

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WIGSTON RESIDENTS' FORUM HELD
AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON ON TUESDAY 3
MARCH 2015, COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor G Boulter – Chair

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

Residents in attendance: R M Rocket, M Drage, B Morsley, M Sturgeon, Mr & Mrs
Needles, M Rogers,G Rogers, D.G.Barker, C. Ambrose, L Blackburn, G. Blackburn,
D. Foreman, R. Carter,
C. Towell, R. Lokiston, K. Ocluyra, P. Reeves, M. Butler, D.Butler, D.Walton, M
Daetwyles. John. F. Buck, G A York, G Lamb

Others in Attendance: PC D Hyatt, PCSO K Baladi, V Quintyne (OWBC), J. Griffiths
(OWBC), T. Bentley (First Responders), R.Moughton (First Responders), C. Huscroft
(Foodbank). D. Lingard (OWBC), A.Jolley (Wigston Club for Young People), J. Crane
(Wigston Club for Young People)

Apologies: L Pires (WigstonTraders),S.Lobb , J Lobb

Min Ref	Narrative	Officer Responsible												
18.	<p><u>LOCAL POLICE ISSUES</u></p> <p>PC D Hyatt provided an update on crime figures for the period since the Forum last met as set out below:</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="319 1366 1197 1624"> <tr> <td>.....</td> <td align="right">Last 3 months</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attempted burglary in dwellings:</td> <td align="right">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burglaries</td> <td align="right">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Theft from Vehicles.</td> <td align="right">9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Robberies:</td> <td align="right">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shoplifting:</td> <td align="right">37 with 17 detected.</td> </tr> </table> <p>PC D Hyatt informed residents that there have been 15 shed and garage break-ins over the past 90 days, half in the last few weeks with bicycles and gardening tools targeted.</p> <p>Residents complained of drivers turning right at Bull Head Street and lack of signage is prompting drivers to go up the street in the wrong direction. The Police are to liaise with the Council about the road signage.</p> <p>An upgrade on the road signs on the junction of Bell Street</p>	Last 3 months	Attempted burglary in dwellings:	1	Burglaries	7	Theft from Vehicles.	9	Robberies:	1	Shoplifting:	37 with 17 detected.	<p align="center">PC Hyatt</p> <p align="center">David Lingard</p>
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	<p>and Leicester Road was requested. This is to go to the CDRP Group. David Lingard as the Community Safety Partnership representative agreed to address this issue.</p> <p>The police reported there has been some anti-social behaviour in the town centre. The Community Safety Partnership is working with the Police to address this. David Lingard praised the Police and requested residents continue to play their part in providing support to the Council and Police`s joint working to minimise crime.</p> <p>A resident reported that young people were seen climbing scaffolding at Paddock Street to access a factory building.</p>	
<p>19.</p>	<p><u>OADBY AND WIGSTON LIONS – FOODBANK PROPOSAL</u> Chris Huscroft provided an overview for the establishment of the Oadby and Wigston Food bank and the cohort of people it currently serves. The Food bank opened in June 2013 initially serving 54 people. The numbers have risen to 450 people. There is a regular attendance of some 100 people. The Foodbank pay Fairshare for 65 bags of food. There is a shortfall in supplies. Donations of food and support are provided by: Wigston and Washbrook allotments, Helping Hands, the Job Centre, and the Library service.</p> <p>The Food bank will be providing cooking skills training from March 2015 to people accessing the Food bank.</p> <p>The Food bank proposal requested funding of £1,000 from the Forum to help purchase food stuffs to meet a shortfall. The Forum agreed to provide the Food bank with £1,000 for this purpose.</p>	
<p>20.</p>	<p><u>OADBY AND WIGSTON COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONSE – DEFIBRILATOR PROPOSAL</u> Rick Moughton and Trish Bentley, Oadby and Wigston First Responders presented a proposal to the Forum requesting funding to enable them to provide equipment to support the role of First Responders in the Borough. The Responders gave the Forum an overview of why the First Responders scheme was needed. It came out of recommendations in the Government 1999 green paper Saving Lives and strictly follows EMAS operating guidelines.</p> <p>The Responders proposal requested funds of £1,200 to pay for a defibrillator machine to save the lives of those suffering a heart attack and other ancillary equipment costs to cover Jackets and the recruitment and training of volunteers.</p> <p>It takes £2000 to provide a full First Response kit.</p> <p>A church group offered to do some fund raising on First</p>	

