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## **BEESTON COMMUNITY FORUM**

### **Beeston Forum General Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Chairman's Opening Remarks**
- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. Guest Speaker- Russell Martin, Leeds City Council Highways Department**
- 4. Minutes of the meeting of the Beeston Community Forum held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2012**
- 5. Correspondence**
- 6. Report of Committee meeting- 19<sup>th</sup> April 2012**
- 7. Elland Road Park and Ride Scheme**
- 8. Tesco and Asda Planning applications**
- 9. Beeston Village Community Centre**
- 10. Report from the Police**
- 11. Any Other Business**

### **Minutes of the meeting of the Beeston Community Forum held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2012**

Attendance:- Christine Thornton (in the chair), Mr. R. Almond, Mr. R. Bell, Mr. D. Bottomley, Mrs. D. Brooke, Mr. K. Burton, Mrs. S. Burton, Councillor D. Congreve, Councillor A. Gabriel, Mr. J. Hodgson, Mrs. J. Hodgson, Miss. P. Johnson, Mrs. D. Kenny, Mr. A. Kirby, Mrs. C. Kirk, Mr. R. Kitson, Mrs. M. Kitson, Mrs. E. Lister, Mr. G. M. Mason, Mrs. M. Mason, Mr. S. Miah, Mr. M. Parry, Mr. J. Peckham, Miss. E. Newton, Mr. N. Roberts, Mr. F. Swift and Mr. R. J. W. Winfield

- 1. Chairman's Opening Remarks-** Christine Thornton thanked those present for their attendance and said that it is good to see sunshine after the snow which had fallen on the previous day.
- 2. Apologies for absence** were received from Bill Birch, John Fenton, Kathleen Fenton, Councillor Adam Ogilvie and Greg Turton
- 3. Guest Speakers-** Christine Thornton introduced the Guest Speakers; Martin Farrington, Director of Development, Leeds City Council; Andrew Hall, Head of Transport Policy, Leeds City Council and Councillor Richard Lewis, Executive Board Member responsible for development. They would speak about the proposed Park and Ride Scheme at Elland Road. It was noted that it had been intended that Shaun Harvey, Chief Executive of Leeds United FC, would also attend the meeting as a guest speaker; however, he was attending a meeting in London from which it was impossible for him to return to Leeds in time to address the meeting. A full discussion took place, which is recorded in a separate, comprehensive note.
- 4. The minutes of the Forum meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012** were accepted as a fair and accurate record of the meeting.
- 5. Christine Thornton** noted that it had been intended that Stewart Robinson, of International Fun Fairs would be a guest speaker at the Forum meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> March. He had phoned Christine Thornton around one week after the meeting to apologise for his absence; he had simply overlooked the meeting. He asked that if anyone had any issues in relation to the conduct of the fair, these could be raised at the meeting and reported back to him. No member of the audience raised any problems in relation to the fair.
- 6. Report of the Committee meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2012.** Christine Thornton reported that much of the meeting

had been taken up with a discussion about an application by Bal Newsagents, Dewsbury Road to sell alcohol for 24 hours a day. The committee had decided that the Forum would take a decision as to whether to object.

7. Planning Application by Bal Newsagents. A member of the audience said that there are already too many shops selling drink. Angela Gabriel said that any objections to licensing plans need to be specific about the grounds of objection. It would not be sufficient simply to say that we do not like twenty four hour drinking because the law actually encourages twenty four hour drinking. Objections would have to be on the grounds that the licence, if granted would lead to an increase in parking, litter or anti social behaviour. It would also be useful to have the police on our side. Robert Winfield noted that following the discussion of the planning application at the last Committee meeting, he had coincidentally, received an e mail from PCSO Kirsty Johnson about the matter. Angela Gabriel said that she would support any objection made by the Forum. It was agreed to object.

8. Planning Applications by Asda and Tesco. Robert Winfield reported that he had written to Asda asking that if they support the points made by the Forum about their planning application why could they simply not say so, and if they were opposed to the points, could they make their reasons for such opposition clearer than they already have done. Robert Winfield expressed his disappointment that he had not received a reply.

#### 9. Any Other Business

9.1 Richard Bell noted that there had been a planning application to convert the existing Passmore Building into a hot food takeaway. Angela Gabriel said that she had never seen such a planning application and noted that Councillors are specifically informed about planning applications. A member of the audience said that he had heard from several people that the planning application had been rejected. The meeting agreed to a suggestion from Christine Thornton that the Forum should object if any such planning application is submitted. She felt that there are too many takeaways in the area and that the people of Beeston should have cooking lessons!

9.2 A member of the audience noted that there had been a large number of complaints from local residents about the noise from a cardboard impactor on Barkly Road. There were also complaints from a firm next door to the impactor that their employees cannot work in the office because of the noise. Angela Gabriel asked for her to be sent an e mail about the matter to remind her.

9.3 Angela Gabriel said that a new fund had been set up. People with a suitable scheme would be able to make bids of between £250 and £2500. There can be matched funding for voluntary time. It is necessary to apply online and Angela Gabriel had sent e mails about the scheme to her contacts. Applications can be made through the South Leeds Life website. There is £154000 available to spend in Beeston and Holbeck over four years. It is possible to apply separately for different projects. Applications are decided by a 'Peoples Panel' of eight people including representatives from businesses and voluntary organisations. Christine Thornton noted that groups applying for a grant must have a bank account and a constitution.

9.4 Robert Winfield reminded members that the next Forum meeting would take place on 10<sup>th</sup> May, rather than 3<sup>rd</sup> May, in order to avoid a clash with the Leeds City Council elections. The speaker will be Russell Martin of the Leeds City Council Highways Department.

9.5 Robert Winfield apologised to members of the Committee for the fact that, owing to acute pressures of other commitments, he had not been able to write the minutes of the last Committee meeting.

9.6 Mick Mason noted that 20 mph speed limit had already been introduced along St Anthony's Drive, and noted that two 'anti tank traps' had been erected in the street using around five cubic feet of tarmac. However, no one had thought to fill in a number of potholes in the road. He asked the councillors who were present why the potholes had not been filled in. Angela Gabriel suggested asking the Highways Department at the next Forum meeting. She added that she had driven down the street and noticed the potholes. She noted that if a pothole is reported to the Highways Department it must be repaired.

9.7 Pauline Johnson noted that a number of steps in Cross Flatts Park are in a frightful mess. Christine Thornton pointed out that these are being attended to.

9.8 Pauline Johnson noted that 12 and 26 Cross Flatts Grove are apparently without black bins. Christine Thornton wondered whether the occupiers of these properties have raised the matter with Leeds City Council. Pauline Johnson noted that both the properties are buy to lets and she suspected that one of the properties is unoccupied. Pauline Johnson wondered whether the bins have been stolen. Angela Gabriel suggested that the matter should be reported.

9.9 Christine Thornton reported that she is organising a table top sale at Beeston Village Community Centre on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April. A table would cost £10.