

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OADBY RESIDENTS FORUM HELD AT  
BAPTIST CHURCH HALL, LEICESTER ROAD, OADBY ON WEDNESDAY  
4 NOVEMBER 2015, COMMENCING AT 6.30 P.M.**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor D Carter– Chair

**Councillors:** B Fahey, D Gamble, Z Haq ,J Kaufman, L Darr, B Dave, G Atwal,

**Residents in attendance:** J Dabney, R Rajani, P Coomes, M Coomes, Z Esat, P.Picton, C O`Donovan, N.Atter, M. Luke, D. Cunningham, M.P. Hughes, S Thanki, C Robertson, S Robertson, P Bliss, Reverend G Gamble, L. Green, S. Poole, D. Needham, H.Smith, R.Dodge, K Hambleton, J Ramaya, J Vickerstaff, G Lamb, S. Lucas, C Foulds, S Mosley, J Bayars, J E Sherlock, P Ballard, P Bates, M Bates, M Whearity, J Feber, E A Keyword, J Patterson, B Patterson, JSB Gill, R Gill, M Thornton, S Bolton, G Austen, H Moore, D J Burton, F H Wilcock, D Hudson, H Hudson, L Dobney, M Ward, J Ward, A Yilmaz, H J Hiew, T Chowdhury

**Others in Attendance:** PCSO J Darby, C Holmes (OWBC),V Quintyne (OWBC), J Carr (OWBC), A Thorpe.(OWBC), L Shah(OWBC), B Shah(OWBC),

**Apologies:** PC M Fenwick, S Gutteridge (Oadby Traders), P Newman, H Newman.

Min Ref	Narrative	Officer Responsible																					
31.	<p><b><u>LOCAL POLICE ISSUES</u></b></p> <p>Police Community Support Officer Jack Darby provided an update on crime figures for the period between September and October 2015. The details are summarised below:</p> <table> <tr> <td></td><td>This</td><td>Last</td></tr> <tr> <td>Burglary in Dwelling:</td><td>12</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr> <td>Burglary Other than Dwelling:</td><td>7</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Theft from Vehicle:</td><td>14</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr> <td>Criminal Damage:</td><td>8</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr> <td>BOT Dwellings (business premises)</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Robberies</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p>PCSO Darby informed residents of projects currently in operation;</p> <p>Speed monitoring is planned to be implemented in Stoughton Road.</p> <p>On motorbikes speeding along the A6., residents are encouraged to report excessive speeders including the vehicle registration numbers.</p> <p>A mobile speed gun was in use a few days ago along the A6. One was used on the cycle path leading to Great Glen.</p> <p>A speeding cyclist was observed, and a registration number taken and brought to the attention of the Police.</p> <p>Nitrous oxide canisters are being used. The Police are monitoring the situation. Residents were encouraged to report the drug dealers.</p> <p>There have been no reports of anti-social drinking within the last six months. On this point, a resident raised about people drinking alcohol openly in the park. The Police stated this was only deemed to be anti social behaviour where drinkers are underage or exhibiting anti social behaviour. The only no alcohol drinking zone in Oadby, is Fludes Lane. Where behaviour is deemed to be harassing, causing alarm</p>		This	Last	Burglary in Dwelling:	12	22	Burglary Other than Dwelling:	7		Theft from Vehicle:	14	16	Criminal Damage:	8	15	BOT Dwellings (business premises)	3		Robberies	1		
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	<p>or distress then the public should notify the Police.</p> <p>On a resident noting speed strips had been placed on the road to measure speeding, the County Councillor affirmed this was not the case.</p> <p>A resident raised a concern regarding speeding on the A6 and the possibilities of fatalities. A County Councillor noted there had been two accidents on the A6, one of which was a fatality. Both had nothing to do with speeding. One person had taken ill and the other was a pedestrian who had been drinking.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the Police for the update report.</p>	
32	<p><b><u>LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION DISPLAY</u></b></p> <p>A display presenting the consultation on the new Local Plan for the Borough had been set up in the hall. It outlined how the Council is preparing a new local plan to cover new housing development and allocating land for houses. The town centres and the countryside will see key challenges for the Council in this arena.</p> <p>Residents were invited to pose any questions about the Plan to the two officers attending this meeting. The consultation period is until November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2015.</p>	
33.	<p><b><u>COMMEMORATIVE STONES</u></b></p> <p>The Chair noted that this item had been brought back for discussion from the last meeting. The Commemorative stones currently sit in Oadby Depot.</p> <p>It had been suggested that the stones be returned to the site of the former Sandhurst Street school. This is a site owned by the Poundstretcher store. One resident suggested the gateways could be blocked up and the stones placed between the gateways. It was also suggested an information board should accompany the stones as a point of interest, highlighting who went to the local school where the stones originally sat with a photo of the school building incorporated.</p> <p>A resident noted that if the stones were placed on private land the Council would lose control of them. There are two other schools in Oadby with such plaques. A resident suggested placing the stones on Burton's Corner. Further consultation on this matter is to be explored with residents.</p>	
34.	<p><b><u>NATURAL DISCOVERY VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME</u></b></p> <p>Carolyn Holmes, Country Parks and Environment Manager gave an update on this Programme. She informed residents that a 60% Heritage Lottery fund contribution had been received in relation to the Natural Discovery Volunteer Development Programme- Celebrating our Borough's Natural Heritage Programme.</p> <p>The Programme promotes bio diversity and directly supports the Council's Greening the Borough policy. It will have the outcomes of: increasing visitors to the Borough, and improving the quality of life of people in the Borough.</p> <p>The Heritage funding has assisted with the purchase of a battery operated five seater Nissan van. It costs 3pence a mile to run. It will also contribute to community events. A piece about the Programme is to be featured in the Leicester Mercury. This Programme covers the whole borough.</p> <p>The Programme is being developed with input from Voluntary Action Leicestershire and South Wigston Working Group. Twelve training events are to be offered to people over the year plus two annual volunteer events. This will mean engaging with people of diverse age groups. A Winter and Summer celebration event will also be run, accompanied with the display of projects.</p> <p>The Programme will help reduce anti-social behaviour and promote good mental health and well being and access to leisure for everyone. Part of the plan is to develop "health by stealth", for example by felling a tree and building a web page to</p>	

