

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SOUTH WIGSTON RESIDENTS FORUM HELD AT FAIRFIELD  
PRIMARY SCHOOL, SCHOOL HALL, CHESHIRE DRIVE, SOUTH WIGSTON ON  
WEDNESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2015, COMMENCING AT 7.30 P.M.**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor S Morris – Chair

Councillors G Boulter , R E R Morris

**Residents in attendance:** R Reeves, C Walter, R Carter, K Quirk, P.Tebbutt ; D.Tebbutt, C Robinson, K Tiday, B Tiday, R Carter, L Shaw, R Hughes, T Sumpter, R Moughton, P Besley, M Aires, S Avery, J Tetley, A Wallace

**Others in Attendance:** V Quintyne (OWBC). S Ball(OWBC), J. Cooke (The Conservation Volunteers), D Cliffe(Voluntary Action Leicester),PC S.Lewin., P.Bates (Friends of Brocks Hill ), M. Bates (Friends of Brocks Hill), N Hague( Brocks Hill Park Senior Ranger), A Thorpe(OWBC), E Morgan(OWBC)

**Apologies:** A. Kind, PC C Sutherley (Police Officer),R C. Elliot, R Elliot, L Wills(Phoenix Therapies), M Ray

Min Ref	Narrative	Officer Responsible																		
35.	<p><b><u>LOCAL POLICING ISSUES</u></b></p> <p>Police Officer Carl Sutherley Beat Officer for South Wigston, provided an update on crime prevention statistics for the last two months. This is summarised below:</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="225 1227 997 1594"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="225 1227 630 1258">LAST 2 MONTHS</th> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="630 1227 997 1258">PREVIOUS 3 MONTHS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 1294 630 1326">BURGLARY DWELLING</td> <td data-bbox="630 1294 662 1326">7</td> <td data-bbox="965 1294 997 1326">9</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 1361 630 1393">BURGLARY other than DWELLING</td> <td data-bbox="630 1361 662 1393">2</td> <td data-bbox="965 1361 997 1393">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 1429 630 1460">THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE</td> <td data-bbox="630 1429 965 1460">2 (both from burglaries)</td> <td data-bbox="965 1429 997 1460">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 1496 630 1527">THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE</td> <td data-bbox="630 1496 662 1527">15</td> <td data-bbox="965 1496 997 1527">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 1563 630 1594">ROBBERY</td> <td data-bbox="630 1563 662 1594">0</td> <td data-bbox="965 1563 997 1594">0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>There has been a reduction in the Police budget.Oadby and Wigston Police is working with officers from Eyres Monsell and Saffron Road.</p> <p>Residents were reminded to lock car doors, garage and shed doors. Door to door leafleting has taken place to help reduce crime.Burgalars breaking into Saffron Road properties have been jailed.</p> <p>Anti social behaviour exhibited by youths has been dealt with. Groups of youths from other estates outside of South Wigston had been part of the cause of anti-social behaviour. Parents have been visited, letters sent and work is ongoing with schools. There</p>	LAST 2 MONTHS	PREVIOUS 3 MONTHS		BURGLARY DWELLING	7	9	BURGLARY other than DWELLING	2	3	THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE	2 (both from burglaries)	2	THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	15	2	ROBBERY	0	0	
LAST 2 MONTHS	PREVIOUS 3 MONTHS																			
BURGLARY DWELLING	7	9																		
BURGLARY other than DWELLING	2	3																		
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE	2 (both from burglaries)	2																		
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	15	2																		
ROBBERY	0	0																		

	<p>have been no reports of further incidents.</p> <p>A Policing plan is in place to deal with parking issues in and around the Canal Street area.</p> <p>The Police have launched Operation Pinball. This is to control crime hot spots.</p> <p>Residents asked questions about what action the Police was taking to address speeding cars going through Dorset Avenue and Gloucester Crescent. The Police noted it was stopping mainly local people for speeding in these areas. It was however working to encourage residents to start up a Community Speed Watch .Every household was informed they would have to run the Scheme to make it viable. The Police emphasised they really want local people to take up this Scheme. Community Speed Watch information is on the County Council website. Residents can join it and access training to manage Speed Watch.</p> <p>Following a resident’s suggestion about placing speed bumps on Dorset Avenue to decrease speeding, it was confirmed this was impractical because Dorset Avenue as it is, is an ambulance route.</p> <p>Councillor Boulter noted the speed camera on a lamp-post. It measures speeding. Oadby and Wigston Council is waiting for the County Council to sonic test the speed camera.The Executive Director is to get back to Councillor Boulter by Christmas to mount it on three areas; Gloucester Crescent, Dorset Avenue and Saffron Road. Residents were invited to come forward under the Speed Watch Scheme to volunteer to assist with the maintenance of the speed camera. For example ensuring there is a working battery in the camera.</p> <p>Halloween celebrations passed without incident. Following the Update the Chair thanked the Police</p>	
<p>36.</p>	<p><b><u>NATURAL DISCOVERY VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME - PRESENTATION</u></b></p> <p>Nick Hague,Brock`s Hill Senior Park Ranger gave an update on this Programme. He informed residents that a Heritage Lottery fund 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 of 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 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. The Programme is being developed with input from Voluntary Action Leicestershire and South Wigston Working Group. Twelve training events are to be run 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. 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</p>	

