



**TO COUNCILLOR:**

J W Boyce  
B Dave

Mrs S Z Haq  
J Kaufman (Chair)

Mrs S B Morris

Dear Sir or Madam

I hereby **INVITE** you to attend a meeting of the **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FORUM** to be held at the **COUNCIL OFFICES, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON** on **TUESDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2018** at **1.30 PM** for the transaction of the business set out in the Agenda below.

Yours faithfully

Council Offices  
Wigston  
**17 September 2018**

**Mrs Anne E Court**  
Chief Executive

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# Agenda Item 2

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FORUM HELD AT THE  
COUNCIL OFFICES, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON ON TUESDAY, 12 JUNE 2018  
COMMENCING AT 1.30 PM**

## **PRESENT**

Councillor J Kaufman (Chair)

## **COUNCILLORS**

Mrs S Z Haq

## **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

M Bullock (Benefits Team Leader)  
J Humphries (Sports Development Assistant)  
Ms V Quintyne (Community Engagement Officer)

## **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Lance Sullen (Teacher of Mindfulness Leicester)  
Claire Lawrence-Simms (Oadby/Wigston & Blaby Mental Health Forum)  
Naina Gandhi (AGE UK)  
Karen Storey (AGE UK)  
Caroline Holden (Age UK)  
Claire Bradshaw (LCC Library Services)  
Lesley Thornton (Helping Hands Trust)  
Reverend Leslie Gill (Helping Hands Trust)  
Shante Carr-Brown (Richmond Fellowship)  
Aliyah Egbewo (Richmond Fellowship)  
Roger Allsopp (Eyres Monsell Baptist Free Church)  
Bhavin Gohil (Youth Council Volunteer Changemaker)  
Linda Bradbury (LCC Adult Learning Service)  
Marong Kati (FourSeasonsBeautiful)  
Eilidh Kerr (Clockwise)  
Paula Harris (The Conservation Volunteers -TCV)  
Mary Flynn (Local Area Coordinator South Wigston)  
Sue Renton (Local Area Coordinator Wigston)  
Eric Sauzier (Vistablind)  
Fred Jennings (Christians Against Poverty)

## **1. WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN, COUNCILLOR JEFFREY KAUFMAN**

The Chair, Councillor Jeffrey Kaufman, welcomed attendees to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

## **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Richard Darlaston (Oadby & Wigston Lions)  
Kane Radford (Oadby & Wigston Borough Council)  
Annette Day (Action on Hearing Loss)  
Roger Thompson (Action on Hearing Loss)  
Andy Nazer (Campaign to end Loneliness-England)  
Garry Burnside (AGE UK)  
Sophie Tucker (Alzheimer Society)  
Jayne Edwards (Adult Learning Team Leicestershire County Council)

Nazrine Akhtar	(Sangam Asian Womens' Group)
Liz Steiner	(CAB-Citizens Advice Bureau)
Louise Pettit	(Early Help Children`s Centre Oadby/Wigston & Blaby)
Farhnaz Abubakar	(Richmond Fellowship)
Reverend Chris Johnson	(Helping Hands South)
Resham Sandhu	(Volunteer Changemaker)
Lesley Green	(Oadby & Wigston and Blaby Mental Health Forum)
Stephen Payne	(Vistablind)
Peter Owers	(Christians Against Poverty)
Tejash Patel	(COG Youth Service Limited)

### **3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 14 MARCH 2017**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record.

Following discussion on the timing of meetings, the majority of representatives present agreed that daytime meetings were preferable to meeting in the evening.

#### **Action 1:**

Future meetings will be organised to take place within daytime work hours.

### **4. BRIEF REVIEW OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FORUM LEARNING**

A brief review of the past work of the Community Engagement Forum was shared with those present.

The Forum was established as a good practice network. Its role is to explore how community groups and organisations, which state they serve Oadby & Wigston Borough Residents ,could assist with the implementation and or review of plans, policies, services and strategies with specific reference to helping identify needs, specifically to include those residents referred to as, "the seldom heard". This group is also referred to as the "hard to reach".