	<p>involve local people.</p> <p>Work on Clifton Bridge, as part of this programme commenced in the Summer. The river corridor was restored with the help of the local community .New friends volunteer groups are to be set up to encourage local people to care for green spaces in the Borough. Local businesses will be encouraged to get involved.</p> <p>Hedgerows have been created in Chicken Alley. A newly appointed Project Officer is to be located at Brock's Hill Park and Conservation Centre. Part of the officer's role will be providing training, Skills training will be provided on hedge laying and coppicing. This will all add to the building of a biological record for the Borough. Volunteer taster days are also to be offered.</p> <p>An outcome of the Programme is to increase the number of Super Conservation Volunteers across the whole borough over the next two years. The Programme will focus on increasing further community engagement, focus on biodiversity sites across the Borough, up skill volunteers , further establish ongoing volunteer groups, incorporate health and safety legislation run training courses and make the Borough a better place to live ,learn and work.</p> <p>On concluding the presentation the Chair thanked Carolyn for the update.</p>	
35	<p><b><u>OADBY &amp; WIGSTON COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS</u></b></p> <p>The Oadby and Wigston Community Responders returned to provide a verbal update on how they spent the award given by the Forum a year ago. The Responders work to the protocols of East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust (EMAS) and to EMAS guidelines. They can mobilise to an incident quicker than it takes an ambulance to arrive. The ambulance service alerts them. They take up the slack between 999 calls and the ambulance arriving.</p> <p>The Responders started their volunteering role in February 2014.The award has helped with the purchase of professional kits and equipment such as a defibrillator, Jackets costing about £90.00, holdall for £60 to £100. They carry oxygen and nebulisers.</p> <p>The Responders use their own cars and now have three teams in place covering, Oadby, South Wigston and Wigston. They can cancel an ambulance if they find on arrival it is not required. This is done via the CAP Team.</p> <p>Since their setting up, the Responders have helped 57 people suffering a fall, 54 with chest pains,12 diabetics,15 suffering a cardiac arrest, people suffering allergies, take on average 30 calls a month and have logged 600 to 700 hundred calls equivalent to some 1,400 hours over the last ten months.</p> <p>The Responders will be doing fund raising, but would like to come back to the Forum to request some funding but not as much as the first award. The Responders are developing their media presence via social media such as Twitter. Once set up they will send the link to the Community Engagement Officer for circulation. An article on the Responders will be placed in the Council's Letterbox magazine in the near future.</p> <p>On conclusion of the update, the Chair thanked the Responders.</p>	<p><b>Rick Moughton</b> <b>Veronika Quintyne</b></p>
36.	<p><b><u>OADBY REMEMBERS</u></b></p> <p>Nigel Atter from Oadby Remembers 1914 - 1918 gave a verbal update .They have held a number of exhibitions and talks this year and launched a website, which is a work in progress and made links to kindred organisations.</p> <p>Representatives attended Manor School Fayre and made a presentation there of the exhibition. Its constitution was agreed at its AGM (Annual General Meeting) and its accounts have been independently audited. Income began with nil monies to currently some £6000, with an expenditure of £3,000.</p> <p>The next exhibition will be at St Peter's from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> of November 2015. There will also be a public lecture at St Peter's on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2015 at 7pm</p>	

