

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S FORUM HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, WIGSTON ON WEDNESDAY 5 MARCH 2014, COMMENCING AT 7.00 P.M.**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor R E R Morris – Chairman

Councillors J Kaufman, L Bentley  
Miss M Chamberlain, Mrs S Haq and Mrs S Morris

Also in Attendance: M Smith, P Pugh (Early Help Manager, LCC)  
J Crane (Young Leicestershire), G Pote (Young Leicestershire)  
Sgt S Kaya (Leicestershire Police)  
PC D Nutbrown (Leicestershire Police)  
J Advani (Oadby & Wigston Youth Council)  
Representative Young People from the Oadby Youth Centre and  
The Wigston Club for Young People

Min Ref	Narrative	Officer Resp
33.	<p><b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>Councillors: Mrs J Gore, K Loydall, R Thakor</p>	
34.	<p><b><u>MINUTES</u></b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Forum held on 4 December 2013 be taken as read, confirmed and signed.</p>	
35.	<p><b><u>YOUTH SERVICE UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>Penny Pugh introduced herself as the Early Help Manager responsible for Leicestershire County Council's youth work offer within the borough of Oadby and Wigston.</p> <p>An explanation was given regarding the 11-19 youth work offer within the borough and how changes over the last 2 years at a county level have brought children's and SureStart centres together with the local Social Care Team. The current youth work offer running out of the Bobbin Factory in South Wigston and the work of the associated detached teams was presented to the forum.</p> <p>Penny also announced that she will now be attending</p>	

	<p>the Children and Young Persons Forum on a regular basis as part as her role.</p> <p>Members raised that as the LCC youth service base is in South Wigston, and not Oadby, there is no perceived communication between the youth service and volunteer youth groups across the borough. Penny explained how Nicola and Lynne, the borough's targeted youth workers, have the remit of South Wigston due to the location of the youth base but do part time hours in the rest of the borough.</p> <p>Members also raised that they felt that Oadby and Wigston has not received the support it deserves from the youth service especially as there are a lot of young people within its nine square miles. An explanation was given that an areas number of young people by heads from census data informs the youth work allocation and that South Wigston and Wigston have a higher concentration of young people than Oadby. The youth work allocation in the borough is actually the same as Blaby's which, geographically, is a much bigger area.</p>	
36.	<p><b><u>PAYP END OF YEAR REVIEW</u></b></p> <p>Members had a PAYP quarterly review (updated January 2014) circulated to them prior to the meeting and were invited to raise questions based upon it.</p> <p>A question was asked regarding the Halloween event held on Elizabeth Court in October 2013 and how it was perceived by the community. Mark explained how residents welcomed the event and how some 200+ people attended with zero complaints received. Mark then went on to explain how the feedback from the event went on to inform the planning of the subsequent trip to the Tamworth Snowdome for residents on the targeted estates.</p> <p>Members commented on the fact that it was good to see a clear split in the 2013/14 PAYP activities between male and female opportunities.</p> <p>Members questioned why the majority of the PAYP activities took place in Wigston and South Wigston. Mark explained that the activities took place in targeted neighbourhoods and that, due to the two areas being more deprived than Oadby, it is understandable that more activities took place there. Mark also explained that the commissioned activities that took place borough wide also incorporated sessions in Oadby and that</p>	

	<p>overall more applications come in for South Wigston and Wigston than they do in Oadby no matter how much advertising is done in clubs, schools, etc in the area about available funding. Members queried that perhaps due to the old commissioning model where the Locality Partnership of Blaby, Oadby and Wigston made the final decision on projects, and that Blaby outnumbered Oadby and Wigston representatives on the panel, that perhaps more projects were approved in the South Wigston and Wigston areas as they were also accessible to Blaby young people.</p> <p>Members asked how many PAYP projects had been turned down compared to how many were approved. As these would have taken place before Mark came into post he agreed to look into it and provide an answer to the query at the next forum.</p>	
<p><b>37.</b></p>	<p><b><u>EARLY HELP PREVIEW</u></b></p> <p>Mark, with additional input from Penny Pugh, gave an explanation of the new Early Help funding that is replacing PAYP for the 2014/15 financial year. It was explained to the forum that this money comes with a new set of criteria direct from county level as well as local criteria that was informed by young people's concerns; these were captured through the "Make your Mark" campaign.</p> <p>The new decision making process was also explained and, at the request of the forum, it was clarified that the youth council's say is not the final decision on which projects do or do not receive Early Help funding. The forum was also assured that despite this being the first year where Oadby &amp; Wigston has control of its own spending and is operating its own commissioning model we are learning from the process, from the problems with the previous Blaby, Oadby and Wigston model and evolving the process following the end of the first round of 2014/15 commissioning.</p> <p>Concerns were raised by members of the forum that two Young Leicestershire clubs in the borough did not receive funding in this first round of commissioning and may have to close if they do not receive any. It was explained that as this time the clubs were unsuccessful in their bids due to a lack of evidence around how they intend to meet, or are meeting, local criteria. Whilst the Locality Theme Group, which approves funding, knows of the work the clubs do in the borough they cannot work</p>	