The Forum has hosted presentations from a variety of Voluntary Organisations and Community Groups. It has delivered workshops covering:

- Bid writing and funding applications
- Equality, Diversity and Unconscious Bias, to Council staff, volunteers and representatives on the Community Engagement Forum
- Hate Crime, Human Rights
- Stress and mental wellbeing
- Suicide prevention - Suicide Awareness Partnership
- WRAP - Working to Raise Awareness of Prevent
- Roma people history, perceptions and Xenophobia
- Gypsy and Traveller community in Leicestershire and their lived lives, history and contribution to society.

Some key issues discussed through the Community Engagement Forum have covered the issues of:

Credit Unions, community banks which aim to break cycles of poverty and support communities to be financially stable. This was delivered by Clockwise Leicester.

Hearing loss at any stage of development and how it can be supported at varying stages

of development. This was delivered by the organisation Action on Hearing Loss.

Hate crimes, hate incidents and identification of how, where and when to report. This was delivered through Oadby and Wigston Council and supported by Oadby and Wigston Community Safety Partnership funding.

Transgender identification by young people and support available from public and voluntary organisations. This was delivered by Leicester, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Service (LGBT).

## **5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FORUM FUNDING**

Representatives were informed about a strand of funding Oadby and Wigston Borough Council will be introducing.

The reasoning behind the introduction of the funding was explained. It was noted that Oadby and Wigston borough is recognised as an area of relative economic affluence. There are pockets of relative poverty, social isolation and loneliness.

The needs of residents are changing. Voluntary organisations and community groups locally are servicing recognised needs. However, it is recognised that there are gaps in provision.

The Council wishes to identify, with the help of voluntary organisations and community groups, what the gaps in provision look like and through partnership working find solutions to address them. This help might also be the development of a plan to follow the first one hundred people claiming Universal Credit. This would have a built in tool for measurement at six months and a year to gauge how people are coping with this system.

The funding might support research or initiatives, for example around loneliness and isolation. It might even focus on the impact of Universal Credit and its relationship to issues of homelessness and domestic violence.

The Council wishes to receive proposals from community groups and organisations. These might address some of the aforementioned issues. Proposals might spring from partnership working from groups using a joined up thinking approach to establish a project or series of projects.

### **Action 2:**

This identification of need, mapping, developing possible proposals and the Council's funding stream will be a point of discussion at the next Community Engagement Forum meeting.

## **6. WORKSHOP IN CELEBRATION OF MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 2018**

The theme for MIND Mental Health Awareness Week (14 to 20 May 2018) was about handling stress in the workplace.

The Community Engagement Forum decided to deliver a workshop as part of this meeting. It did so in recognition that stress is a condition that can lead to more serious aspects of mental ill health.

The workshop was planned and delivered by colleagues from: Oadby and Wigston Council, The Conservation Volunteers, The South Wigston Local Area Coordinator and Richmond Fellowship. An expression of thanks for this involvement is minuted.

### **Action 3:**

Presentations delivered on: the Universal Credit system, Stress and managing relationships and the training needs assessment for a Level 1 Community Development Course for groups and organisations in Oadby and Wigston, will be circulated with these minutes.

Helping Hands and the Citizens Advice Bureau currently support to people claiming Universal Credit. Observations and a question was asked on what the possible impact of Universal Credit might be on vulnerable people. This took into account the fact that some claimants may not have identification to support their claim.

A mini market was set up which included a range of agencies, sharing their information on what works ,hearing about key work taking place, getting de-stressed with dough/bread making and honey, a look at an innovation in colon /gut cleansing , Tai Chi, promotion of the Oadby Free Spirit Foundation's scarf of love. The scarf continues to develop into a community statement which will see it stretch around Leicester football club and beyond, organic food tasting from the Master Gardeners and networking to help shape the future of group community working.

An A5 booklet of Active Oadby & Wigston information was shared. Along with this was a three minute stress test exercise sheet. Colleagues were given the sheet and instructed to complete it at their own leisure outside of this workshop.

Colleagues were also given information training needs assessment form for completion and return to the Community Engagement Officer. The training needs assessment covers a NOCN (Northern Open College Network) Level 1, 10 week Award in Community Development. Oadby and Wigston Borough Council plans to introduce this certificate through local community groups and organisations.

The event was very well attended. Offers were made by Vistablind, AGE UK and Clockwise to present at the next meeting in September. There may also be input at the next meeting by the Campaign for Loneliness England to, present on the Be More Us project it is spearheading.