	<p>noting the Hohenzollern Redoubt Battle. Many Oadby men lost their lives there.</p> <p>A remembrance service will be held on the Sunday. Residents were requested that if they knew the names of people linked to photographs in the exhibition could they pass these on to the organisers of the exhibition.</p>	
37.	<p><b><u>HOLI FESTIVAL IN OADBY</u></b></p> <p>Vinod Ghadiali, the Chair of the Hindu Community Association gave a presentation. This outlined planning of an event to mark the Holi Festival in Oadby and Wigston in late March 2016.</p> <p>The event is open to all in the Borough. The event is about celebrating this Hindu festival and bringing communities together in an atmosphere of respect, love, joy and community unity. A date and venue for this event will be circulated in due course.</p>	
38.	<p><b><u>PRIDE OF THE BOROUGH</u></b></p> <p>The Pride of the Borough is launching a 'Take Pride - Stop the Litter' campaign across the whole Borough. Colin Robertson from Pride of the Borough presented information to the residents about the Campaign.</p> <p>This Stop the Litter campaign came about this Spring after a group of people did a litter pick in scrub land in the ASDA car park area. This led to the filling of 49 green recycling bags of a mixed array of rubbish. Crisp packets; take away food cartons, larger cans, bottles and other items dropped by people.</p> <p>The campaign over the next two months is to see work with schools and residents. Six senior schools in Oadby and Wigston are now involved. A poster design competition is being run with schools in the Borough.</p> <p>At the three Resident Forums where presentations are to be made, residents are to be requested to complete a brief questionnaire about addressing the cleaning up of litter in the Borough. The completed questionnaires would then be collected in and used as consultation feedback.</p> <p>In January 2016 a media campaign is to be launched. The outcome of this campaign is to help make the borough a cleaner place to live, work and play and foster a sense of pride in the Borough. An article about the campaign is to be placed in the December issue of the Council newsletter, Letterbox.</p> <p>Supermarkets are also being contacted to get involved with the campaign, including displaying the campaign poster.</p> <p>A resident suggested the campaign organisers produce a bag printed with the campaign logo to include in publicity material handed out.</p> <p>Another resident suggested the campaign organisers approach the supermarkets to get the Supermarket staff involved.</p> <p>On completion of the presentation the Chair thanked Colin Robertson.</p>	
39.	<p><b><u>OADBY TRADERS UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>The Chair noted that the proposal brought to a previous meeting to change Oadby's Farmer's market from a Friday to a Saturday was not deemed workable.</p> <p>Posters have been put up around Oadby about the festive lights switch on. This will take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 5.15pm. Activities will take place at Burton's Corner between 2pm to 5pm. The Christmas tree will be located by Burton's Corner.</p> <p>Richard Plimmer, a vocalist, will be placed on the programme before the Mayor's opening speech. The Mayor will provide a speech at 5pm and a community choir will be singing songs.</p>	

