



# Oadby and Wigston Borough Council

## TO COUNCILLOR:

G A Boulter  
J W Boyce

Mrs S B Morris (Chair)  
R E R Morris

Dear Councillors and the Residents of South Wigston et al

I hereby invite you to attend a meeting of the **SOUTH WIGSTON RESIDENTS' FORUM** to be held at the **BASSETT STREET COMMUNITY HUB, BASSETT STREET, SOUTH WIGSTON, LE18 4PE** on **TUESDAY, 7 MARCH 2017 at 7.30 PM** for the transaction of the business set out in the Agenda below.

Residents are reminded that if they wish to discuss in confidence other issues that affect them, there is a surgery session with the Police, Councillors and Council Officers between **7:00 PM** and **7.30 PM**.

For further information, please contact the Community Engagement Officer, Veronika Quintyne, by telephone on (0116) 257 2648 or e-mail at [veronika.quintyne@oadby-wigston.gov.uk](mailto:veronika.quintyne@oadby-wigston.gov.uk).

Yours faithfully

Council Offices  
Wigston  
24 February 2017

Mark Hall  
Chief Executive

<u>ITEM NO.</u>	<u>AGENDA</u>	<u>PAGE NO'S</u>
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5.	South Wigston Traders' Update (Discretion of Chair)	
6.	Refuse and Recycling - Consultation	
7.	Chair's Updates (To Be Circulated)	
8.	Items Raised by Residents and Suggestions for Future Items	
9.	Date of the Next Meeting (To Be Confirmed)	

**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**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chair- Councillor John Boyce

Councillor B Boulter , Councillor R Morris

**Residents in Attendance:** C Walter, M Ray, T Sumpter, R Pearce, J Guesford, L Shaw, N Hall, P.M Chenery, R Hughes, K Gunn, J Naylor, K Hall, Y Johnson, R Carter, J Sealey

**Others in Attendance:** V Quintyne (OWBC), J Griffiths (OWBC), J Cooke (The Conservation Volunteers), D Cliffe(Voluntary Action Leicester),Police Community Support Officer J Darby, L Wills (Phoenix Therapies),P North (Phoenix Therapies),C Robertson (Pride of the Borough)

**Apologies:** Councillor S Morris (Chair)

Min Ref.	Narrative	Officer Resp.																					
11.	<p><b><u>LOCAL POLICING ISSUES</u></b></p> <p>Police Community Support Officer J Darby presented the crime prevention statistics. These cover the last three months. They are noted as follows.</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Last 3 months</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Previous</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>3 months</b></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Burglary Dwelling</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>6</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>4</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Burglary other than Dwelling</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>3</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>6</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Theft of Motor Vehicle</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>0</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>3</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Theft from Motor Vehicle</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>10</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>5</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Robbery</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>0</b></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>One empty property was burgarled. Sporadic thefts took place from unsecured vehicles. Sat Navs were targeted. Police consultations of residents are ongoing. Blaby Road park was flagged as a problem area. The problem was resolved .No additional problems have been reported. One man was placed on an Anti Social Behaviour contract for stealing from children and for assaults. He is now excluded from the South Wigston area.</p> <p>Young people performing anti social behaviour acts have been visited by the Police and given suitable warnings. A project on bowling and citizenship is being established by Police Constable Carl Sutherley. Cycle lanes on the Saffron Road are the responsibility of the County Council Highways department. The County Council is carrying out consultation on removing traffic islands and other road furniture. A resident was concerned this may mean children are at risk from running between the traffic.</p>		Last 3 months	Previous	<b>3 months</b>			<b>Burglary Dwelling</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Burglary other than Dwelling</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Theft of Motor Vehicle</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Theft from Motor Vehicle</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Robbery</b>	<b>0</b>		
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	<p>The Police are aware of people parking on double yellow lines on Countesthorpe Road. This is to be addressed.</p> <p>Parking on double yellow lines is an issue for the County Council Highways department The Police act when there is an obstruction.</p> <p>It was reported that people are driving the wrong way down one way streets, driving at speed by St Thomas`s church, going through to the petrol station and driving onto the footpath.</p> <p>PC Darby will report these issues to PC Sutherley for informing the Highways Forum.</p> <p>Councillor Boulter will raise the following issues with the County Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a request for a Lollipop Lady on Blaby Road</li> <li>• People parking on Stoneygate Road on double yellow lines, throwing rubbish around the area at night and in the morning.</li> </ul>	
12.	<p><b><u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON JUNE 2016</u></b></p> <p>An amendment to section 3 of the June 8 2016 minutes was received by tonight`s Chair Councillor J Boyce The amendment was agreed by Councillor .S Morris, the usual Chair. The changes have been added to the minutes of June 2016.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> A copy of the amended minutes will be circulated at the meeting of November 8<sup>th</sup> 2016 and added to the Council`s website.</p>	VQ
13.	<p><b><u>FUNDING UPDATES</u></b></p> <p>The planting baskets for Blaby Road were purchased and hung.</p> <p>St Thomas Children`s Group award of £400 was endorsed by the Policy Finance Development Committee.</p> <p>Oadby and Wigston Community First Responders are to present at the November 2016 meeting.</p> <p>Phoenix Therapies Group presented a proposal to the Forum for funding. This is titled,` Take the Weight Off Your Mind`.</p> <p>The Families Foodies are to provide an update for the next Forum meeting.</p>	

