



**South Area Committee
(City Councillors representing Cherry Hinton, Queen
Edith's , Trumpington Wards)
20 November 2003 7:30 – 10.05pm
Minutes & Actions**

Present: Councillors: Philppa Slatter (Trumpington and Chair), Chris Howell (Cherry Hinton), Alan Baker, Richard Stebbings, Amanda Taylor (Queen Edith's), Edrich Adigun-Harris & Judith Pinnington (Trumpington)

Also Present: County Councillors Christine Carter (Cherry Hinton), Geoffrey Heathcock (Queen Edith's), Anne Kent (Trumpington)

Additional information for public: City Council officers can also be emailed firstname.lastname@cambridge.gov.uk
The Committee Manager for Area Committee South is gary.clift@cambridge.gov.uk

**Action by
(see
action
sheet
attached
also)**

Members of the City Council have individual email addresses which are listed on the City Council website:

www.cambridge.gov.uk/councillors/members.htm

Members of the County Council can be emailed:

Firstname.lastname@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

03/08 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS 17/7/03 AND 18/9/03

The minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

03/09 MATTERS ARISING

Open Forum

b) The bench at the corner of Shelford and Hauxton Roads had been repaired

- g) Cllr Pinnington gave a detailed response on the criteria for selling right to buy
- j) Church End – following consideration at the Environment Scrutiny Committee on 11 November the proposal for traffic calming will be the subject of local consultation.

03/10 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Rob Dryden and Graham Stuart (Cherry Hinton)

03/11 OPEN FORUM

The following were raised by members of the public present:

a) Council Housing

- What is the length of time a tenant needs to be in place before acquiring a right to buy?

Answer - applicants for RTB must have at least 2 years secure tenancy. This is called the 2 year 'qualifying period'. This time spent as a tenant can be with any of the Public Sector Landlords listed on the back page of the RTB1.

Please note that this does not necessarily mean that they have to have spent 2 years in the property which they wish to buy, as they may have spent time in other properties owned by a Public Sector Landlord.

- How much discount is given on the market price and are there any restrictions to future extensions to properties?

Answer - The discount entitlements are based on how long an applicant has been a tenant and whether they're purchasing a house or a flat.

For houses a tenant will automatically be entitled to 30% discount plus an extra 1% for each complete year of tenancy i.e. 6 years tenancy would give them 36% discount. The max % for houses is 60% (max of 30years tenancy).

For flats the tenant will automatically be entitled to 40% discount plus an extra 2% for each complete year of tenancy i.e. 6 years tenancy would give them 52% discount. The max % for flats is 70% (max of 15 years tenancy)

With regard to extensions, if the property is sold freehold, as all our houses are, then if the owner wishes to build an extension they are subject to the same restrictions as any other owner ie planning permission and building regulation approval.

- Why does an unmarried mother or ex-convict have a better chance of council housing than a single woman who has been unable to work full-time because she has been caring for a terminally-ill grandparent?

Housing Needs Manager states "I am unable to comment on the specific example without knowing who the details of the cases mentioned.

However, the City Council allocates housing according to its Housing Allocation Policy. We also exercise our statutory duties with regard to applications made to us under the housing legislation.

The Allocation Policy assesses an applicants housing need and 'points' them accordingly. Those with priority needs such as medical requirements, vulnerability and existing housing conditions would be awarded more points and receive offers of housing before others. Many people apply to the Council for housing every year, significantly more than property that becomes available and currently the City's Housing Needs Register shows some 3879 households waiting for housing. Applying to the Council for housing does not guarantee that housing can be made available.

Cllr Pinnington to find out more and report back on the passing of tenancies onto grandchildren and the exemptions from the restrictions placed on right to buy.

Cllr
Pinnington

b) Can the parking problems in Nightingale Park Avenue be alleviated by amending the parking sign to indicate that vehicles are not to return for 24hrs.

County Councillor Heathcock to take up with County Council officers.

Police to report on the results of recent action taken to curtail the parking problems.

County Cllr
Heathcock
PC Jakins

c) Speed camera on Cherry Hinton Road

Is it operational and if so how many fines have been paid as a result?

PC Jakins to provide figures for next meeting on number of speed offences caught on camera and also % reduction in accidents since camera has been installed.

PC Jakins

03/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

03/13 CONSULTATION ON CHANGES TO THE MANAGEMENT OF JOINT USE CENTRES

The Committee noted a report from the Head of Community Development which detailed a consultation period underway on proposed changes to the management arrangements for city council funded community facilities in schools. The Committee was advised that the initial discussions with Cherry Hinton Junior School/local community indicated that there were no issues of substance against the proposal. It was noted that the consultation

was on going and the matter would be considered further at Community Development & Leisure Scrutiny on 22 January 2004.

