

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WIGSTON RESIDENTS FORUM HELD
AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES ON MONDAY 14 JULY 2014, COMMENCING
AT 7.00 P.M.**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor B Boulter – Chairman

Councillors L Bentley, M Charlesworth, L Eaton, R Eaton, J Gore, H Loydall
and K Loydall

Officers in Attendance:

I Dobson (OWBC)

K Parkes (OWBC)

J Bhatha (OWBC)

A Lennox (OWBC)

J Naylor (SLM – Everyone Active)

PC D Nutbrown (Leicestershire Police)

Residents in Attendance: G & L Blackburn, M Daetwyler, A & G Schofield, Mr & Mrs Moden, J Gray, C Maes, J Elliot, C Huscroft, K Ochyren, J & M Butler, M Hilton, M Drage, R Hailes, D Foreman, C Ambrose, S & J Lobb, P Payton, R Burnham, D Barker, Mr & Mrs Needles, S Lonslow

Apologies: Cllrs L Broadley, F Broadley and E Connell

Min Ref	Narrative	Officer Resp																		
1.	<p><u>LOCAL POLICING ISSUES</u></p> <p>An update on crime figures for the last 3 month period compared to the same period last year is summarised below:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Crime</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>No</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Last year</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Burglary dwelling</td> <td style="text-align: center;">18</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burglary Other than Dwelling</td> <td style="text-align: center;">18</td> <td style="text-align: center;">22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Robbery</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Theft of motor vehicle</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Theft from motor vehicle</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30</td> <td style="text-align: center;">32</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Forum heard that a recent operation had revealed that many vehicles or properties are left unsecured. Residents were</p>	<u>Crime</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Last year</u>	Burglary dwelling	18	7	Burglary Other than Dwelling	18	22	Robbery	0	1	Theft of motor vehicle	5	5	Theft from motor vehicle	30	32	
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	<p>advised to ensure that they secure property and vehicles to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of crime.</p> <p>PC Nutbrown drew the Forum's attention to the website: www.immobilise.com where property can be registered which makes it identifiable to Police if it is found in circulation.</p> <p>PC Nutbrown commented that part night lighting had not made a noticeable difference to crime figures. It was acknowledged that for a full analysis, around 3 years data was required which had not yet been obtained.</p>	
2.	<p><u>WIGSTON – PUBLIC REALM WORKS</u></p> <p>The Chairman referred to the presentation stand that was on display at the meeting and informed residents that work is likely to commence on 4 August 2014.</p>	
3.	<p><u>LEISURE CONTRACT PRESENTATION</u></p> <p>James Naylor of Everyone Active made a presentation to the Forum about the provision of new leisure facilities within the Borough.</p> <p>The Forum heard that the Wigston site will see new facilities from around May 2015 which will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 lane 25m pool • Spectator seating for 150 • Sauna • 60 station gym • Dedicated changing rooms for gym and swim <p>The Forum heard that Oadby will see new facilities at Parklands which will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phased development • 6 lane 25m pool • Dedicated changing rooms for gym and swim • 120 station gym • 2 exercise studios plus Cedar Suite classes • Outdoor training zone • Refurbished Cedar Suite with wooden sprung floor • Refurbished café • Refurbished reception and foyer <p>Residents sought assurance that good disabled facilities and car parking will be available, which was confirmed by the presenter.</p> <p>A Resident asked for confirmation of timescales for the building</p>	

	<p>works. The presenter confirmed that planning permissions were in place and a schedule of works would be drafted shortly which would provide detail of works to be completed. Residents were re-assured that in any case it was estimated that both sites would be complete around May 2015 with any slippage from that date being minimal.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>RECYCLING PRESENTATION</u></p> <p>The Forum heard that cases of contamination of recycling with plastic carrier bags and hard plastics were becoming more frequent so the Council was publicising a reminder of what can be recycled.</p> <p>The Recycling Co-ordinator and Waste Promotions Officer made a presentation to the Forum about what can and cannot be recycled, which is summarised below.</p> <p>In the green recycling bag you can place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yoghurt pots, margarine tubes, plastic food trays without the film cover, plastic egg cartons and plastic cups • Plastic detergent bottles such as washing up liquid, shampoo and conditioner bottles • Aluminium cans, clean food tins and pet food tins • Washed aluminium trays and wrapping foil • Empty aerosol cans that have not been pierced • Empty juice and milk cartons <p>In the brown recycling bag you can place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper, junk mail (always tear off the bit that contains your personal information) envelopes, cardboard and greeting cards • Newspapers, magazines, catalogues, telephone directories and shredded paper <p>In a separate brown recycling bag you can also place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean clothes • Paired shoes • Handbags • Leather belts • Scarves, hats and gloves • Bed sheets, pillowcases and blankets <p>Residents commented that the waste collection service in the Borough was excellent.</p>	

<p>5.</p>	<p><u>WIGSTON TRADERS UPDATE</u></p> <p>The Chairman of the Wigston Traders Group provided an update about ongoing work towards the enhanced Christmas Lights display. The Forum saw a number of photos depicting lighting options to supplement the existing scheme. It was noted that lights will be installed on buildings in parts of the town centre and a spiral tree will be included in the scheme.</p> <p>The Forum heard that the scheme will cover Bell Street, Wakes Road and Bull Head Street (with a view to drawing attention to the display on Bell Street).</p> <p>She went on to say that the switch on event would take place on 29 November 2014 and planning was underway for a road closure, funfair and food stalls for raising funds for charity.</p> <p>Finally, the Forum heard that the Wigston Traders were organising a collective coffee morning to raise money for Macmillan on 26 September 2014. The start time of the event will be publicised in due course.</p> <p>Residents thanked the Chairman of the Wigston Traders Group for her work.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p><u>CHAIRMAN'S UPDATES</u></p> <p>The Chairman provided an update on items contained within the Chairman's Updates document that was circulated at the meeting, which should be read in conjunction with these notes as a composite document.</p> <p>Further updates were provided in relation to road closures at the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launceston Road (29.7.14 for 3 days) • Crow Mills • Spion Kop • Blue Bridge <p>The Chairman informed the Forum that an event to commemorate the centenary of the First World War is to take place at Peace Park on 3 August 2014 at 12 noon.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p><u>ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS</u></p> <p>The following items were raised by residents at the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestion that part night lighting could be altered to intermittent switch offs on more roads to reduce impact on those that are in total darkness currently. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Residents were agreed that the standard of grass cutting is not satisfactory. The Forum discussed this matter and it was noted that the County Council has reduced their service level to 'highway safety only' following the matter being set as a low priority for residents that completed the recent County Council service questionnaire. Residents requested that this be taken forward by County Councillors. County Councillors at the meeting assured residents that this matter was being highlighted on behalf of residents.• The issue of urban foxes was raised and it was requested that work be undertaken to deal with them as pests. The Chairman confirmed that there is no current responsibility for a local authority to deal with them.• A resident commented that the footpath from Paddock Street car park to Bell Street is uneven and the railings require painting or removing.• A resident raised a point about the traffic light signal pattern in Wigston (Carlton Drive) which appears to rest on red. It was suggested that this is not the most efficient way of managing traffic flow.• A resident indicated that they wished to make a proposal for the maintenance of the war memorial at All Saints Church, which would be costed and brought to the next meeting.	
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The Meeting Closed at 20:37