

Fund Raising Appeal

Masjid Muadh Ibn Jabal
Goodwood Islamic Centre



In the Name of Allah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy



The Goodwood Islamic Centre (GIC)

The GIC is an Islamic Centre located in Leicester, 3 miles east of the city centre. It has been based at 60 Gamel Rd, Leicester, LE5 6TB since June 2010 where an English Pub once stood; known as the Daniel Lambert Pub. The GIC purchased the half acre site and situated a temporary pre-fabricated building to serve the local growing Muslim community. The GIC is a non-profit organisation and is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (Registration No. 1130884). You can view the Centre's accounts and annual returns online by visiting the Charity Commission website at <http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk>.

This fundraising brochure has been compiled as a brief guide for potential sponsors, donors and parties interested in assisting the GIC to begin the construction of a purpose designed Masjid and Islamic Education Centre. The existing premises is no longer able to support the increased demand for its diverse religious and community services. The GIC must urgently respond to the pressing need for expanded prayer facilities, services it provides for the Islamic education of children and adults, mentoring activities for youth and various community support services.

Supporting this noble cause is a well-known honour and the reward for it is a great one. The GIC is appealing to you, the global Muslim community, to contribute towards the prosperity and preservation of the Centre's future.

Say: "Truly, my Lord enlarges the provision for whom He wills of His slaves, and (also) restricts (it) for him, and whatsoever you spend of anything (in Allâh's Cause), He will replace it. And He is the best of providers." (Translated interpretation of Saba' 34:39)

And spend (in charity) of that with which We have provided you, before death comes to one of you and he says: "My Lord! If only You would give me respite for a little while, then I should give Sadaqah (i.e. Zakât) of my wealth, and be among the righteous." (Translated interpretation of Al-Munafiqun 63:10)

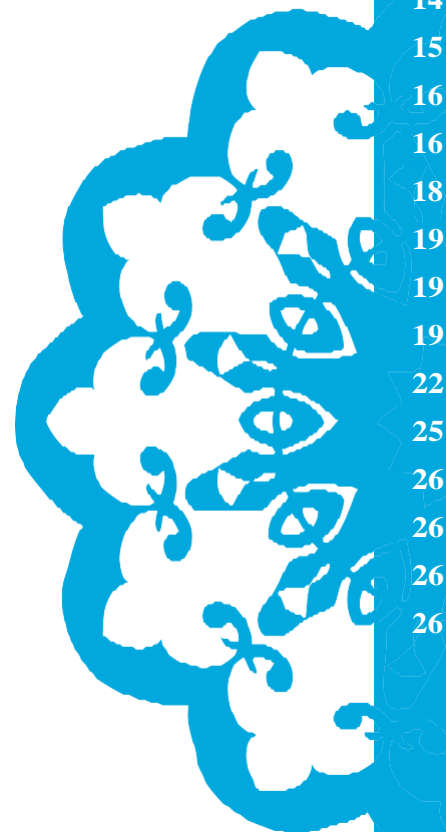
Current GIC premises



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1.0 Executive Summary

Over the last 5 years, the Goodwood Islamic Centre (GIC) has grown to become an integral part of the cultural and religious setting of the multi-cultural community in Leicester. Leicester has one of the highest concentrations of ethnically diverse Muslims in the UK. The Centre has successfully managed to earn the trust and respect of the community by providing them with a wide spectrum of facilities and services. Notable among them are its prayer facilities, calling to the authentic teachings of Islam, educational programs for young and old, and youth mentoring and recreational activities. The GIC has also formed strong relationships with the local Council, the Community Support Police and the non-Muslim population.

Located on the corner of Gamel rd and Davenport rd in the Goodwood area of Leicester, the Centre has grown organically to such an extent that demand for adequate prayer facilities, education and community support services cannot be met due a lack of physical space in the current premises. The GIC'S capacity and infrastructure have now reached a critical point where the development of the site with a modern purpose designed premise is the only way of sustaining current levels of growth and ensuring the introduction of vital new services so desperately needed by the community. Please refer to page 5 for an appreciation of how larger premises will benefit the community.

In 2010, the GIC formulated a Fundraising Committee (FRC) to properly ascertain the future needs of the community. The FRC concluded that the GIC'S best option would be to acquire the land where once the Daniel Lambert Pub Stood. The land was a good size with potential for a purpose designed Masjid and community centre. Since acquiring the land for £550,000, a temporary pre-fabricated building was located. The pre-fabricated (Portakabin) building accommodates up to 200 worshippers and students. Since the establishment of the GIC, many new families have moved into the area and started to frequent the GIC. We are now urgently in need of developing the site with a purpose designed building to accommodate for the growing community. Please refer to pages 20 - 22 for further details on the rationale and plan for utilisation of this space. At the time the FRC researched into the availability and cost of suitable properties within the desired radius of the existing Centre. These included brownfield and greenfield lands, former churches, warehouses, residential and commercial office space. This process helped establish pricing benchmarks and, therefore, guidelines for the funds needed to be raised to acquire land or a property to establish a Centre. Fortunately this land where once the Daniel Lambert Pub stood became available for £550,000. Through the generous donations of the global muslim community, we were able to acquire the land. Fast forwarding to today, we now have gained Council approval to build a purpose designed building for the local community.

GIC is appealing to you, the donor community, for support in raising this targeted sum of £1,800,000.

Aboo Hurairah (radiyallahu ‘anhu) reported from the Prophet Muhammad (sallahu alayhi wasalam) that he said: "When a son of Adam dies, his good works come to an end, except for three: Sadaqah jariyah (ongoing charity), beneficial knowledge (that he discovered or propagated), and a righteous child who will pray for him." [Reported in Saheeh Bukhari and Saheeh Muslim]

Helping to establish a permanent Islamic Centre counts as sadaqah jariyyah, a special act of charity which continues to provide the reward of ongoing good deeds to its giver even after they have reached their grave.



