOUS DEBTORS

The Committee gave consideration to the report (at pages 60 - 61) as delivered and summarised by the Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

The Chair commended Officers for their efforts in debt(s) collected and the relatively low amount(s) of debt written off.

The Chair moved the recommendation as set out at paragraph 2 of the report (at page 60).

The Vice-Chair seconded the recommendation.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The contents of the report be noted by Members.

67. CHARGING STRUCTURE AT BOROUGH LEISURE CENTRES

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendix (at pages 62 - 64) as delivered and summarised by the Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

The Interim Chief Finance Officer added that the annual submission of the

Charging Structure was to be synchronised in line with future meeting(s) of the Committee at which the setting of the Council's Scale of Fees and Charges is ordinarily resolved.

Councillor G A Boulter sought clarification as to the miscellaneous charge marked 'Admissions' at 7.10(a) of the appendix (at page 63).

The Interim Chief Finance Officer advised that requested clarification was to be provided to Members outside the meeting in due course.

Councillor B Dave enquired as to why the Charging Structure was not resolved at the meeting of the Committee held on 01 November 2016 which considered all the Council's income revenues.

The Interim Chief Finance Officer advised that the Borough Leisure Centres' contractor operated to a different financial year to that of the Council thus delaying the submission of the same. The Officer's previous comments were reiterated.

The Chair commended Officers for their efforts in debt(s) collected and the relatively low amount(s) of debt written off.

The Chair moved the recommendation as set out at paragraph 2 of the report (at page 62), subject to the amendment that the Interim Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Chair of Policy, Finance and Development Committee, be delegated authority to approve or otherwise the miscellaneous charge marked 'Admissions' at 7.10(a) of the appendix following the receipt of further information from the contractor.

The Vice-Chair seconded the recommendation (as amended).

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The Charging Structure for 2017/18 (as set out at Appendix 1) but excluding the miscellaneous charge marked 'Admissions' at 7.10(a) of the appendix be noted and approved by Members; and
- (ii) The Interim Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Chair of Policy, Finance and Development Committee, be delegated authority to approve or otherwise the miscellaneous charge marked 'Admissions' at 7.10(a) of the appendix following the receipt of further information from the contractor.

68. COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER - 114 UPLANDS ROAD, OADBY

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (at pages 65 - 96) as delivered and summarised by the Director of Services / Monitoring Officer which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

The Director of Services / Monitoring Officer added that, subject to a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) being made, the options available included, but was not limited to, incorporation of the property in question into the Council's housing stock or for the property to accommodate a homelessness provision.

The Vice-Chair moved the recommendations *en bloc* as set out at paragraphs 2.(i) to 2.(ii) of the report (at page 65).

MHo CR Councillor J Kaufman seconded the recommendations.

Councillor J Kaufmann asked whether a record of similar void properties was being kept so that other CPO's could be pursued in the future.

The Director of Services / Monitoring Officer advised that a record was being kept and was last reported to the meeting of the Service Delivery Committee on 17 January 2017. It was said that additional CPO's would be sought in the future.

Councillor E R Barr enquired as to: the nature and extent of communications with the owner of the property before June 2011; and the last (successful) response received back from the owner.

The Vice-Chair advised that before June 2011 Ward Councillors, in conjunction with Officers, were in regular contact with the owner regarding the property's poor state of repair and maintenance. It was reported that the garden(s) did undergo maintenance works on one occasion prior to June 2011 as a result of negotiations with the owner.

The Director of Services / Monitoring Officer advised that: no response had been received back from the owner since June 2011 and; the latest (unresponded) correspondence sent to the owner was produced at appendix 2 (at pages 76 - 79).

The Chair requested that information regarding the nature and extent of communications with the owner prior June 2011 be provided to Members outside the meeting in due course.

Councillor J W Boyce noted the irrelevance of the requested information to the material consideration before the Committee.

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) A Compulsory Purchase Order under section 17 and Part XVII of the Housing Act 1985, and the Acquisition of Land Act 1981, for the acquisition of 114 Uplands Road, Oadby be made;
- (ii) That the Director of Services, in conjunction with the Chair of Policy, Finance and Development Committee and the Chief Financial Officer be granted delegated authority do anything necessary to give effect to the above at (i) including, but not limited to, undertaking all procedural steps required to:
 - (a) make advertise and secure confirmation and implementation of the Compulsory Purchase Order;
 - (b) acquire the legal interest in the property the subject of the proposed Compulsory Purchase Order, whether by voluntary agreement or compulsorily using statutory powers set out in the preceding paragraph;
 - (c) take all necessary action to deal with all matters relating to the payment of compensation and statutory interest including approval of agreement with land owners (if they come forward) setting out the terms for withdrawal of objections to the Order and where necessary and/or appropriate the instituting or defending of related proceedings; and
 - (d) dispose of the property in accordance with the proposals set out in this report.

AC

Votes For 11 Votes Against 0 Abstentions 1

69. OADBY SWIMMING POOL SITE, LEICESTER ROAD, OADBY

The Council gave consideration to the report (at pages 155 - 161) as delivered and summarised by the Planning, Development and Regeneration Manager which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

Councillor J W Boyce moved the recommendations *en bloc* as set out at paragraphs 2.(i) to 2.(ii) of the report (at page 155).

The Vice-Chair seconded the recommendations.

Councillor B Dave commended the outline of options compiled by Officers and re-emphasised the importance of incorporating some recreational/community use on the site in question. The Member stated that he did not support a wholly -residential use.

