

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OADBY RESIDENTS FORUM HELD
AT BARNABAS CENTRE, HAMBLE ROAD, OADBY ON WEDNESDAY 2
SEPTEMBER 2015, COMMENCING AT 6.30 PM.**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor D Carter–Chair

Councillors:J Kaufman, D Gamble, G.Atwal

Residents in attendance: P Bliss, L Hill, Dr T Kumar, E Davidson, D Foulds, H Smith, D Needham, D Culpa, M Eglen, L Harrison, J Potts, M Worthington, H Moor, D J Burton, N Waghela, D Hudson,

H Hudson, E A Keywood, J Feber, P Coomes, M Coomes, P Ballard,

Others in Attendance: V Quintyne (OWBC), S. Ball (OWBC),S Gutteridge (Oadby Traders), G Lamb (Pride of the Borough)

Apologies:

Councillor L Darr (Mayor), Councillor S.Haq, Councillor A Bond, Z Haq, A Wood, PC M Fenwick, G Austen, M Bates, P Bates, P Newman, H Newman

| Min Ref | Narrative | Officer Responsible | | |
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| 30 | <p><u>LOCAL POLICE ISSUES</u></p> <p>Due to sickness PC M Fenwick was unable to attend the meeting to update on policing figures. The Chair requested residents provide information on issues of concern which are to be forwarded to the Police. These are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excessively loud motorcycles on the A6 every evening which can be heard in Coombe Rise and is affecting the quiet enjoyment of the whole of Oadby. • Coombe Park is seeing an array of laughing gas paraphernalia left lying around . • Unsociable drinking is taking place in Uplands Park with anti-social behaviour on the increase as the Park is not being properly locked at night. • A carrier bag containing laughing gas paraphernalia left in the Jitty between Woodfield Road and Uplands Park. • Speeding traffic in Stoughton Road. • Laughing gas canisters on Launde Road and Uplands Road. <p>The following figures below relate to PC Fenwick’s last update crime figures provided at the Resident Forum meeting of July 8th 2015.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Current</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Previous</td> </tr> </table> | Current | Previous | |
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| | <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Burglary Dwelling</td> <td>22</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BOTD</td> <td>03</td> <td>03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Theft from Motor Vehicle</td> <td>16</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Robbery</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Criminal Damage</td> <td>13</td> <td>15</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Chair reminded Residents that they can ring the Police Beat Team on the 101 phone number to report criminal activity. Reporting can also be done by Residents accessing the Police website, clicking the bottom banner icon to access the Beat Team. Information can also be reported by contacting Twitter and Facebook. Residents can also join in discussion via a monthly Police chat room session. There is also access to a police newsletter and a form for residents to provide information about illegal activity occurring in their area.</p> | Burglary Dwelling | 22 | 26 | BOTD | 03 | 03 | Theft from Motor Vehicle | 16 | 15 | Robbery | 0 | 0 | Criminal Damage | 13 | 15 | |
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| 31 | <p><u>LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW FOR ENGLAND</u></p> <p>The Chair informed residents that feedback obtained from the three previous Resident forum meetings formed the core of the Council's response to the English Boundary Commission on the rearranging of electoral wards in the Borough. This was in relation to the Boundary Commission recommendation that the Borough have a single Councillor representation for each division and that each division has close to 9,984 electoral voters. This is to ensure the numbers adequately reflect the interests and identities of communities and promote effective and convenient local government.</p> <p>Residents were also asked if anyone had made their own submission on line using the following web site link. http://www.leics.gov.uk/oadbyandwigston_electoral_review_proposals.pdf.