	<p>Responders behalf to raise monies to invest in a kit. The Forum agreed to authorise capital not revenue funding totalling £1,000 to partly fund a kit. This takes into cognisance the fact that they will also be requesting funding from South Wigston and Oadby Resident Forums.</p> <p>It was agreed First Responders will provide an update to the Forum twice a year on how the funding has been used and the impact of its use on behalf of the people of Oadby and Wigston.</p>	<p>First Responders Rick Moughton Trish Bentley</p>
21.	<p><u>CUSTOMER SERVICES TRANSFORMATION – PRESENTATION</u></p> <p>Jacqui Griffiths, Manager for Oadby and Wigston`s Customer Service informed the Forum a consultation on the Customer Charter is currently being rolled out across the Borough.</p> <p>Feedback was requested from residents as to their opinion on the Charter`s five key services areas being reviewed. A consultation feedback form was circulated at the meeting. Residents were asked to return the consultation form in person to Oadby and Wigston Council or complete it online and email it back.</p> <p>Customer Services moves to Bell Street in the Summer. This move is to be formally announced. It will host a facility to view planning applications. To view older plans an appointment can be made at Bushloe House, Station Road. Staff will be trained to use the computer to access plans.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the officer for her presentation.</p>	
22.	<p><u>WIGSTON TRADERS UPDATE</u></p> <p>Chris Huscroft provided a verbal update on behalf of the Chairman of the Traders Association.</p> <p>The Christmas Lights were well received. They were praised as being exceptionally good. However the issue of electrical power by the Bell Pub was raised.</p> <p>There is a spring fayre planned for 9th May 2015 in Bell Street. Side shows and food are to be provided. Last year`s sausage sizzle is to be repeated. Sainsbury`s provided the food and drink.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Chris Huscroft for the update made on behalf of the Chair of Wigston Traders.</p>	
23	<p><u>PRIDE OF THE BOROUGH UPDATE</u></p> <p>Graham Lamb updated the Forum on developments with Pride of the Borough. It supported entry to East Midlands in Bloom in 2011 where a second prize was won. The criteria for East Midlands in Bloom entries cover working with local businesses not just floral displays.</p>	

	<p>The Pride of the Borough Loyalty Card was promoted. It allows shoppers to access a variety of discounts from a range of local businesses. The annual joining fee to individuals is £5.00. Currently, there are 230 Pride of the Borough business members. The membership list is accessible on the world wide web. It is regularly updated.</p> <p>The latest members up to today includes: Grange Farm Oadby, Fires and Fire places, DIY Shop and The Indian Retreat restaurant.</p> <p>An individual membership application form can be accessed from Oadby and Wigston Council reception, Brocks Hill Country Park and from a form on the back page of the Council Letterbox magazine.</p>	
24.	<p><u>CHAIRMANS UPDATES</u></p> <p>The Forum considered the Chairman's update document which was circulated at the meeting. The Chairman gave a verbal update on the issues outlined in the document.</p> <p><u>Capital Projects Update</u></p> <p>The Chair stated the Resident Forum funding was established eight years ago. It came about through the Tesco store commission. This fund is topped up from the Council's budget.</p> <p><u>REQUESTS FOR SPENDING AND UPDATE ON FORUM BUDGET</u></p> <p>The All Saints Church Warden submitted a quote to the Forum for work on this listed building. This amounts to £1,152.50p. The Forum agreed to award an allocation of funds to meet this sum for electrical work.</p> <p>The cost of the memorial board is yet to be quoted. It commemorates deaths in both World Wars.</p> <p>The Bell Street refurbishment is almost complete. The area is to be cleaned, re-sanded and sealed. Once the seal is in place, this will allow for annual cleaning. Full pedestrianisation of Bell Street has been addressed with County Council. This Council is prepared to pay to advertise the notice at a cost of between 3k to 10k and go for a six month trial period. It is recognised that this is a responsibility of Highways. Prohibiting cycling is being considered.</p> <p>Parking for disabled users will be maintained at Leicester Road end. Residents enquired if the changes can be applied to Bell Street jitty as it connects with Bell Street.</p> <p>The graffiti is also being dealt with. It was agreed to place Bell Street refurbishment on the agenda for the Resident Forum in</p>	<p>Church Wardens</p> <p>Veronika Quintyne</p>