	<p>plan is to develop “health by stealth”, for example by felling a tree and building a web page to involve local people.</p> <p>The Programme is; looking to develop Super Champions and archive events through local photos.</p> <p>Clifton Bridge as part of this programme was restored 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 connected with to help set up the work. Charnwood Foods are involved in supporting the volunteers.</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 and tool usage. Skills training will be provided on hedge laying and coppicing.</p> <p>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, work towards recruiting a Project Officer for volunteer development, run training courses and make the Borough a better place to live ,learn and work.</p> <p>On concluding the presentation the Chair thanked Nick for the update.</p>	
37	<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 their guidelines. They can mobilise to an incident at times faster 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.</p> <p>The Responders use their own cars and now have three teams in place covering, South Wigston, Wigston and Oadby. 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, 12 diabetics,</p>	

	<p>people suffering allergies, take on average 30 calls a month and have logged 600 to 700 hundred calls over the year. They carryout funding events and will be doing fund raising marathons but would like to come back to the Forum to request some funding but not as much as the first award.</p> <p>On conclusion, the Chair thanked the Responders for the update.</p>	
<p><b>38</b></p>	<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 to 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 is to be placed in the December issue of Letterbox magazine about the campaign.</p> <p>The campaign is addressing four key actions. The Supermarkets are also being contacted to get involved with the campaign, including displaying the campaign poster. A resident suggested the campaign organisers approach the supermarkets to get the Supermarket staff involved. The Chair thanked Colin Robertson for his presentation.</p>	
<p><b>39</b></p>	<p><b><u>SOUTH WIGSTON TRADERS UPDATES</u></b></p> <p>The South Wigston Traders representative informed the Forum that the Festive lights are to go up next week in South Wigston.</p>	
<p><b>40</b></p>	<p><b><u>CHAIRMAN`S UPDATES INCLUDING CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE,REQUESTS FOR SPENDING AND UPDATE ON FORUM BUDGET</u></b></p> <p>The Chair asked residents if they thought it was a good idea whether people requesting funding should complete an application form. This question was also being asked at Wigston Residents Forum. Applications would be expected to be filled at least three weeks before the Resident Forum meeting to give time for them to be properly considered. There</p>	

were no dissenters against this idea. This is to come back to the next Resident Forum meeting for discussion.

It was noted that Phoenix Therapies Project is doing work in South Wigston having been awarded monies by the Resident`s Forum.

#### **OADBY AND WIGSTON ORCHESTRA**

Peter Reeves proposed the sum of £500 be awarded to Oadby and Wigston Orchestra. This sum would go towards a concert to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the Orchestra. The concert in total will cost £2000. The proposal for the award of funds is also being put to Wigston and Oadby Residents` Forums.

The Orchestra is a self-funded group. It has a website developed by people from South Wigston. A resident noted that South Wigston Drama Group is struggling financially but is working to raise their own funds. The Orchestra has currently raised £600. The concert is to be held in February 2016 so it was thought that Councillor Boulter`s suggestion to defer a decision on funding the concert till March 2016 was not workable.

All Orchestra members are volunteers. The Council last funded the Orchestra in 1991. The cost of concert tickets was noted as: £10.00 for pensioners, £12.00 for others and £4.00 for students. Four people voted in favour of giving the award, one person voted against the Orchestra being funded and the remainder of people abstained from voting.

#### **THE FRIENDS OF BROCKS HILL COUNTRY PARK -THE NATURAL DISCOVERY VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME(WORKING WITH OADBY & WIGSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL)- REQUEST FOR FUNDING SUPPORT**

Mike Bates from the Friends of Brocks Hill Group returned to the Resident`s Forum to address a previous proposal for funding in relation to the Natural Discovery Volunteer Development Programme. This item had previously come to the Resident`s Forum in July 2015 where a decision to fund had been deferred to a future meeting by the Chair.