How Larger Premises will Benefit the Community

New Services Areas & Activities:

- Children's Education Area Bookstore
- Segregated & Expanded Library
- Cafeteria/Functions Area
- Funeral Area – Pre-Burial
- Arrangements Counselling Area
- Weekday Nursery
- Community Projects – Outreach Work
- Career advice program/projects

Expanded Service Areas:

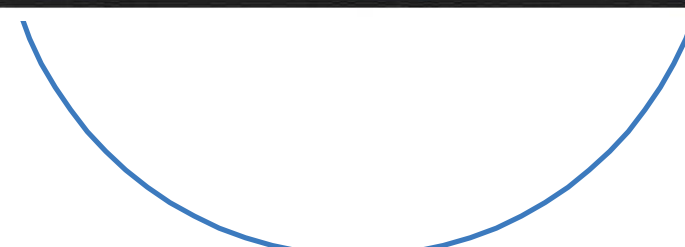
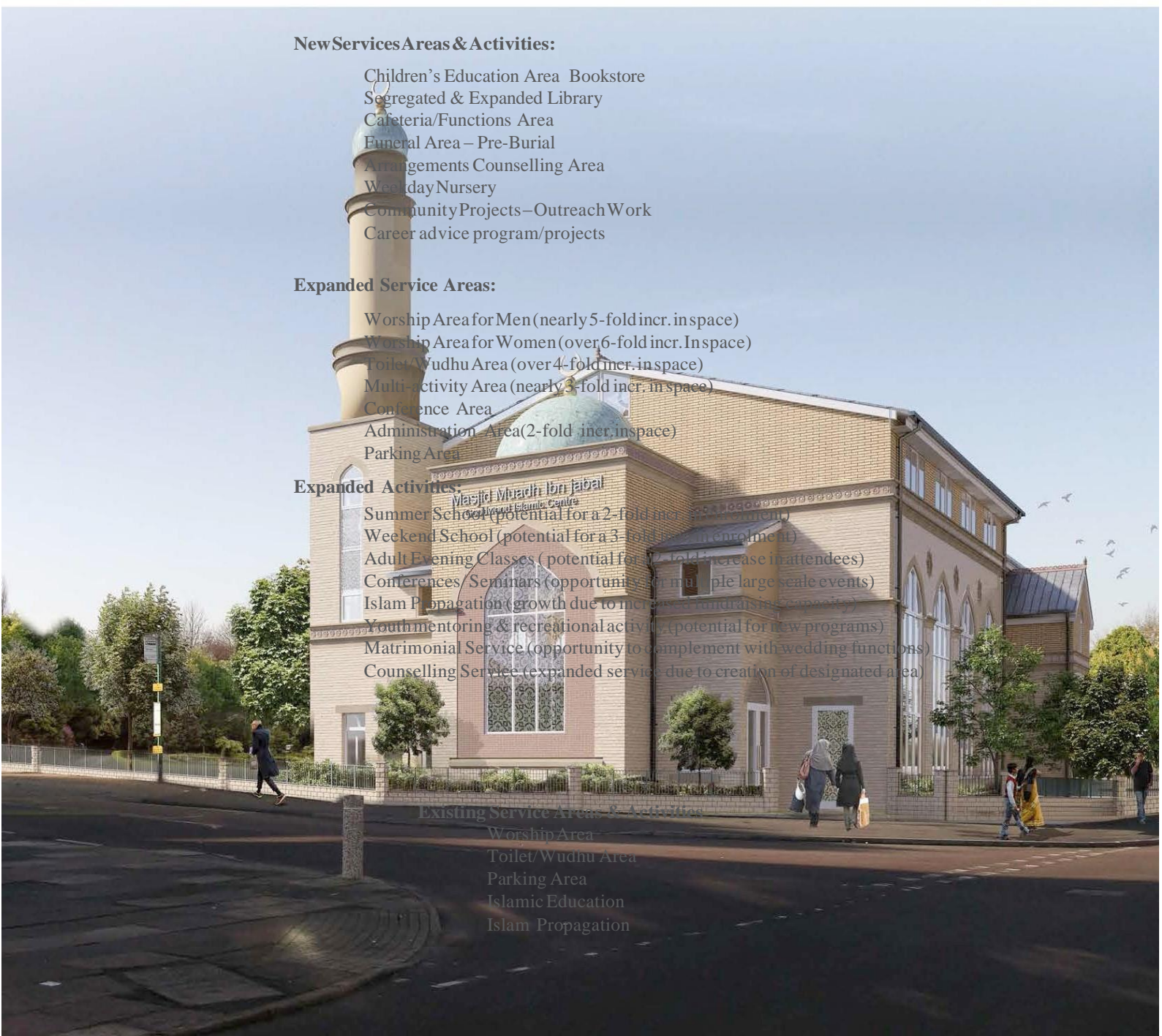
- Worship Area for Men (nearly 5-fold incr. in space)
- Worship Area for Women (over 6-fold incr. In space)
- Toilet/Wudhu Area (over 4-fold incr. in space)
- Multi-activity Area (nearly 3-fold incr. in space)
- Conference Area
- Administration Area (2-fold incr. in space)
- Parking Area

Expanded Activities:

- Summer School (potential for a 2-fold incr. in enrolment)
- Weekend School (potential for a 3-fold incr. in enrolment)
- Adult Evening Classes (potential for a 2-fold increase in attendees)
- Conferences/Seminars (opportunity for multiple large scale events)
- Islam Propagation (growth due to increased fundraising capacity)
- Youth mentoring & recreational activities (potential for new programs)
- Matrimonial Service (opportunity to complement with wedding functions)
- Counselling Service (expanded service due to creation of designated area)

Existing Service Areas & Activities:

- Worship Area
- Toilet/Wudhu Area
- Parking Area
- Islamic Education
- Islam Propagation