	<p>on assumptions so must make decisions based on the information presented to them in the applications. This also means that should County wish to review the applications approved at any point in the future the information the decision was made on is readily available to them. Local knowledge and assumptions made by the Locality Theme Group would not be.</p> <p>The forum also heard that core funding for projects to run can't be made from Early Help funding as it is intended to either be a 'top-up funding stream' or used for short term/one-off projects. As there is no guarantee that Early Help, or equivalent funding, will be available next year projects seeking core funding should be looking to combine multiple revenue streams to enhance their sustainability.</p> <p>Mark has made it clear to members and others present that he is available to be directly contacted for assistance with applications as part of his core role.</p> <p>The chairman and Mark agreed to assist Young Leicestershire to explore alternative funding opportunities where possible. Mark also agreed to speak to his line manager regarding this matter.</p> <p>Councillor Bentley wished to make it known to the forum that he sits on a board that has direct input to the Wigston Club for Young People.</p>	
<p><b>38.</b></p>	<p><b><u>POLICE UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>An update was given to the forum by PC Nutbrown on crime figures within the borough between December 2013 and February 2014. The update covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14 burglaries across the borough, especially around the university areas in Oadby. Police are working with students to get a safety message across. Plain clothes patrols are still taking place in the area as part of Op Tiger.</li> <li>• 12 burglaries from non-commercial properties which is a reduction of a third from the previous period.</li> <li>• 6 thefts of a motor vehicle, down 1 from previous period.</li> <li>• 16 thefts from a motor vehicle due to cars left to defrost unattended on cold mornings and a spate of number plate thefts. Number plates are being stolen in order to affix to another vehicle used to</li> </ul>	

	<p>steal fuel; tamper proof number plate screws are available from Wigston Police Station.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 robberies up from 0 in the last period. 2 arrests have been made in relation to these. Those targeted are young people carrying mobile phones and iPods.</li> </ul> <p>The forum asked how the police are finding the recent blackouts in place across the borough at midnight. There are no discernable changes in crime rates at the moment.</p> <p>The forum also asked about ASB issues at McDonalds in Wigston. PC Nutbrown explained how McDonalds is linked into the CROW radio scheme, which is currently undergoing redevelopment, and has a direct line to local police. McDonalds also employ a security guard on a Friday/Saturday evening.</p> <p>PC Nutbrown was asked how much crime within the borough is committed by those aged 11 – 19. He answered that young people get bad press and that public opinion of them is spoilt by a minority. Overall crime in the borough committed by young people is not disproportionate to the low levels expected by the police.</p>	
<p>39.</p>	<p><b><u>YOUTH COUNCIL UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>The chairman gave an update on the youth council including the excellent job they are currently doing on their Arriva campaign. Arriva's area manager for the borough will be attending the next youth council meeting on Monday, 17 March.</p> <p>The chairman then explained about the discount card scheme the youth council are looking at developing for use in local shops. The forum pointed out that the council's new leisure contract provider, SLM, offer a discount card scheme that could be linked into the youth council's campaign.</p> <p>The forum heard that the youth council is also looking at traffic issues around Beauchamp College, additional grit bins around schools within the borough, a recruitment video to get young people involved in their local youth council and are regularly updating their page on the Jitty website. The forum also heard how the youth council is young person lead at all times with guidance offered by the chairman and Mark.</p> <p>The training undertaken by members of the youth</p>	

	<p>council to qualify them as young inspectors for Early Help funded projects was also explained to the forum.</p> <p>Mark also took this opportunity to promote the youth council's twitter account (@OWYC) in order for members of the forum to keep up to date on the youth council's activities.</p>	
40.	<p><b><u>SUPERSONIC BOOM 2014</u></b></p> <p>The forum heard that 2014 will be a difficult year for Supersonic Boom as in 2013 the event was a success in both Oadby and Wigston and it is likely there will only be funding for one event.</p> <p>The chairman asked the forum if anybody would like to be involved in organising the event. Planning will pick up pace from April 2014 in order to have a four month run up to the event in August 2014. Those wanting to get involved were asked to contact Mark to confirm.</p> <p>The forum suggested that this year the event takes place in Wigston, possibly at Horsewell Lane, as it has not held the event for over 7 years and alternates location each year from then on.</p>	
41.	<p><b><u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></b></p> <p>Concerns were raised over who is and is not currently receiving invites to the forum. The chairman assured the forum that the relevant person has been contacted to obtain the invite list and amend it appropriately.</p>	

**The Meeting Closed at 8:40 p.m.**