These Community Engagement Forum meetings will not only act as innovative conduits for organisation and group learning but will provide case studies and community learning tools for development

### **7. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Future meeting dates are as follows:

- Wednesday 25 September 2018.Time:1:30p.m until 4:00p.m.
- Tuesday 4 December 2018.Time:1:30p.m until 4:00p.m.
- Tuesday 12 March 2019.Time:1:30p.m until 4:00p.m.

The Venue for all meetings is: Oadby & Wigston Borough Council Offices, Council Chamber, Station Road, Wigston, LE18 2DR.

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4.00 PM**



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**Chair**

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**Tuesday, 25 September 2018**

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# Agenda Item 2a

## **Matters Arising from the Minutes of June 12 2018**

- Page 1**      The minutes are to record the following: "Christopher Johnson represented St Thomas Church at the forum meeting held 12 June 2018".
- Page 2**      **Action 1** - Going forwards future meetings have been scheduled for daytime hours.
- Page 3**      **Action 2** - The issue of identification of need, mapping, developing proposals and the Council funding stream is on the agenda for discussion.
- Page 4**      **Action 3** - All presentations were circulated with the draft minutes of the meeting held 12 June 2018.

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# Campaign to End Loneliness

## CONNECTIONS IN OLDER AGE

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### Why we work in Cambridgeshire

Our local campaign areas were chosen in each of the devolved nations of the UK to ensure we had contrasting urban and rural populations.

Cambridgeshire is one of the few counties in England, which has a 50:50 split between urban and rural areas. Cambridgeshire has globally significant business clusters, world-class research capacity linked to its universities and a number of thriving market towns. It is a significant contributor to the UK's agriculture, food and drink output.

Our work in the area covers both the county of Cambridgeshire administered by Cambridgeshire County Council and the unitary authority area administered by Peterborough City Council. With a combined total population of around 850,000, it is estimated that around 150,000 of these are older people, aged over 65 years. Research suggests that 10% of them – 15,000 in this area – will be experiencing chronic loneliness with many thousands more facing it on a regular basis.

There are several distinct types of community in Cambridgeshire. From the geographically isolated agricultural areas of the Fenland in the east through to more urban environments in Peterborough and Cambridge. There are new communities springing-up throughout the county and we are keen to see how loneliness impacts upon older people in all of these different environments and assess how we might be able to tackle this.

### What we're doing in Cambridgeshire

Our 2017 research indicated that 70% of Cambridgeshire residents had experienced loneliness to various degrees; with over a quarter of them saying that they had suffered on many occasions.

We have a huge opportunity to make a difference to the lives of the 70% of people who are touched by loneliness, and also engage the people who recognise the significance of this

issue. We want to make a difference by supporting the disconnected to reconnect with their community.

There are many people and organisations that tackle loneliness in the area and we would like to encourage local residents to do even more to combat loneliness amongst older people. We will be working with Cambridgeshire County Council, Peterborough City Council and the five-city/district councils – as with other key partners from the voluntary, statutory and community sectors and the public – to look at the best way to do that.

**Andy Nazer**, our Campaign Manager for England, located in Cambridge, leads on our work in Cambridgeshire. He has a vast experience of public campaigning and is passionate about working with communities to make change possible.



### **Quick links and resources**

**Frequently asked questions**

**The facts on loneliness**

**Loneliness and Isolation: Guidance for Commissioners and Local Authorities**

**Promising Approaches to Reducing Loneliness in Later Life**

**Measuring your impact on loneliness in later life**

**Alone in the Crowd: loneliness and diversity**

**The Missing Million: in search of the loneliest in our communities**

**The Missing Million: A Practical Guide to Identifying and Talking about Loneliness**

If you, like us, believe that nobody who wants company should be without it and that the third age can be the best age, then join us to make this happen.

- [Contact us](#) | [About loneliness](#) | [About the Campaign](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Volunteer](#) | [Sitemap](#) | [Home](#)

Campaign to End Loneliness welcomes £20 million investment to tackle loneliness  
[Read More ...](#)

Campaign to End Loneliness welcomes RCGP calls to tackle loneliness 'epidemic.'