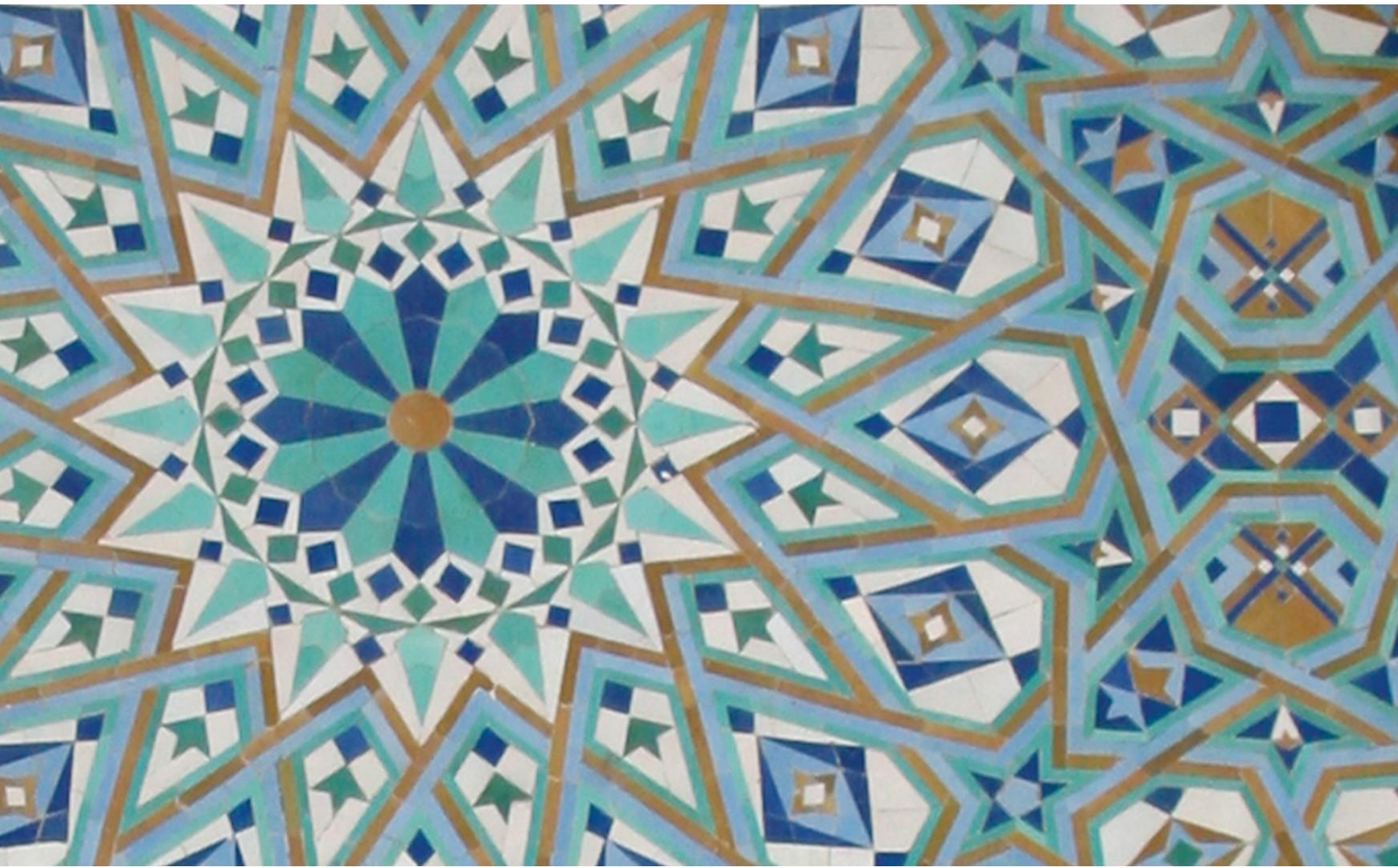
2.0 Mission Statement

- To provide the Muslim communities around Goodwood Area with a place for worship adhering to the understanding of the Qur'aan and Sunnah as understood by the earliest generations of Muslims.
- To form the nucleus of an integrated community, catering for all religious, educational and communal support needs.
- To engage with the non-Muslim community and civic bodies by providing an informed and accurate insight into the correct teachings of Islam, so often misunderstood, free from distortions and extremism.

3.0 Introduction

The GIC is in critical need of relocating premises. The reasons are many: to cater for the exponential growth of the Muslim community within the area, to allow for an ever increasing demand for prayer facilities, to continue the GIC'S role as a Centre for expounding the correct understanding of Islam, to expand its services for the education of children and adults, mentoring facilities for youth and to provide a variety of other services to an increasingly dependant community.

In the pages that follow, the reader will have an opportunity to develop an appreciation of the Centre's history, the evolution of its various activities, the critical factors underlying its decision to develop, and its future plans.



4.0 Background to the GIC, Location and Demographics

4.1 Current Location of the GIC

The Goodwood Islamic Centre is located in the Goodwood area, 3 miles east of Leicester City Centre.



The GIC is situated in a working class area with a growing muslim population. The area has good public transport links to the city centre and to the immediate localities.

The GIC is currently housed in a temporary pre-fabricated building as shown in the





4.2 Reasons to be in Goodwood, Leicester

Leicester has a fast growing muslim population from many ethnic backgrounds. Muslims predominantly reside in the central and eastern areas of the city. The majority of muslims live in the Highfields and Evington districts with a growing number now moving into areas of Humberstone, Spencefield, Goodwood and Oadby.

The closest masjid and Islamic centre to the Goodwood area is between 1-3 miles. However these existing facilities are saturated with the their immediate neighbourhoods. There is an acute shortage of prayer and Islamic education places for the growing muslim population.

Leicester has a highly multicultural population with approx. 50% of the population classed as non native white. Leicesters population is 35% Christian with Muslims forming the next biggest religion at approx. 19% and growing. The city's religion hosts, Hindu's, Sikhs and to a lesser extent other religions. In many of the Masjids it is a common sight to see reverts and with the very strong and active Islamic education dawah programme, we continue to see many people from other religions reverting and embracing Islam. Its imperative to embarce and support reverts to the beautiful deen

of Islam which can only be achieved with adequate facilities.

According to 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics ONS approximately 5.0% of the resident population of England and Wales are Muslims. In Leicester, the proportion of Muslims is far higher at 18.6% of the city's 329,839 person population, equating to over 61,000 Muslims.

Population by Religious Group 2001	Leicester	East Midlands	England & Wales
People stating religion as: Muslim	18.6 %	3.1 %	5.0 %

The following factors have resulted in greater pressures being placed on the GIC to fulfil the needs of Goodwood and the surrounding vicinities Muslim Community:

- ❖ *Muslims have established local businesses in the local area.*
- ❖ *Muslims living outside the locality travel into the area to reach the city's General Hospital as well as their trade and commerce.*
- ❖ *The Muslim immigrant population in the area is increasing rapidly.*
- ❖ *An increase in the provision of local affordable housing and schools provided is attracting more people to the area, including Muslims.*
- ❖ *Muslim families have created a social community within Goodwood. This has developed as a result of Muslims from common families living in close proximity to each other.*
- ❖ *Many of the local families have young children in full-time education in the local schools near and around the GIC. The GIC provides an opportunity for the Muslim students among them to study Islam.*

5.0 Centre's Activities for the Muslim Community

An Islamic Centre is the nucleus of any Muslim community. The GIC recognises this and is also cognisant of the fact that the community it serves is a blend of ethnic backgrounds and languages including native English new muslims, Eastern Europeans, Arabs, Indians, Malay, Pashto, Punjabi, Somali Swahili, Turkish, Urdu and others.

To cater to this diverse community, the GIC has established a number of regular support activities that are both religious and holistic in nature (detailed below).

5.1 Five Daily Congregational Prayers

The Prophet Muhammad (sallahu alayhi wasalam) said:

“If a person had a stream outside his door and bathed in it five times a day, do you think that there would be any filth on him? The Companions responded, “No dirt would remain on him whatsoever.” The Prophet (sallahu alayhi wasalam) then said, “That is like the five daily prayers - Allah wipes away the sins with them”. [Reported in Saheeh Muslim] The prayer establishes a moral and ethical pattern of conduct, inculcating positive characteristics within the individual and, thereby within the wider community.

The GIC has a full-time qualified Imam who ensures the conduct of the five congregational prayers at their set times.



