

MINUTES OF AN EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL19 November 2003
6.00pm – 10.01pm

PRESENT: The Mayor (Councillor White), Deputy Mayor (Councillor Callaghan), Councillors Adey, Adigun-Harris, Bagnall, Bailey, Baker, Bell, Benstead, Blencowe, Boyce, Bradnack, Coleman, Dixon, Downham, Dryden, Durrant, Ellis-Miller, Harrison, Hart, Hipkin, Howarth, Howell, Hughes, James, Liddle, Nimmo-Smith, Pinnington, Reid, Rosenstiel C, Rosenstiel J, Schofield, Slatter, Smart, Smith J, Smith R, Stebbings, Stuart, Taylor, Todd-Jones, Ward and Wright.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL**03/56 SILENCE IN MEMORY OF HONORARY COUNCILLOR ALBERT JAMES JOHNSON**

The Council stood in silence in memory of Honorary Councillor Albert James Johnson who passed away on Wednesday, 12th November.

03/57 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence

03/58 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Bradnack declared a personal interest in minute number 03/61 as he was Treasurer of the Mill Road Community Improvement Group.

Councillor Dixon declared a personal interest in minute number 03/61 as he lived in Mill Road.

03/59 PETITION

A petition with 1437 signatures had been submitted on the following matter:

We the undersigned demand that the City Council make a designated public places order comprising the whole City of Cambridge, so that the Police have the discretionary powers to arrest and detain people who cause a nuisance to others by consuming alcohol in public. We understand that this will not affect ordinary law-abiding people who wish to enjoy a drink in the open.

Ms Susie Oakes, supported by three other residents of the city, spoke to the petition.

Members then considered the petition and asked questions of the petitioners. Councillor Nimmo-Smith, the Leader, then responded to the petitioners.

03/60 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A number of members of the public addressed the meeting on various issues in relation to the making of a designated public places order or a byelaw to curtail anti-social behaviour in the city

Councillor Nimmo-Smith, the Leader responded to the questions and statements.

03/61 TO CONSIDER URGENTLY A PROPOSAL THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD APPROVE A DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACES ORDER FOR THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE .

Following a request by five councillors to convene a special meeting of the Council, members considered a proposal that the Council should approve a Designated Public Places Order for the City of Cambridge.

Strategy Scrutiny Committee had met on 17 November 2003 to consider a report on Options for Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services summarised the legal position in relation to a designated public places order and a byelaw and responded to members questions.

Councillor Bradnack proposed and Councillor R Smith seconded the following motion:

“To consider urgently a proposal that the Council should approve a designated public places order for the City of Cambridge.”

Under paragraph 13.7.1 of the Council Procedure Rules it was agreed to deal with the motion at the meeting.

Councillor Nimmo-Smith proposed and Councillor Howarth seconded the following amendment:

- “1 That, given the existing legal framework, the option of designated public places orders for Cambridge is not pursued;
- 2 That the Council favours the introduction of a byelaw to control anti-social street drinking throughout Cambridge, as set out in Appendix A of the report to Strategy Scrutiny Committee of 17 November;
- 3 That the Council formally publishes the draft byelaw for public comment;
- 4 That the Council formally considers resolving to make the byelaw at its meeting on 4 December 2003;
- 5 That the Council continues to work through the Community Safety Partnership to ensure that adequate resources are available for enforcement and for the personal care of those caught up in street life.”

On a show of hands the amendment was carried by 24 votes to 14.

Councillor Stuart proposed and Councillor Howell seconded the following amendment:

“Replace existing 1 with:

- 1 That this council agrees in principle to designate public places orders for hotspots in the City and delegates responsibility for implementation and selection to the Chief Executive after consultation with spokespersons and party leaders;”

On a show of hands the amendment was lost by 16 votes to 23. A named vote was taken at the request of Councillors and was as follows:

For the amendment: Councillors Bagnall, Bell, Benstead, Blencowe, Bradnack, Callaghan, Downham, Dryden, Durrant, Hart, Howell, Hughes, R Smith, Stuart, Todd-Jones, Wright. (16 votes)

Against the amendment: Councillors Adigun-Harris, Bailey, Baker, Boyce, Coleman, Dixon, Ellis-Miller, Harrison, Hipkin, Howarth, James, Liddle, Nimmo-Smith, Pinnington, Reid, C Rosenstiel, J Rosenstiel, Slatter, Smart, Stebbings, Taylor, Ward, White. (23 votes)

Abstained: Councillor J Smith.

Resolved (by 24 votes to 0):

- 1 That, given the existing legal framework, the option of designated public places orders for Cambridge is not pursued;
- 2 That the Council favours the introduction of a byelaw to control anti-social street drinking throughout Cambridge, as set out in Appendix A of the report to Strategy Scrutiny Committee of 17 November;
- 3 That the Council formally publishes the draft byelaw for public comment;
- 4 That the Council formally considers resolving to make the byelaw at its meeting on 4 December 2003;
- 5 That the Council continues to work through the Community Safety Partnership to ensure that adequate resources are available for enforcement and for the personal care of those caught up in street life.”

The Council concluded its business at 10.01pm.

Mayor

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