The Friends of Brocks Hill Group is an independent voluntary group working in partnership with the Local Council. It has raised £1000 to provide training for its Super Volunteers Programme. Oadby Residents Forum awarded Friends of Brocks Hill £2000 and Wigston Residents Forum awarded them £1000 towards this project.

The Group requested the following from South Winston`s Residents Forum:

A grant of funds towards the low energy vehicle, for either capital costs to buy a new or second-hand vehicle or to lease one, and/or to acquire initial two year running costs to include fuel and insurance. The same proposal was made to Oadby and Wigston Residents Forums and granted.

A resident opposed the Forum awarding funding to this proposal. He stated that he did not know why the Friends of Brocks Hill had returned the proposal to the Forum as it had been voted out at the meeting in July 2015.

The presenter said that there had been no such vote in July but that the matter had been

deferred by the Chair; and the Friends had been invited to put the proposal to the Forum again.

The Chair checked the July 2015 minutes and read aloud that there had been one vote against the proposal and others present had voted for the proposal to be deferred. The Chair at the July meeting had deferred the matter by general consensus.

The presenter noted he and the opposing resident had both been at the July meeting.

The representative of the South Wigston Traders supported the opposing resident in his arguments.

The opposing resident also stated that, D and P Tebbutt, South Wigston Residents, had a vested interest and should not be allowed to vote on the matter. The Chair stated there was no precedent for this and interested parties had been allowed to vote previously on other matters as long as they were South Wigston Residents. D and P Tebbutt would be allowed to vote.

The opposing resident stated that the Project was not focused on South Wigston. It was suggested from the floor that Forum funds should be ring fenced for South Wigston. The presenter said the funding would be focussed on Pochins Bridge in South Wigston and that the scheme was for the whole Borough D Tebbutt said he had been a volunteer for 18 years and affirmed the proposal included volunteer working at Pochins Bridge.

A gentleman from the floor at the back of the hall stated he was in discussions for the volunteering work for this Project with Brocks Hill Country Parks and Environment Manager, Carolyn Holmes.

The opposing resident stated £1000 was not a lot of money and if the Resident`s Forum did not award it, the Project and Volunteers would not be affected. He also added that the vehicle had been bought and the lack of funding would not stop the Project going forward.

The Chair put the question to the floor as to whether the proposal should be deferred and asked what would the vote be if the matter was clarified further. The Chair ascertained that there were only five or six South Wigston Residents present; some people had left the meeting early. The Chair also stated only capital funding was allowed to be given for awards, not running costs, and she was not happy to give monies other than to cover capital costs.

The Chair also noted that the low energy vehicle had been purchased by the Council and she had approved it as Head of the Finance Committee.

The Chair stopped further discussion of the matter in order to seek further clarification on taking this matter forward. Although the Council has bank-rolled and purchased the vehicle, the Friends' request was the same as requested at the previous South Wigston Forum Meeting of 10 June 2015, which was postponed. At that meeting there was only one bona fide South Wigston resident present. The Chair also noted that the Forum could have awarded the requested Capital, and a re-adjustment made within the Council held

	<p>funds for the Project.]</p> <p>The Chair stated the Friends are welcome to bring a further proposal to a future Resident Forum meeting for something else.</p>	
<p><b>41</b></p>	<p><b><u>ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE ITEMS</u></b></p> <p>A resident requested two new bins be placed outside Chickalow. Chickalow is opening in two weeks time. Chickalow is being encouraged by the Council to supply their own bins.</p> <p>It was noted that South Wigston`s litter was picked up six days out of seven, except on Mondays. A Resident noted rubbish has sat for the past five weeks behind Blaby Road shops. It was also noted that South Leicestershire College students were also dropping rubbish on the streets and the college appeared to be a rubbish route.</p> <p>Jessie Cooke of the Conservation Volunteers Project noted more activities are needed for young people in South Wigston. This is an issue being addressed at the next meeting of South Wigston Working Group on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November 2015, at 5pm.</p> <p>The date of the next meeting of South Wigston Residents' Forum is:</p> <p><b>Tuesday March 8<sup>th</sup> 2016 @ Bassett Street Hub, Bassett Street, South Wigston, LE18 4PE. Time 7.30pm.</b></p> <p><b>Residents are reminded that: they may discuss local issues of concern to them with Councillors and the Police, in confidence between 7pm and 7.30pm, i.e. before the full meeting begins at 7.30pm.</b></p>	

**Meeting closed at 21.09pm**