

Your ref: JZ/akv
Our ref: JK/CM/003
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Date: 09 April 2014



John Knight
County Hall
West Bridgford
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NG2 7QP

Re: Question Under Procedure Rule 39

Next year will mark 800 years since the signing of Magna Carta, when King John was forced to guarantee certain rights and freedoms.

The Magna Carta is admired around the world as a symbol of liberty – the first occasion the people of England were granted rights against an absolute king.

It will be fitting that we celebrate this important moment in our history, given that King John's Palace is in our County and that the King's Highway, now known as Coxmoor Road in Ashfield, can the chair inform members if the authority will be doing anything to celebrate this historic occasion?

Dear Councillor Zadrozny

Thank you for your question.

In reply, please rest assured that the authority has plans to mark the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta.

Nottinghamshire Archives will include it in its talks and exhibition programme for 2015. Libraries will also ensure a number of Magna Carta events and activities are delivered.

Events currently under consideration are:

- A talk on the charters held by Notts Archives, what they are and the effect they had on the County.
- An exhibition on charters, either originals on display at a showcased venue and/or a series of exhibition panels which can tour County libraries.
- Activities for children and young people exploring charters, how they were made, and creating their own.
- Working with Arts/local artists in exploring the illumination and designs of charters and creating an art project or installation.
- A conservation-led workshop exploring seals, how they are created, and designing your own.
- Historic debate on the theme of rights and freedoms undertaken with key partners.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Knight".

John Knight
(Chairman of the Culture Committee, Nottinghamshire County Council)