

A PIECE OF PUBLIC ART IN WIGSTON MAGNA

Members of Society are working on a project to establish a piece of open air public art in Wigston Magna. The thinking behind the idea is that the feel of the town will be enhanced and that there will be a focal point that will attract the attention of residents and visitors, provide a talking point and be something that residents can identify themselves and Wigston Magna with.

These aims fit well with the overall aim of the Civic Society to make Wigston a better place in which to live and work.

There is, of course, already the well established 'totem pole' in the Peace Memorial Park and the abstract sculpture in Oadby. There are also plans to erect a railway wheel in South Wigston. Other Districts in the County already have their own pieces of public art such as the 'sock' in Loughborough, the lock gates near Market Harborough and several statues in Leicester City, notably: Thomas Cook; the Three Sportsman, the Sewing Lady, Ghandi as well as the New Walk shoe industry pieces.

As yet there are no firm ideas as to where the piece should be erected or what it should consist of but of course there are many possibilities. In the near future a consultation will take place involving appropriate local groups including the Historical Society and Framework Knitters Museum (Wigston local interest groups) and individuals.

It would have been a good idea to unveil the artwork during the Queen's Jubilee year but this may be too short a time scale, especially as funding needs to be secured.

If you have ideas or wish to take part in the consultation please email Colin at cftowell@aol.com