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 32 | <p><u>OADBY TRADERS UPDATE</u></p> <p>It was reported that the Classic and Sports car show organised by Oadby Town Centre Association on Sunday 16th August was a great success. This event is to be held again on August 14th 2016. It was noted that there were no signs in place from Sandhurst Street car park to show direction to the Parade. People also need to be reminded to park in the Sandhurst Street car park and not in the East Street car park.</p> <p>The festive lights switch-on is planned for November 7th 2015. The switch-on is to coincide with the Hindu Festival of Divali. Input is to come from members of the Hindu and Muslim communities, a male voice choir and Billy Bragg's funfair.</p> <p>The Parade is to close on the Saturday afternoon and the switch-on will be at 5.15pm. It is suggested the tree lights be switched off by 5th January 2016. More details will be brought to the next Resident Forum meeting. The Farmer's Market is to be invited to sell produce.</p> <p>The Traders requested that the Residents' Forum support this year's festive event by providing £100 for insurance, £500 for the hiring of sound equipment for the day and £300 for two reindeers.</p> <p>Billy Bates fun fair is charging £400 to turn up, but will be asked if they will take £200. In total the Traders are requesting a financial underwriting of £1,000 from the Residents Forum for the festival.</p> | Council lor | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | <p>A resident queried whether the festival costs might be sponsored by shopkeepers, thereby bringing down the costs. Sam agreed to bring back a final costing for the festival to the next Residents Forum meeting and Councillor Gamble agreed to take the costing requested to the Council's Policy, Finance and Development Committee.</p> <p>Residents were asked if they agreed with the Farmers Market day being changed to a Saturday. The change of day would help to alleviate traffic congestion. The cost of a stall is currently £24.00. Leicestershire Food Links manage the Oadby Farmer's Market. The income does not cover the outlay of holding the Market.</p> | <p>Gamble Oadby and Wigston Traders</p> |
| <p>33</p> | <p><u>PRIDE OF THE BOROUGH</u></p> <p>The Pride of the Borough coordinates the borough's entry into East Midlands In Bloom. Previous years have seen Oadby win gold in the competition. Pride of the Borough is to hold an awards evening on the 21st September 2015 at Parklands. The award results will be shared then.</p> <p>There are currently 439 loyalty card members. New cards for 2016 will be issued from December 1st 2015. Loyalty cards can be obtained from Brocks Hill Country Park and Oadby Library.</p> | |
| <p>34</p> | <p><u>CHAIRMAN'S UPDATES INCLUDING CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATES, REQUESTS FOR SPENDING AND UPDATE ON THE FORUM BUDGET</u></p> <p><u>Customer Services transformation</u> Customer Services transformation is concluded The opening times for Oadby Customer Services were noted to residents The Cashiers Service in the Council on Station Road, Wigston has closed</p> <p><u>Speed Activated Road Signs</u> An investment has been made in Speed Activated Road Signs in Wigston and South Wigston They are in place and can record information about speeding and encourage drivers to reduce their speed. Residents requested information on how effective these are in the reduction of speeding. Currently no data is accessible from Highways from its use to gauge the impact on decreasing speeding or reducing accidents.</p> <p><u>Ellis Park Fountain</u> The Ellis Park fountain is to be renovated to look aesthetically pleasing. No running water facility will be re-connected. The residents agreed that the fountain be kept in an aesthetically pleasing state of repair.</p> <p><u>Parklands Leisure Centre</u> The removal of two commemorative stones from Sandhurst Street School site, weighing some 50 pounds and 50 centimetres square was discussed. It was proposed that these be used between the original gateways in the fence surrounding the Poundstretcher store. Some residents expressed concern about the stones being relocated to Poundstretcher land .It was agreed to see whether the stones could be relocated to Ellis Park, depending on future developments. It was agreed to bring this back to the November 2015 Resident Forum meeting as a presentation for discussion.</p> <p><u>Burton's Corner Seats</u></p> | <p>Veronika Quintyne</p> |