5.2 Friday (Jumu'ah) and the Two Eid Prayers

Abdullah ibn Umar and Abu Hurayrah (radiyallahu 'anhuma), reported that they heard the Prophet Muhammad (sallahu alayhi wasalam) say on the pulpit: “People must not neglect the Friday prayers or else Allah will seal their hearts and then they will be from those who are unwary”. [Reported in Saheeh Muslim]

The Friday prayers attract capacity attendance. The topics of the sermons address the significance of reflecting upon the message from the Qur'aan, the biographies and stories of the Prophets, the examples of the Prophet Muhammad (sallahu alayhi wasalam) and the early generations of Muslims that have been highlighted in authentic narrations. These sermons stress the importance of individuals' increasing their Islamic knowledge and awareness and cultivating their own spiritual existence by acting upon the correct Islamic understandings as inherited from the first generations of Muslims.

In addition to the Friday prayers, the GIC hosts the two annual Eid prayers which are attended by families living in the Goodwood and Evington localities. On these occasions outdoor marquees are set up. Even these prove to be insufficient to cater to the overflowing crowds.



5.3 Early Learning Programme

The Prophet Muhammad (sallahu alayhi wasalam) said, “Seeking knowledge is an obligation upon every Muslim”.

[Authentic, reported in Sunan ibn Majah]

The Centre, with the assistance of local parents and the community has embarked on a programme for early learners. It runs for a limited time during weekdays and caters for the children of the local community. Islamic prayers, invocations (adhkaar) and etiquettes, Qur’aan and Arabic language, as well as National Foundation Stage Curriculum are covered. The GIC recognises that sound, comprehensive education in the early developmental years of children is crucial. At an impressionable age, basic thought- processing ability and cultivation of socially acceptable etiquette will act as a blueprint for the development of a child’s mental and social skills in later years.

Due to its success the GIC plans to expand the above programme into a full fledged nursery, men and women classes on larger premises and adequate facilities are developed. This is viewed as a strategic response to a community yearning to place their young ones in a system that blends main stream education with Islamic values and teachings. It is a much needed pathway to the child’s eventual integration into the wider society.

The Prophet Muhammad (sallahu alayhi wasalam) said, “Whoever takes a path in search of knowledge, Allah will facilitate for him a path to Paradise”. [Reported in Saheeh Muslim]

5.4 GIC Weekday School for 5-16 Year Olds

In response to requests from the local community, the GIC runs a weekday evening Islamic school for five to sixteen year olds between 5.00pm to 7:00pm. The Islamic school is separated by age groups, the children are provided with Islamic education from an elementary level onwards. Subjects covered include Islamic prayers, invocations (adhkaar), Islamic etiquette, Qur'aan and the Arabic language. A number of games and activities are also organised so that attending children are exposed to a system of "education through play". Care is taken to ensure that the teaching nurtures a process of character building that attaches value to moral, social and individual responsibility.

The weekday evening school has proven to be extremely popular, leading to the Centre's inability to cope with the level of demand. As a result, disappointed parents have been forced to travel further distances in order to obtain basic religious education for their children.

5.6 Evening Classes and Language Programmes

The Centre runs a well established regular programme of educational classes and instruction in the basic sciences of Islam; these classes are run on a weekly basis after obligatory prayers.

Subjects included are:

- ◆ *Recitation and memorisation of the Qur'aan.*
- ◆ *Islamic creed and methodology.*
- ◆ *A study of the historical rise of fringe and radical groups in Islam so that students can identify them and avoid them.*
- ◆ *Islamic jurisprudence (Fiqh).*

5.7 Conferences and Seminars

The Centre holds large Islamic educational conferences and seminars that host qualified speakers and recognized scholars from around the world on an annual basis. These educational gatherings offer a rare opportunity for local Muslims to meet Islamic scholars and to benefit from a direct bond with them. It also stimulates their desire to continue pursuing Islamic knowledge from trustworthy and internationally accredited sources.

In addition, when seeking guidance on Islamic affairs, the GIC regularly refers back to rulings and verdicts passed by recognised major Scholars and Professors. These include eminent scholars from the Middle East, Africa, The Indian sub-continent and the UK.



5.8 Islamic Propagation Efforts (Da'wah) and Community Dialogue

Da'wah constitutes one of the activities that is strongly emphasised by the GIC. The call to the authentic understanding of Islam, as inherited from the earliest generation of Muslims, focusing on the call to Tawheed (worshipping Allah alone without any form of association), is the primary focus of the Centre's message.

The GIC has been active in refuting some of the extremists and political activists that are intent on causing upheaval in society under their distorted and misguided understandings of 'jihad'.

In summary, the Islamic propagation efforts of the GIC have taken a two-pronged approach:

- ❖ *To provide an environment that promotes the authentic teachings of the Qur'aan and the*
- ❖ *To foster an atmosphere whereby this correct understanding can take effect at both a*

Members of the Centre have therefore been involved in much dialogue and familiarisation with the wider society outside the Centre.

In the weeks just prior to Ramadan 1435 AH (2014), several young individuals from the Goodwood community accepted Islam. This is significant, considering the prevalence of misconceptions currently surrounding Islam in the UK.



5.9 Youth Mentoring and Recreational Activities

Due to the Centre's realistic understanding of the needs, concerns and requirements of young people in Britain, there has been a rapid increase in the attendance of youth at the Centre. Whereas other Centres struggle to bridge the chasm between the managing committees and their youth, the GIC has succeeded in building bridges with the local youth.

The Centre aims to provide a sense of community to the youth who have typically become alienated from their religious identities. These vulnerable youth have formed a large group that even the UK Government has prioritised as "most in need" of communal support. The GIC intends, through a number of activities such as organised football sessions, social gatherings and mentoring, to create a safety net to ensure the youth have an alternative to some of the more counter-productive and immoral members of their peer group. Older members of the Centre act as mentors to these youth groups whose numbers are increasing steadily.

As part of the mentoring process, the GIC intends to run a number of pioneering initiatives whereby teenage youths aged 13 to 19 as well as those in higher education aged 20 and over will be provided with real, industry-relevant career advice from mentors with diverse professional backgrounds such as Information Technology, Engineering, Medicine, Accountancy, Dentistry, Management and Management Consultancy. Advice on an individual as well as on a collective basis will be provided to those youth in need of pragmatic career advice in various fields and the relevant pathways to each profession.



6.0 Community Support Services



In addition to the provision of academic and Islamic courses, the Centre, with its new proposed development, intends on providing structured advice and support in a number of critical areas that fall outside the traditional mosque role.

6.1 The GIC Matrimonial “Nikkah” Service

The GIC intends on providing a matrimonial service for Muslims wishing to go through a formal Islamic marriage. Like other registered Mosques and Islamic Community Centres, the GIC plans to offer a marriage service whereby couples can go through a “Nikkah” ceremony conducted by the Centre’s Imam. Following the Prophetic tradition, a marriage certificate will be issued to the bride and groom based on the consent of the bride and her guardian in the presence of necessary witnesses.

6.2 Marriage and Professional Counselling Services

In recent years the GIC’S role in offering advice and guidance in marital affairs has grown. The Centre’s Imam is available for private consultation by couples or individuals seeking Islamic guidance in the wake of modern day marital discord.