	<p>six months time.</p> <p>The New parking regulations have been advertised in the London Gazette. Oadby and Wigston Council is removing all blue line car parking spaces from April 1st 2015. A three hours plus parking ticket is to be allocated. Parking is to be free for up to three hours. New signs have been ordered. There is no change for shopper's car parking. The County Council is responsible for on street parking. The car parks are to be relined.</p> <p>£1,000 was paid for four bus shelter seats. All the work is complete at Aylestone Lane, Horsewell Lane and Launceston Road.</p> <p>The repairs to Paddock Street bus shelters would cost £3,500. New bus shelters are costed at £4,000. Forum members were asked to vote for a standard bus shelter design. The bus company will not pay for bus shelters. One resident proposed the buying of a new bus shelter for Paddock Street at £4000.</p> <p>Forum members were asked to state where they wished to see the new bus shelter located. The final decision will include consulting with residents and the bus company.</p> <p>The Paddock street bus shelter issue is to be discussed at the next Policy Committee Tuesday 10th March 2015. They are to be replaced as soon as possible. Replacements will depend on usage. There are 55 bus shelters in the Borough. It is being considered whether there should be advertising on bus shelters. The contract will be between 25 to 30 years and the company will have to maintain them.</p>	
<p>25.</p>	<p><u>ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE ITEMS</u></p> <p>Residents were invited to raise any issues of concern which are summarised below:</p> <p>The Wigston cemetery wall was knocked down by a lorry. This will be rebuilt shortly. Fallen grave stones are also being righted.</p> <p>A resident noted that the litter bin on Paddock Street has disappeared.</p> <p>Sixteen Notice boards have now had backing boards placed on them. Approval from the Council is required before advertising is placed on them. They are not to be used to advertise private businesses.</p> <p>Following a resident request Veronika will check which notice boards can be used for advertising all future borough Resident Forum meetings.</p>	<p>Veronika Quintyne</p>

	<p>Leicestershire County Council Matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Saffron Lane roadside grass verge is the responsibility of highways and the pavement is the responsibility of the County Council. <p>Other Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The railway bridge by the Spion Cop may be closed. Where possible the track is to be lowered and this will facilitate not having to close the bridge. • A request from a resident proposed two bus shelters be placed; one at Horsewell Lane between Durnford Road and Barnstable Close and one opposite Durnford Road going towards Wigston Town Centre. • A resident enquired if it was okay for a business to display its plastic containers outside Farm Foods leading to them being extended across the walkway. The Forum was informed the Council's Legal Service is dealing with this matter. • The Friends of Peace Memorial Park are looking to recruit more volunteers. • The Chair informed the Forum that as yet there is no further update information regarding the Bell Fountain. The public house is now closed. • Wigston Baths development continues to progress. As yet there is no set opening date. • The Greening of the Borough Management Plan will be ready in March 2015. It was agreed an update on this Plan is to come to the next Resident Forum meeting. • Jean Crane addressed the Forum to state that the Wigston Club for Young People was under threat of closure. The Club is seeking support from the Forum to keep it open. The Chair suggested that Jean Crane meet with Veronika Quintyne after the meeting. Part of Veronika's role is to help groups with sourcing funding. • Residents continued to express their appreciation of the introduction of the green wheelie bins. <p>The Chair expressed pleasure at chairing the meeting .He thanked everyone for their attendance.</p>	<p>Carolyn Holmes</p> <p>Jean Crane Veronika Quintyne</p>
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Meeting closed at 20:35