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| | <p>Three seats have been funded. Orders for the seats have been placed by the Council. Brookside Construction is to install the seats, complete with plaques. A litter bin is to be added which echoes the style of the seats and placed on the Parade. Paving is to be weeded. The Council Depot was contacted about the spraying of weed killer. On behalf of the Forum the Chair expressed thanks to Peter Bliss from Oadby Civic Society and Margaret Smith of Oadby and Wigston Council for their work on this development.</p> <p><u>Uplands Road Bin</u> The Forum supported the installation of a bin on Uplands Road. It was noted that if a recycled one could be used then this would save the Council £450. Local ward councillors to discuss with residents the preferred location.</p> <p><u>Bus Shelter on Howden Road</u> Regarding the resident query as to what criteria exists to justify the purchase of a bus shelter, the Chair drew residents attention to a hard copy of the paper title” Criteria for requesting a bus shelter” placed on seats at this meeting.</p> <p>The current process for purchasing a bus shelter is as follows. Margaret Smith liaises with the County Council on the siting of bus shelter. The Forum agrees to the funding. The Council’s Policy, Finance and Development Committee ratifies it and then a final application is made to the County Council. Councillor Jeffrey Kaufman is to report back to the next meeting on the justification of a bus shelter at Howden Road.</p> <p>The previous minutes (8.7.2015) are to be amended to record residents awarded £2,000 to the Friends of Brocks Hill Conservation Project.</p> <p>A resident questioned whether Grange Country Park now belonged to the Council. The Chair again clarified that the Park was not yet officially Council owned. This is being progressed.</p> | <p>Council lor Kaufma n</p> |
| <p>35</p> | <p><u>ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE FUNDING OF ITEMS</u></p> <p>Following a resident question, a Councillor confirmed that the grey post boxes which are currently still in place will be removed by March 2016.</p> <p>It was suggested the bin near the park bench outside of ASDA be moved further down the A6 as there is a litter problem there. The ward councillor is to be requested to look into this.</p> <p>Residents identified that there are still bushes overhanging the A6. Councillors Gamble and Kaufman are to revisit the areas to check what needs to be brought to the attention of Highways for trimming. It was affirmed overhanging bushes is a County Council matter. This item is to come back to the Forum if the County Council has taken no action.</p> <p>A new Oadby swimming pool is to open at the end of November 2016. Ellis Park Pool will be flattened to avoid any vandalism. Car parking is to remain unchanged.</p> <p>A resident noted that the Pole Arnold building works appears to have</p> | <p>Council lor Bond</p> <p>Council lor Gamble</p> |

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| <p>stopped. The building is to be turned into 17 flats. This is a change to the original planning application.</p> <p>Residents requested that ward councillors check the fencing at Burton Close car park quadrants which seems to have fallen down.</p> <p>A resident noted that in 2009 litter bins were requested for Coombe Park to be placed by the side of seats. The resident is requesting two bins. The Chair noted bins cost approximately £400 each. It was suggested that the resident speak with his ward councillor on this matter and come back to the Forum with a proposal outlining why the bins are needed and where. This can be brought back to the next Resident Forum meeting.</p> <p>A resident thanked Councillors for putting in a seat at Burton`s corner.</p> <p>A resident volunteer was thanked for power washing and painting two benches by St Peter`s Church green space.</p> <p>Bus stops on Chestnut Avenue need the bus numbers renewing. Bus stops by the Epic are used by the X3 buses. Councillor Kaufman is to take this up.</p> <p>The ward councillor brought a request from a resident for toilets be placed in Uplands Park. The ward councillor was advised to raise the issue with the relevant officers for consideration of the matter to be brought to the Service Delivery committee.</p> <p>Registering concern from a resident, the Chair noted that the Old Library Pub is undergoing renovation for alternative use as a public eating establishment. Residents can go to the Council`s website to view the planned use applied for. Planning is not for a change of use and serving of alcohol is subject to a licence application.</p> <p>The date of the next Resident Forum meeting is: Wednesday 4 November 2015 at 6.30pm. The venue is Oadby Baptist Church, Leicester Road, Oadby, LE2 5DB.</p> <p>Residents were reminded that should they wish to discuss in confidence local issues of concern before the full meeting begins at 6.30pm, there is a surgery session with; the Police and Councillors between 6pm and 6.30pm.</p> | <p>Council lor Kaufma n</p> |
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Meeting closed at 20:05