6.3 Outreach Work and Community Projects – A Response to UK Government Calls

The GIC wishes to implement schemes and projects focusing on assisting members of the community with respect to employment and offering specialist employment guidance to the youth and immigrant communities. An example of this is to organise and deliver seminars on teaching careers in IT & English to be taught by professionals from each field. The aim of the seminars is to provide tried and tested advice on how to gain entry into the skilled labour market.

Other services such as “Basic Job Skills” involve providing assistance through “CV Workshops” and “specialist employment assistance” to those who encounter barriers entering the labour market. This includes a number of planned schemes such as “English language workshops” for those in the community whose second language is English. The aim of such projects is to facilitate the social and economic integration of native and immigrant Muslim communities. These initiatives are GIC’S considered response to the UK Government’s call upon local Muslim communities to do more in the fight against terrorism, exclusion and social and economic unrest.

6.4 Drug Awareness and Rehabilitation Advice

Through the services of our community professionals, the GIC would like to offer professional and confidential advice and guidance to those with drug related issues. This extends to parents seeking guidance about how to protect their teenage children from falling into drug abuse and to those in need of assistance with actual drug addictions. Every society faces the growing problem of drug usage and the criminal damage and family break-downs that often occur as a result. With the development of the new Centre, GIC aims to add practical and informed guidance to issues that are real and often left untouched by many organisations.

7.0 Local Councillor surgery

As well as the many local community services provided, GIC also works with local councillors to serve the communities needs.

GIC hosts a monthly councillor surgery, where members of the community are encouraged to visit their local councillor to discuss and raise any public related concerns.

This important service enables the councillor and community to build a vital link between the local authority and the wider communities. This important initiative allows councillors to focus on improving the communities which they serve, and play more of a role in developing policy and recommending to the local authority.

A councillor's role is now one of influence rather than that of power, influencing the decision makers and holding them to account as well as influencing the key stakeholders within their wards. Councillors have a mandate now to lead and identify opportunities for change in a wide range of subjects which affect the communities in which we live, to identify skills and resources within communities and to bring them together for the greater good, this, along with greater emphasis in local government over partnership working with health, police and fire authorities

To summarise, the GIC proactively:

- ✿ *Gives guidance and advice to the community via lectures and at a personal level.*
- ✿ *Works closely and co-operates with the police and relevant bodies in combating crime.*
- ✿ *Continues to warn people against all types of issues affecting the muslim community.*





8.0 Premises of the GIC

8.1 Description of Current Premises

The GIC is based in a single storey pre-fabricated building as shown in the image to the right. The structure comprises of the following:

Inside:

The Pre-fabricated structure measures approximately 14m x 6m. It consists of an entrance hall, a prayer hall and small abolution (wudu) and toilet facilities.

The structure is utilised to its maximum with all services described above delivered from this one structure. The prayer hall is divided up with the use of curtains, creating makeshift classrooms for the purposes of delivering Islamic education.



Current GIC Location



- *The area gets very cold during the winter period.*
- *Leakages through the bitumen roof covering during wet weather result in moderate to severe dampness of the carpets.*
- *The roofing material is prone to damage from strong gusty winds.*
- *During very warm weather the enclosure acts like a greenhouse and becomes very hot and stifling.*

Outside:

The total area of the land is approximately half an acre. The majority of the land is currently empty space used for car parking.



8.2 Current Premises Issues

Capacity Constraints

When it first opened, the facilities at the GIC were sufficient in meeting the needs of the few who knew about it. However, as the wider community became aware of the presence of the GIC, demand for its services grew. Currently, the Centre caters to over 200 people visiting and utilising its facilities every week. This figure swells to over 300 per week during the Islamic month of Ramadan. Capacity constraints and inability to provide worshippers with basic comforts are most evident during large religious congregational gatherings throughout the year but most notably during Jumu'ah and Eid prayers. It is not surprising, therefore, to find worshippers sometimes resorting to using the outside car park to offer their prayers.

Demand for space has also been fuelled by the growth of many of the activities the GIC offers. An example of this is the Centre's hosting of conferences and seminars when a large number of Muslims from around the city flock to Goodwood. Another instance is during weekday classes for children. These classes have attracted the attention of Muslim parents who, in turn promoted the GIC to others, resulting in an increasing demand for places within the Islamic school.

Further increases are expected as a consequence of the success of the Centre and the growing demographics of the Muslim population in and around the locality and beyond.



Full Car park of worshippers and students

Lack of Amenities

Attempts have been made over the past five years to develop the current premises to cater for the growing numbers frequenting the GIC. The small extensions to the side and rear to add extra space, toilets and abolition facilities were added in 2011. However, even these endeavours have failed to provide everyone with adequate facilities or basic levels of comfort.

Women share the rear section of the building as well as the toilet and wudhu (abolution) areas during weekday classes. Children are forced to carry on their studies in the men's worship area, making them vulnerable to interruptions and disturbances. The existing facilities has no provision for an office, private area for the Imam, Administration staff, computers, audio equipment and whoever might be in need of a private conversation. A number of small shelves in the men's prayer room serves as a library and the only source of literature for the authentic teachings of the GIC'S call. This lack of space has meant that the Centre is unable to provide the community with a much needed book store.

These are neither adequate nor secure arrangements. Indeed, the list of amenities lacked by the Centre goes on!

Late Night Prayers

The GIC premise does not have a loudspeaker system to propagate the call to prayer. Nor can the Centre fully accommodate the eagerness of the congregation to stay well into the night when performing night prayers or holding gatherings, most notably during the holy month of Ramadan.



Additional Services Needed by the Community

Due to insufficient space at the existing premises, many of the demands of the community for additional services and facilities have remained unfulfilled. Amongst these are proper prayer and toilet/wudhu facilities for women, expanded educational and recreational programmes for young and old, a kitchen area and facilities for undertaking funeral arrangements. These needs are a natural result of an ever growing, aging and maturing Muslim population. They are by no means a luxury but are basic to what is needed to provide the community with a place, where their religious, social and educational aspirations can be met. The GIC must be seen as a medium for fostering communal ties and guiding the youth to a healthy, productive role in society.

It is clear that the demand of the local Muslim population cannot be met fully due to the limited space of the existing premises. The GIC desperately needs a much larger and more conducive space where the noble work already established can be reinforced, strengthened and improved.