<p>14.</p>	<p><b><u>LEISURE FACILITIES UPDATE - PRESENTATION</u></b></p> <p>A paper copy of the Leisure Facilities update 2016 presentation was circulated at the meeting. Following the presentation residents were invited to ask questions.</p> <p>A new programme on managing diabetes has been successfully introduced. Diabetes is one of the local Authority's biggest health issue. New sessions to help manage this issue are to be offered</p> <p>On the question of whether access to a cafe could be made available all the time the venue is used, the Officer noted people are able to access tea and coffee from a vending machine.</p> <p>A resident requested an obstacle course gymnasium be installed.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Circulate an electronic copy of the Leisure Facilities presentation</p>	<p>VQ</p>
<p>15.</p>	<p><b><u>CUSTOMER SERVICE UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>Jacky Griffiths provided a verbal update on developments with the Customer Service Centre in Bell Street. The Centre opened 12th October 2015. A range of Council Services including a benefits online service are provided to residents.</p> <p>Two satisfaction surveys are carried out annually. A 100% satisfaction with services was recorded for the March 2016 survey. October 2016 will see the next survey activated.</p> <p>Compared to feedback at Bushloe House between August 2015 and August 2016, there was a 258% increase in resident satisfaction with Customer Centre services. In the future more choice is to be offered as to how residents receive services. Online services are to be provided to reach people working various hours. The Officer requested residents respond to the widely advertised Council Tax Support consultation.</p> <p>Residents' questions were responded to as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council provides a range of services and for this identify the recipients as service users, for other processes designated the term residents.</li> <li>• A request for a Customer Service Centre at South Wigston Library was previously met but the low take up did not justify the maintenance of the resource. The Customer Centre in Wigston has been placed where all residents can best access it.</li> <li>• The Council Office at Bushloe House is not almost empty. Discussion is taking place on its further use. The building was not appropriate for housing a post office due to the nature of its business and for security reasons. A post office opens in Wigston 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In order to get the process right in registering residents to vote, some residents may have got two voting return papers. The Officer responsible for the process of ensuring everyone is enabled to vote is very diligent and wishes to get this democratic process right.</li> </ul> <p>Residents were encouraged to respond to the current online consultation on the Council Tax Support Scheme. A leaflet explaining the Scheme and direction to the link to access it was circulated.</p> <p>On concluding her presentation update, the Chair expressed thanks to the Officer</p> <p>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.</p>	
16.	<p><b><u>LITTER CAMPAIGN</u></b></p> <p>The Campaign has been running since the end of 2015. People are being invited to take part by forming litter picking groups and sending the message to friends, neighbours and Community Groups. Primary schools are being liaised with, as are links through the Leicester Universities and the media.</p> <p>Residents were requested to spread the word about the campaign and get involved. A hard copy of a flyer about the Litter Campaign was distributed. It states how people can get involved in the Litter Campaign and who to contact for more information.</p> <p>A resident suggested the Litter Campaign could establish an award through Pride of the Borough to recognise groups of people or an individual for their contribution to the Campaign.</p> <p>Pride of the Borough organise regular litter picking sessions. For more information, contact Brocks Hill Country Park and Centre, Washbrook Lane, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5JJ. Email:</p> <p>Telephone: 07874 228491 Email: <a href="mailto:potb.oadbywigston@gmail.com">potb.oadbywigston@gmail.com</a></p> <p>The Chair thanked Colin Robertson for presenting the update.</p>	
17.	<p><b><u>PHOENIX THERAPIES - PRESENTATION</u></b></p> <p>An electronic presentation titled;"Take the Weight Off Your Mind", was shared with residents by Phoenix Therapies representatives. The presentation outlined the courses provided and their impact on participants.</p> <p>A working partnership has been formed with the South Wigston voluntary Organisation Helping Hands. This will help with delivering the course to 50% of people using Helping Hands who experience mental health problems.</p> <p>Funding has been awarded for a bespoke Take the Weight Off Your Mind" course to the Council's Youth Council. This will address the mental health needs of young people in South Wigston. An award for this work has also</p>	