Councillor J W Boyce stated that the final decision regarding the future use(s) for the site was one reserved to Members at a future meeting of this Committee.

The Vice-Chair stated that he supported a mixed residential and community use.

RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) The consideration of the feasibility of the various options that have been put forward for the future ownership and use of the site as set out in the report be noted:
- (ii) The most appropriate use(s) for the site is either a wholly residential use or a combined residential and community centre use be acknowledged; and
- (iii) The task of evidencing and preparing an appropriate design scheme for the future use(s) of the site for future consideration by this Committee be delegated to Officers.

Votes For 8 Votes Against 4 Abstentions 0

70. THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME 2017

The Council gave consideration to the report and appendix (at pages 162 - 191) as delivered and summarised by the Planning, Development and Regeneration Manager which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

The Planning, Development and Regeneration Manager added that Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (HEDNA) presently indicated a higher housing need in the Borough than there was land to meet the need, signifying that further work was required in partnership with the other local authorities to ensure that the total housing need in Leicester and

Leicestershire was met. An amendment to the timetable was said to be essential to enable the Council to be able to ultimately adopt a sound Local Plan as part of the Local Development Scheme (LDS).

Councillor J W Boyce moved the recommendation as set out at paragraph 2 of the report (at page 16).

Councillor G A Boulter seconded the recommendation.

Councillor J W Boyce announced that the HEDNA was published on 27 January 2017 and was circulated to Members ahead of this Committee meeting. The HEDNA was said to be the most viable solution available to the Council to increase local capacity in order to meet and future-proof the Borough's housing needs over the next 25 years and that this was only to be achieved by working under a duty to cooperate.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The Local Development Scheme be approved for publication.

71. HOME AND COMMUNITIES AGENCY - LARGE SITES AND HOUSING ZONES CAPACITY FUND

The Council gave consideration to the report (at pages 192 - 194) as delivered and summarised by the Planning, Development and Regeneration Manager which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

The Planning, Development and Regeneration Manager added that although the bid related to the lowest priority category, the submission of a bid was considered worthwhile due to its relative simple completion *vis-a-vis* the funding opportunity that it was likely to present to the Council. The outcome of the bid was reported to unknown at the present although a decision was expected imminently.

The Chair moved the recommendation as set out at paragraph 2 of the report (at page 192).

The Vice-Chair seconded the recommendation.

Councillor L A Bentley asked whether the award of resource funding, if successful, would serve to assist the Council and, or, developers to deliver housing site

The Planning, Development and Regeneration Manager advised that a successful bid would award resource funding to the Council to support the bringing forward of housing sites by developers as opposed to the delivery thereof by the Council *per se*.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

A bid for funding to support the delivery of housing sites in the Borough submitted by the 9 December 2016 deadline be noted by Members.

72. BLABY ROAD ROAD AND STATION STREET CAR PARKS, SOUTH WIGSTON

The Committee gave consideration to the report (at pages 195 - 197) as delivered and summarised by the Director of Services / Monitoring Officer which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

Councillor L A Bentley moved the recommendations *en bloc* as set out at paragraphs 2.1 to 2.3 of the report (at page 195).

Councillor J Kaufman seconded the recommendations.

Councillor L A Bentley said that there were significant differences in usage at the car parks in questions between non/term-time and that the monitoring undertaken as set out at paragraph 3.4 of the report (at page 196) provided an isolated snapshot of the situation. The Member stated that a further, systematic review was required in relation to all car parks across the Borough.

The Director of Services / Monitoring Officer advised that a full viability study was to be commissioned to explore the feasibility and suitability of parking regulations and restrictions *vis-a-vis* the parking requirements between the three town centres, forming part of ongoing Strategic Asset Management work being undertaken by the Chief Finance Officer under the remit of the Change Management Committee, as requested at the meeting of the Service Delivery Committee on 19 January 2017.

Councillor J Kaufman supported the introduction of uniform car parking charges and time restrictions across all car parks in the Borough.

Councillor J W Boyce stated that the provision of car parking was to essentially provide a facility to allow the public to park and frequent local amenities only.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- (i) Signage be installed as soon as possible at Blaby Road Park Car Park and Station Street Car Park detailing the parking rules under the current Parking Order to allow enforcement action to take place, if required;
- (ii) Officers continue to monitor parking at Blaby Road Park Car Park on an *ad-hoc* basis: and
- (iii) If the situation deteriorates, a report be brought back to Committee requesting the Schedule of the current Parking Order to be amended to reduce parking time at Blaby Road Park Car Park from a maximum of 12 hours between 8.00am and 6.00pm Monday to Saturday to a maximum of 3 hours between 8.00am and 6.00pm Monday to Friday.

73. | RE-FURBISHMENT OF BOROUGH ENTRY SIGNS - REVISED COSTS

The Committee gave consideration to the report (at pages 198 - 199) as delivered and summarised by the Director of Services / Monitoring Officer which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

Councillor J W Boyce moved the recommendation as set out at paragraph 2 of the report (at page 198).

The Chair seconded the recommendation.

Councillor M L Darr stated that the dirtiness of the blocked access route and the overgrowth of the central reservation along Glen Road, Oadby (A6) required the urgent remedial attention of Leicester County Council so to improve the impression(s) made when coming into the Borough via that route.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The previously agreed allocation of £2,850 for the refurbishment of the Borough Entry Signs be increased to £4,200.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.41 PM

<u>K</u>
CHAIR
TUESDAY, 28 MARCH 2017