9.0 Future Plans

9.1 Aims for the Future:

- ✿ *To secure larger premises for the GIC to accommodate the growing needs of the*
- ✿ *To provide more in-house recreational and mentoring activities for our youth, using educational tutorials and sporting competitions as vehicles to focus the energy of our youth into constructive pursuits.*
- ✿ *To establish regular outreach programs for non-Muslims in the community, focusing on local*
- ✿ *To be a reference point in the city for the propagation of Islamic values and ideals, based upon the*
- ✿ *To be a Centre of excellence in utilising 21st century technology in*
- ✿ *To be a conference hub in bringing together people in the West and Islamic scholars based*
- ✿ *To be a community resource Centre to help the vulnerable and needy elements within the*
- ✿ *To be a recognised interface point to represent the true teachings of Islam to non-Muslims in the*

9.2 GIC'S Needs:

It is hoped that the preceding pages have clearly demonstrated the inadequacy of the current premises. Five years since inception, the demand for the GIC'S services and facilities is still growing. This demand is the direct result of the growth of Muslim communities around the area and success with the expanded activities offered by the Centre. While sited at the existing premises, the GIC cannot even begin to address the demand for new services needed by the community. It now finds itself at a crossroads where it must develop a purpose designed building to be able to continue its role of promoting community well-being or risk being seen as a spent force. In the context of this challenge, the Centre's governing body formed a Fundraising Committee (FRC) . The FRC was charged with the responsibility of properly assessing and defining the Centre's future needs, identifying and evaluating various options and orchestrating a fundraising drive.

As a first step, the FRC stated that the proposed Centre's new building needed to be multi-story of the existing Centre to ensure continuity of service to its existing community. Next, it set about identifying the activities/facilities that needed to be expanded and others that needed to be added. A concluding step in this process was to develop a Space Plan with a 10-year horizon for proper allocation of space to the different activities. This is shown in the table that follows.

The GIC Space Plan

Accommodation Areas	Current Premises 100m ²	Proposed New Premises 1000m ²
Inside Areas:		
Men's Prayer/Conference Area	300 [150 worshippers]	2000 [1000 worshippers]
Women's Prayer/Conference Area	50 (used as Men's Prayer area during Jumu'ah) [25 worshippers]	400 [200 worshippers]
Children's Education Area	Men's/Women's Prayer area used during non - worship hours	400
Administration Area	0	2
Library	Shared with mens prayer area	2
Bookstore	0	1
Storage Area	0	3
Kitchen	0	2
Foyer Area	1	3
Toilet Area For Men	3	12
Wudhu Area for Men	4	24
Toilet Area For Women		6
Wudhu Area For Women	Shared with Men's toilets	12
Circulation Area (stairways, pathways, etc.)	0	6
Sports/Recreation Area	0	2
Cafeteria/Functions Area	0	2
Imam's/Counselling Room	Shared with Administration Area	1
Funeral Area	0	1
Total Inside Areas	4	35
Outside Areas:		
Parking Area	60 Cars	50cars
Prayer Overspill/Multi-activity Area	20 Worshippers	100 worshippers
Total Outside Areas	2	2

9.2 GIC'S Needs, continued

It is clear from the table that there are severe constraints under which the Centre operates in the existing premises. Much of the space is shared in a way that is quite inconvenient. The partitioning of the prayer hall with curtains sense of confined and cramped space.

The proposed new premises plan (shown on page 23, envisages purposed designed space, 1000m² in total area with the total inside area being circa 800m². The priority space on the ground floor are for the areas of worship which could interchangeably be used as conference areas. The GIC recognises the need to have a segregated Children's Education Area to ensure their safety and uninterrupted studies. Therefore the 1st floor will be designed for the use of classrooms for the education of children. Similarly, it acknowledges the vital need for an enlarged worship area for women and their accompanying children with their separate toilet and wudhu facilities; therefore the 2nd floor will be entirely for womens use.

With a view to encouraging greater youth participation, a specially designated area has been allocated in the new premises plan for sports/recreational activities. Of course, when the weather is good, much of the outside space can also be used for this purpose. Other new additions include space for a separate library, bookstore and a cafeteria. All of these are intrinsic to meeting the educational and social aspirations of the community. Furthermore, in recognition of the aging Muslim population in the community, provision has been made for an area dedicated to funeral arrangements.

The outside space in the Plan shows a near four fold increase in the worship area when compared to the current premises. This is appropriate given the 10 -year ambition of the GIC. It should also be noted that this area off ers great flexibility since it can be adapted for multiple usages. Finally, allowance has been made for a better use of the available car parking space.