	<p>been received from the Trustee Savings Bank.</p> <p>Phoenix Therapies requested £1000 from South Wigston Residents Forum to run a course. Oadby Residents Forum also awarded Phoenix Therapies £1,700 for a bespoke course for its residents and Wigston Residents Forum awarded them £1,000 on the basis that South Wigston Residents Forum would match fund this sum.</p> <p>The Chair put a motion to residents asking if they wished to have the proposal funded. One resident proposed it, another seconded it. On voting 9 people were in favour of awarding the funding .There were no abstentions or dissenters. The motion was agreed. The Chair thanked Lainy Wills and Paula North for presenting the update.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Circulate the presentation with the minutes to residents.</p>	<b>VQ</b>
<b>18.</b>	<p><b><u>SOUTH WIGSTON TRADERS' UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>The South Wigston Traders Group Chair noted that Christmas Capers will take place.</p> <p>Countesthorpe Car Park is identified as a place for a public bike stand in the Council car Park.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Chair is to take this forward for discussion.</p>	<b>Chair</b>
<b>19.</b>	<p><b><u>CHAIR'S UPDATES</u></b></p> <p>On the question of whether an under spend could be used to tidy the bus shelter area by the Salvation Army, the Chair stated this area is to soon undergo painting.</p>	
<b>20.</b>	<p><b><u>ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE ITEMS</u></b></p> <p><b>Parliamentary Question Time by Sir Edward Garnier MP. This relates to governance issues at Oadby and Wigston Council.</b></p> <p>Residents asked the Chair for clarification in relation to questions raised at Parliamentary Question Time by Sir Edward Garnier, Harborough MP. This relates to the MP`s speech on governance issues at Oadby and Wigston Council.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Chair responded with the following points in relation to questions posed by residents.</p>	

- On the day the information was raised in Parliament, the Chair was informed at very short notice this was to happen, with very little time to respond.
- The issue concerns a Council staff group grievance which is still being dealt with by lawyers and is not open for sharing with the public.
- On receiving the grievance the Chair did not assume it was one sided. An independent body went through the evidence. Sir Edward Garnier has taken it out of context and has not visited Oadby and Wigston Council offices since February 2016.
- The grievance if wrongly dealt with could have cost the Council more than half a million. Time is being taken to ensure the Council follows employment procedures properly and get it right.
- Understanding the full context of the issue, may not have led anyone to do a different one from the current one.
- Reserves are in place to cover this type of emergency.
- Sir Edward Garnier indicated a sum of £500,000 for the cost of arbitrating the current staff /employer issue as he has added in funds for temporary staff coverage costs.
- A press release was put out this morning. Most of this press release can be read on Radio Leicester`s website.
- This issue has been on the Council agenda a number of times.
- The Chair is happy to share what is in the public domain. He noted the information is redacted.