03/14 LOCAL NATURE RESERVES

The Committee received a presentation from the Council's Community Liaison Officer (Ellis Selway) who has been appointed for 3 years with funding from the New Opportunities Fund/English Nature to encourage community involvement in the development and maintenance of the City's nature reserves. Ellis talked about the two reserves in the Area Committee's boundary, namely Nine Wells and Byrons Pool

Ellis can be contacted as follows:

Tel: 01223 457000

Mobile: 07919 572504

Post: Cambridge City Council, Environment & Planning, The Guildhall, CB2 3QJ

Email: Ellis.Selway@cambridge.gov.uk

03/15 CAMBRIDGE SOUTHERN FRINGE STUDY – PROGRESS AND ISSUES REPORT

In response to a question from a member of the public, the Head of Policy & Projects noted that provision should be made for allotment sites in future housing developments.

Brian
Human
01223
457104

Resolved (by 6 votes to 0) to:

- (a) note the progress made so far;
- (b) endorse the issues set out in paragraphs 3.8-3.9 of the report as the key areas for further work; and
- (c) endorse the next steps set out in paragraphs 4.1-4.2.

03/16 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAMME

The Committee was advised that £20,000 already had been set aside by the Executive Councillor for Environment subject to approval of the detailed design of Cherry Hinton Road shop forecourt improvements Phase 1. An extra sum of £15,000 was required to implement Phase 2 of this Scheme. The Chair suggested that the Committee may wish to utilise the money set aside for Cherry Hinton Road together with the 2003/04 and 2004/05 budget toward a comprehensive scheme combining the three proposals for Cherry Hinton High Street.

The Committee was advised that the project to improve verges in Queen Edith's Way needed further investigation as there were a combination of improvements under consideration and a holistic approach to tree planting, highway and amenity enhancements was now required.

Councillors Adigun-Harris and Baker did not agree that committing

both the 2003/04 and 2004/05 total budget plus £20k from the Queen Edith's Way scheme to the three Cherry Hinton High Street schemes was appropriate bearing in mind that the combined total would be £25k less than the overall cost of the three schemes.

Councillor Baker queried why a £100k scheme for Queen Edith's Way was not a matter for the Executive Councillor for Environment as it was such a large scheme on a major road.

Resolved (by 6 votes to 0)

1) To allocate £25k to the library forecourt in Cherry Hinton High Street (to also apply for Access Grant funding for the scheme and approach the County Council for any funding).

2) That the £20k for Cherry Hinton Road Phase 1 scheme be approved in detail, with the pub forecourt area omitted.

3) That a bid be made to the central fund for Cherry Hinton High Street shop frontage (£60,000 total scheme).

4) That a bid for the Queen Edith's Way scheme to the central fund be made to the Executive Councillor for Environment in January.

03/17 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor Howell advised members that the Conservative Group would not take part in determining planning applications, as it did not agree with this element of Area Committee decision making. The Chair expressed her regret at this decision. Councillor Howell withdrew from the committee and remained in the public area.

Application No: 03/0973

Site: 1 Rectory Terrace, High Street, Cherry Hinton CB1 4HU

Proposal: Installation of replacement plant equipment

Applicant: Tesco Stores Ltd PO Box 18 Delamage Road Cheshunt

The Planning Officer referred to an amendment sheet, which had been sent to the Committee on 19/11 and circulated at the meeting. He stated that the Environmental Health Officer had commented that the proposals for the plant equipment should be subject to an additional condition requiring the appropriate attenuation of the plant on the roof.

Resolved: (6 votes to 0) To approve subject to an additional condition requiring the appropriate attenuation of the plant on the roof and an Informative to advise that the details of attenuation received to date are not

adequate.

3. Before development commences, full details of noise attenuation measures in the form of acoustic screening to be provided around the proposed plant shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The acoustic screening shall be implemented in accordance with that agreed within 2 months of the date of this decision.

Reason : To protect the amenity of nearby properties.
(Cambridge Local Plan 1996 policies EO1 and BE2)

Informative: The applicant is advised that the screening when last inspected was not of an adequate standard.

Application No: 03/0807

Site: Vindis of Cambridge Audi Centre, 83 Babraham Road

Proposal: Erection of a front extension and alterations to existing garage

Applicant: Vindis Group Ltd, c/o Taylor Vinters, Merlin Place, Milton Road

Public speakers: Mr West (P&R Coachworks), Mr Kratz (Taylor Vinters)

The Planning Officer referred to an amendment sheet, which had been sent to the Committee on 19/11 and circulated at the meeting. The Committee noted that in response to the objection made by Mr West, the applicant was content that a condition be added to the permission relating to the number of cars to be parked on the forecourt at any one time. The Planning Officer advised the Committee that a similar condition was attached to the previous permission (see site history), and the condition would apply to the area marked out on the site map.

Resolved: (6 votes to 0) To approve with an additional condition 6:

Cars for sale on the forecourt of the site may not be parked outside that area shown red on the plan attached to this decision notice.

Reason: To ensure additional parking of vehicles for sale is not introduced to the site forecourt to the detriment of the Green Belt.

The meeting ended at 10.05pm.

CHAIR