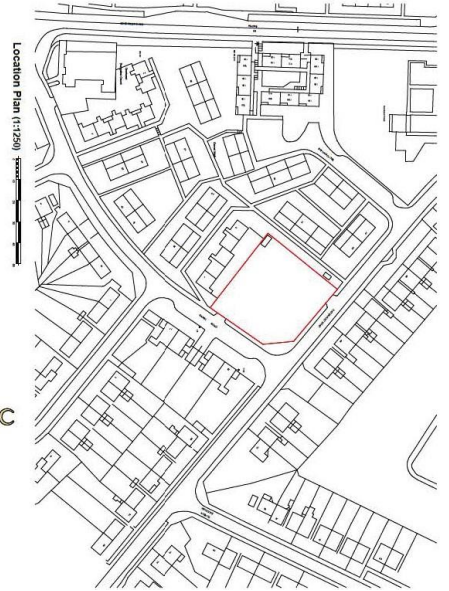
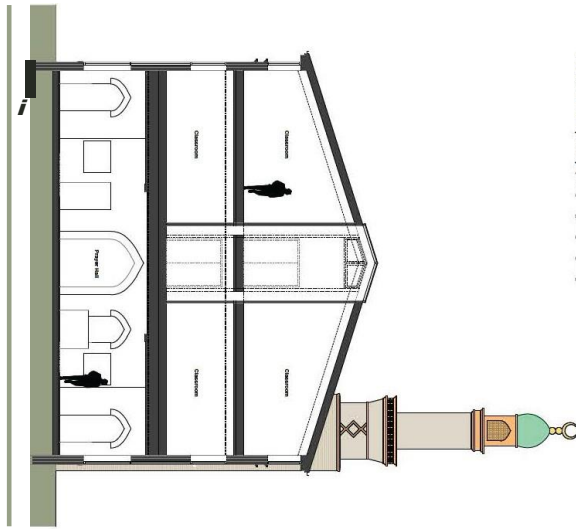
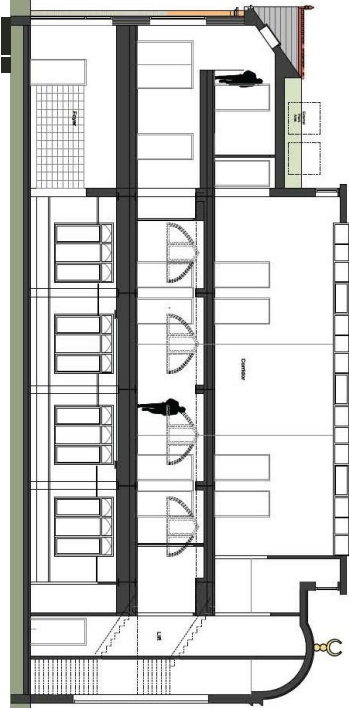
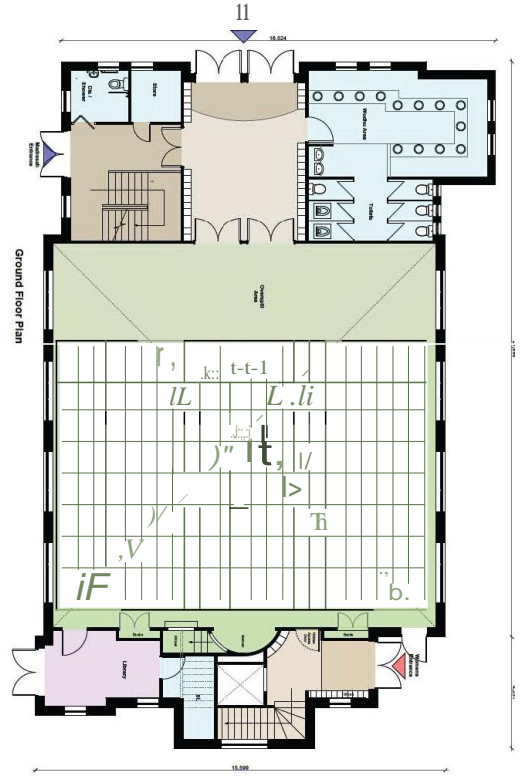
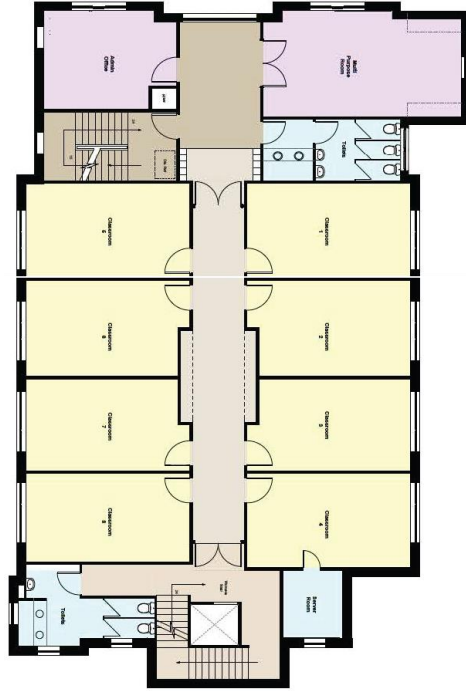
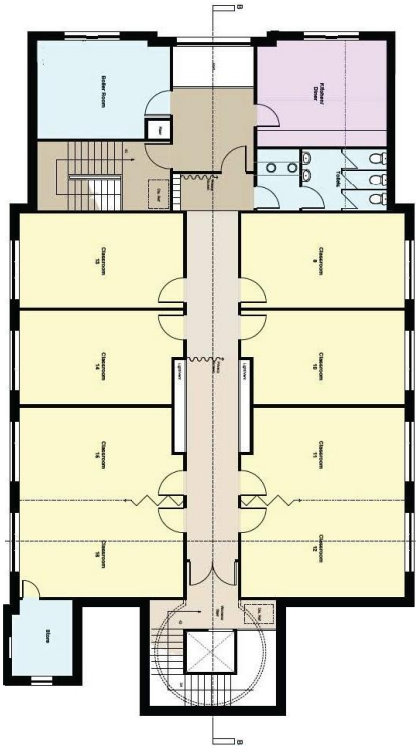
9.3 Property development approval

Following the development of the design of the new building and its Space Plan, the FRC are delighted with the approval gained from the local council. The Planning Approval document is shown on page 24. The complete five page version can be made available on request.



The FRC estimates that it will cost £1,800,000 (including professional fees and other related costs) to complete the construction of the new Centre. The FRC hopes to tender out the entire project however this is only possible if all funds are available. The alternative method is to complete the construction in phases. This method would allow us complete phases as funds are made available. The drawback of this method is that it would typically cost more and would take a longer time to complete.

To summarise, the Centre is in need of starting the construction as soon as possible. The cost of such a project can be kept to a minimum if all funds are made available from the start of the project. The GIC is appealing to the global muslim community to contribute generously in this effort to enable it to continue with the noble work already established and to reinforce, strengthen and improve it.





Leicester
City Council

PLANNING PERMISSION

Applicant:

GOODWOOD COMMUNITY AND
EDUCATION TRUST
GOODWOOD COMMUNITY AND
EDUCATION TR
LEICESTER
LEICESTER CITY
LE5 6TB

Agent (if any):

RG+P
RG+P LTD
130 NEW WALK
LEICESTER
LEICESTERSHIRE
LE1 7JA

PART 1 - PARTICULARS OF APPLICATION - no: 20142313

DATE OF APPLICATION: 23 December 2014
LOCATION OF PROPOSAL: 60 GAMEL ROAD, GOODWOOD COMMUNITY AND EDUCATION TRUST
DETAILS OF PROPOSAL: VARIATION OF CONDITION 17 (PLANS) ATTACHED TO PLANNING PERMISSION 20121700 (REVISED LOCATION OF BUILDING & PARKING LAYOUT, CHANGES IN FLOOR LEVELS, ALTERATION TO ROOF, EAVES AND RIDGE HEIGHTS)

PART 2 - PARTICULARS OF DECISION

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Leicester City Council grants Planning Permission for the carrying out of the development referred to in Part 1 above in accordance with the application and plans submitted subject to the following conditions:

CONDITIONS

1. The development shall be begun within three years from the date of this permission. (To comply with Section 91 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990.)
2. No part of the development shall be occupied until the 2 metre by 2 metre sight lines on each side of each vehicular access have been provided, and they shall be retained thereafter. (In the interests of the safety of pedestrians and other road users, and in accordance with policy AM01 of the City of Leicester Local Plan and Core Strategy policy CS3.)
3. All street works shall be constructed in accordance with the Council's standards contained in the `6Cs Design Guide` (view from www.leicester.gov.uk/6cs-design-guide). (To achieve a satisfactory form of development, and in accordance with policy AM01 of the City of Leicester Local Plan and Core Strategy policy CS3.)

Head of Planning

Date: 16 February 2015

10.0 Current Funding

Every month the Centre raises approximately £2,000 by means of Friday collections and regular standing orders (direct debit) from the community. This sum just about covers the GIC'S monthly expenditures which include utility bills and the Imam's salary.

The Centre aims to increase the sum of money received via standing orders from the current monthly level of £1000 to £2000 by appealing to the current worshippers. It is hoped that by increasing the number of fund collecting appeals throughout the city and nationally, the monthly income can be raised to over £5,000 (\$8,000) per month. It is thus felt that there would be sufficient income generated through donations to provide for the upkeep of the new premises.

The proposed construction of a larger premises could boost donations even further as additional worshippers would be happy to contribute to such an important community facility.