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

	<p>you going to resign?” The Chair replied, ‘no’.</p> <p>Another resident expressed concern at the enormous cost of the issues and pointed out that this is Council tax money paid by residents.</p> <p>Another resident asked that this matter be added to the agenda for the next Forum meeting in November 2016. The Chair agreed to this.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>County Council Minimum Waste Strategy</b></p> <p>The County Council has for the past months been consulting on its Waste Strategy. The Local Council has raised objections to having a waste sight placed in residential areas. The issue has been raised with the County Council many times and ignored. The County Council has now got a policy. An exception has been raised to this policy.</p> <p><b>Calenetics Session</b></p> <p>Residents were requested to note, Callenetics classes are soon to take place in South Wigston. For further details contact: Dave Cliffe [dave.c@valonline.org.uk].</p>	
21.	<p><b><u>DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</u></b></p> <p>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Fairfield Primary School hall, Cheshire Drive, South Wigston at 7.30pm.</p>	

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.15 PM**



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**CHAIR**  
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**TUESDAY, 08 NOVEMBER 2016**  
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	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>A request was made for the alleyway to be prescribed as pedestrians only.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> The Council is to address this concern</p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Councillor Boulter agreed to discuss this issue with the resident.</p>	
23.	<p><b><u>AMENDED MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 08 JUNE 2016</u></b></p> <p>The amended minutes of June 6<sup>th</sup> 2016 were agreed as a true and accurate record. The minutes were proposed and seconded for the Forum`s acceptance. There were no dissenters.</p> <p>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.</p>	
24.	<p><b><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING</u></b></p>	
24a.	<p><b><u>SIR EDWARD GARNIER &amp; OADBY AND WIGSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL</u></b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>The following points made were recorded as follows:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>A printed written response by the Council on this matter was circulated at the meeting.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Circulate the written response to residents.</p> <p>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.</p>	

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

	<p>come.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>There is a future commitment from the Chief Executive, Mark Hall, once the process is complete to, inform residents what has happened and when.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p>	
25.	<p><b><u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 07 SEPTEMBER 2016</u></b></p> <p>Residents stated that the draft minutes of the September 7 Forum were not a true and accurate record. Amendments to the September Forum minutes were circulated to all present, read, and agreed unanimously.</p> <p>A copy of this document, marked as 'Addendum No. 1', is filed with these minutes.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>A copy of this document, marked as 'Addendum No. 2', is filed with these minutes.</p>	
26.	<p><b><u>CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT OADBY AND WIGSTON COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN</u></b></p> <p>The other matters.</p>	
27.	<p><b><u>RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY RESPONSE PLANS</u></b></p> <p>The other matters.</p>	
28.	<p><b><u>SOUTH WIGSTON TRADERS' UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>The other matters.</p>	
29.	<p><b><u>OADBY AND WIGSTON COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS</u></b></p> <p>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.</p>	

	<p>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.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>The proposal was agreed. There were no dissenters.</p>	
<b>30.</b>	<p><b><u>CHAIR'S UPDATES</u></b></p> <p>The other matters.</p>	
<b>30a.</b>	<p><b><u>CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>The other matters.</p>	
<b>30b.</b>	<p><b><u>REQUESTS FOR SPENDING AND UPDATE ON FORUM BUDGET</u></b></p> <p>The other matters.</p>	
<b>31.</b>	<p><b><u>ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE ITEMS</u></b></p> <p>The other matters.</p> <p>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 7.30pm.</p>	
<b>32.</b>	<p><b><u>DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</u></b></p> <p>The next South Wigston Residents Forum meeting is scheduled to take place on: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.30pm. Venue: Bassett Street Hub, Bassett Street, Wigston LE18 4PE.</p>	

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.04 PM**



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**CHAIR**  
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**TUESDAY, 07 MARCH 2017**  
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**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, 6<sup>th</sup> 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.*

DRAFT



### 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.

1. **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. **Send agendas and minutes out a week in advance.** 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. **Make agendas and minutes easily accessible on line** 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. **Have a discussion and review about increasing attendance.** 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. **Keep an expanding list of people who attend forum meetings.** Add newcomers automatically so that the list can grow.