	<p>£1,000 was granted by the Council's Policy Finance and Development Committee to support the event. Directory boards will display road closures from 12 Noon till 6pm. Buses will be diverted.</p> <p>An event programme to inform residents about the listing of events is to be put up by the Town Centre Manager.</p>	
40.	<p><b><u>CHAIRMAN'S UPDATES</u></b></p> <p>The Forum considered the Chair's update document. This includes Oadby Resident Forum budget. Copies were distributed at the meeting. The Chair gave a verbal update on the issues outlined in the document.</p> <p>The Ellis Park fountain order has been placed. This work is due to be completed within the next eight months.</p> <p>The work of installing seats and litter bins at Burton's Corner is complete.</p> <p>Seats and litterbins for Uplands Road and Launde Road have been ordered.</p> <p>As yet no data is available for the speed activated signs based in Wigston, in order to justify obtaining one for Oadby.</p> <p>Councillor Dave is to follow up the proposal to purchase two bins to be placed along the A6 with Councillor Bond.</p> <p>Councillors Gamble and Kaufman have checked the cutback of bushes on the A6. This work has been completed.</p> <p>On Chestnut Avenue, Epic Accessories bus stops have got flags on them.</p> <p>The Chair noted that with the change to the 31 Oadby bus stop service some of the bus shelters may become redundant. Buses are being cut from the north end route of Severn Road. Therefore there is no point in having a bus shelter there. 56 days notice was given to the Council by Arriva for stopping this bus service route. Councillor Latif Darr has written to Arriva to ask them to meet with the Council to discuss the cuts. Arriva are taking a commercial decision. 700 leaflets are to be distributed by the local Liberal Democrat councillors to inform residents of the bus stoppage.</p> <p>The request to replace the bus stop on Howden Road with a bus shelter is to come to the next Resident Forum meeting for discussion.</p>	<p><b>Councillors Dave and Bond</b></p>
41.	<p><b><u>ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS</u></b></p> <p>Residents were invited to raise any issues of concern which are summarised below:</p> <p>The Florence Wragg Way play area needs to be upgraded. For intermediate age children.</p> <p>Seats were requested on the A6 between Grange Farm and Gorse Lane. This proposal is to come to the next meeting. The proposal needs to say specifically why a seat is needed in this location.</p> <p>Parklands and Wigston Pools open in December 2016. The official opening will take place in January 2016.</p> <p>There is a highways issue of parking around schools in the mornings. Councillor Fahey placed a petition to the Highways Forum on this issue. Anyone wanting a copy of the petition which included 76 signatories please contact Councillor Fahey. (<a href="mailto:Bob.fahey@oadby-wigston.gov.uk">Bob.fahey@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</a>)</p>	

	<p>There was a general recognition by residents that this issue needs to be raised with the Police, County Councillors and a request made for the issue to be addressed resident suggested Councillors could learn from a scheme set up in St Albans to address this kind of highways issue.</p> <p>It was noted that 17 cars were parked up on Burton`s Corner for an inordinate amount of time. This is an infringement of traffic regulations .The Chair stated the enforcement officers will be requested to look into this.</p> <p><b>Other Matters:</b></p> <p>A resident asked whether, once the current swimming pool is closed, will the site be used for housing? At a meeting in December 2014, councillors recommended that the land be made available for affordable housing. The land was donated to the people of Oadby in 1897 by Rachel Ellis., who stipulated that her donation of land should be used 'for the benefit of the inhabitants of the parish of Oadby'</p> <p>A report was brought to the Council in 2014 and legal officers stated how the gift should be implemented. The whole of the land, the swimming pool, park and tennis park are all part of the land conveyed by Rachel Ellis. Peter Bliss has a copy of the original conveyancing document, details of which he will feed back to Council Officers.</p> <p>The date of the next Resident Forum meeting is: Tuesday 1st March 2016 at 6.30pm The venue is the Oadby Community Centre, Sandhurst Street, Oadby, LE2 5AR.</p> <p>Residents are reminded that they may discuss issues of concern to them with Councillors and the Police, in confidence, between 6pm and 6.30pm (i.e. before the full meeting begins at 6.30pm).</p>	<p><b>Peter Bliss</b></p>
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**Meeting closed at 20.50pm**