However, as can be seen above, the amount of funds collected from the local community is insufficient to fund the construction of this much needed new centre. Therefore we humbly request your duas and contributions to this noble project.



11.0 Support the GIC

11.1 Your Support is Needed

The GIC is now at a crucial point in its existence. Its resources and services are stretched to the fullest. Demand for existing and new services and facilities continues to grow and there is an urgent need to respond. Please assist the GIC in moving forward. Make the Centre's new property construction goal a reality through your generous contribution. No amount is too little. Your financial support is deemed 100% charitable: the GIC, a non-profit organisation, is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (Registration No.1130884). The Centre is able to issue tax receipts for UK Residents. You may visit the Charity Commission Website at <http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/> to view all the Centre's accounts and annual returns online.

In addition to your financial assistance, the GIC welcomes your participation in its fundraising efforts. To volunteer as a fundraiser, please contact goodwoodmasjid@gmail.com

11.2 Why Support GIC

As a donor, you have many choices. Why GIC?

- ✿ *Your donation to the GIC is considered sadaqah jaariyah – meaning, an ongoing charity which*
- ✿ *Your support will ensure the continuation, expansion and addition of many new services that the local community around Goodwood area, known for its high concentration of Muslims and ethnic diversity,*
- ✿ *Your support will ensure the promotion of an environment that inculcates the authentic teachings of the Qur'aan and the Sunnah, refutes fringe and extreme elements and fosters relationships with local,*
- ✿ *Your support will ensure that the Centre's successful children's education, youth mentoring and*
- ✿ *You can take comfort that the investment in the new premises will not be underutilised. The existing demand for new services and facilities will ensure that any new space is taken up rapidly*

11.3 How you can Support GIC

No amount is too little. You can contribute by:

- *Issuing a cheque: please make all cheques payable to “Goodwood Islamic Centre New Construction Masjid Fund” and mail them to the address below.*
- *Making a wire transfer to the Centre’s bank account as detailed below.*
- *Going online to the Website below and making a secure payment through the various payment channels.*
- *Downloading a Standing Order Form from the GIC Website (www.muadhibnjabal.org) and mailing the completed form to your Bank.*
- *Alternative payment options will be provided on our website*

Mailing address of GIC and contact details for any queries:

Najeeb Patel Chairman
of Trustees
Goodwood Islamic Centre 60
Gamel Rd,
Leicester LE5 6TB
United Kingdom.
Tel: +44(0)7903046525
(If calling from overseas please dial +44
Email: goodwoodmasjid@gmail.com

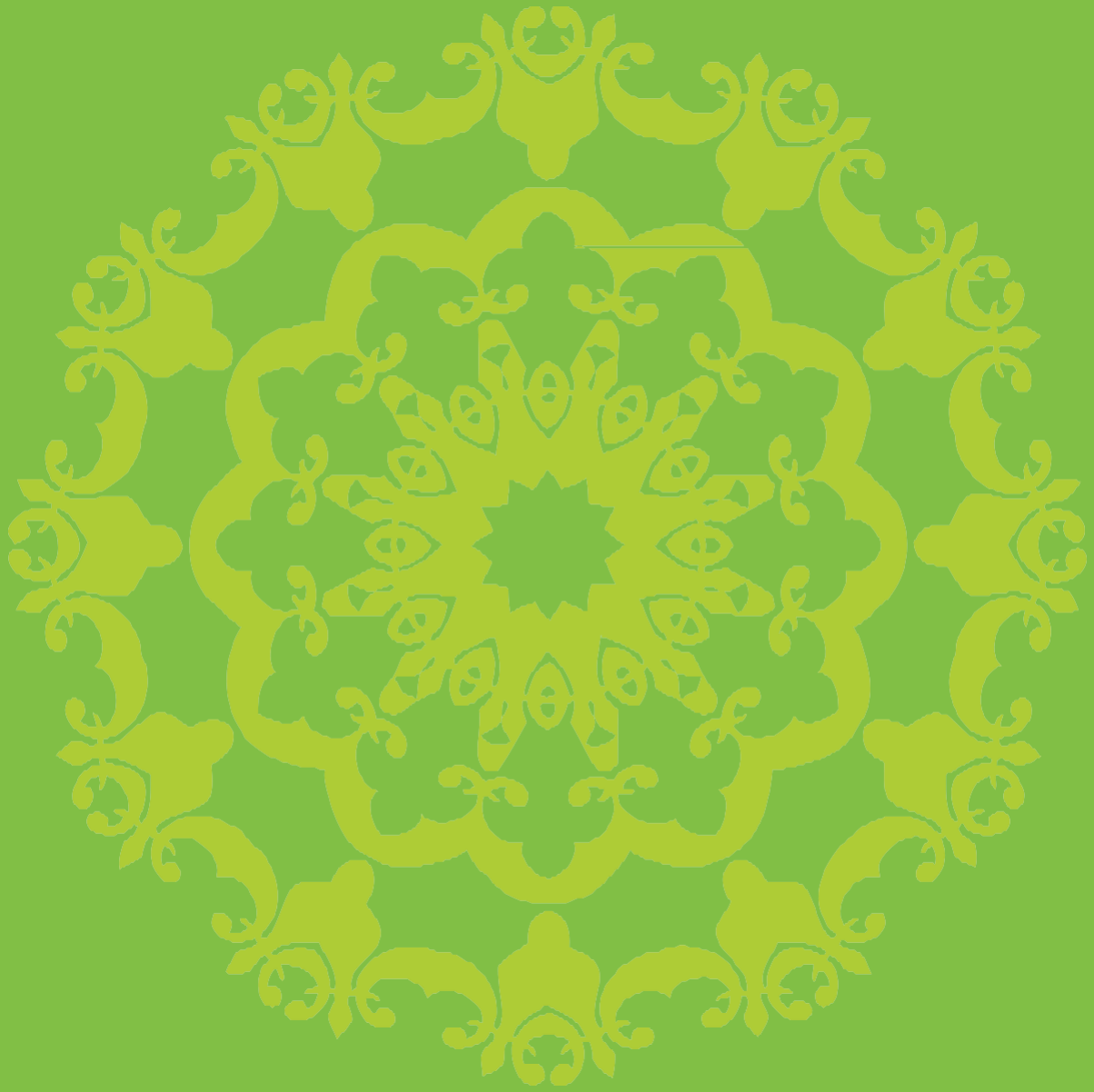
Wire transfer bank details:

AlRayanBank
Beneficiary: New Construction Masjid Funds
Account No: 01205651 Sort Code: 30-00-83
SWIFT Code: IBOBGB22
IBAN A/C Number: GB 52 LOYD 3096 3401 0241 92

Beneficiary: New Construction Masjid Fund

For further information about GIC please visit: www.muadhibnjabal.org





Goodwood Islamic Centre

www.muadhibnjabal.org

