



**West/Central Area Committee  
(City Councillors representing Castle, Market  
and Newnham Wards)  
5 February 2004 7:30 –10.25pm  
Minutes & Actions**

**Present:** Councillors: David Howarth (Castle Ward, Chair), John Hipkin, David White (Castle), Mike Dixon, Colin Rosenstiel and Joye Rosenstiel (Market), Sian Reid, Malcolm Schofield and Julie Smith (Newnham)

**Also Present** County Councillors Sal Brinton (Castle), Anthony Bowen (Market) and Alexander Reid (Newnham).

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**Action by**

**04/01 OPEN FORUM**

The Chair began by giving up-dated information on the items considered at the Open Forum at the previous meeting:

**The C8 bus:** Lizz Waller from Cambridge University Student Union was present and explained that students were discouraged from bringing their cars to the city and the bus was well used. Were there any plans to extend the route?  
Councillor J Smith said that she had tried to contact the County

Council without success to express concerns about the size of the bus and safety issues. It is likely the bus will be re-routed but there will be consultation with local residents first.

Councillor C Rosenstiel confirmed that it had been agreed to start with the present route and to shift to the proposed new route along Wilberforce Road and Adams Road after consultation with residents. More passengers were boarding the bus in Madingley Road. He shared the concerns about the size of the buses used but Stagecoach had got rid of their fleet of smaller buses. The matter would not go to the Area Joint Committee at the County Council in April as originally planned to allow for full consultation. Councillor Schofield said re-routing the bus would slow it down but that there would be conflict with cyclists and pedestrians. Re-routing might also deprive some students of access.

Councillor S Reid clarified for members of the public that the bus was an initiative of the University and that the County Council subsidised it.

County Councillor Brinton confirmed that the County Council were firmly behind the scheme and that the University were glad it was successful.

**Post Office Closures:** The Chair reported that the central government Minister, Stephen Timms, had acknowledged that the procedure being used to determine closures was not as good as it should be and that there would be more consultation and new rules governing the decisions. The Council would still be trying to influence the decisions in Cambridge.

**Two-way interchange, junction 13 of M11:** Councillor C Rosenstiel said there was no further information yet. There was to be an improvement scheme for the A14 and that might provide another opportunity to do something. He explained that it was a policy problem at national level.

### **Open Forum – new questions**

Ann Mullinger – John Chaplin wrote a letter about the overall planning process on behalf of a group of Residents Associations, asking that it be discussed tonight. Will it be?

The Chair explained that Prof Chisholm had represented the Residents' Associations at the meeting of the Environment Scrutiny Committee on 20 January and had been given a paper copy of the full answer given by the Executive Councillor for Environment who had responsibility for issues raised about the planning process. Ms Mullinger explained that the Residents' Associations were not satisfied with the answers received. The Chair said that anything that was a local matter could be looked at and especially in relation to the planning process for West/Central Area Committee. He affirmed that early consultation by developers with local residents was supported by the Council. He explained the role of Development Control Forums in the

planning process. For comprehensive information about this use the following weblink:

<http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/planning/dcpetitn.htm>

or ask the Committee Manager for a paper copy. He also asked for feedback from members of the public about how comprehensible planning reports were because that was something that could be influenced.

Ms Mullinger said residents did welcome early consultation but there were still concerns about how much influence local residents could have; it often seemed as if everything was tied up between the Planning Officer and the developer before the meeting.

The Chair said that decisions were made by the relevant planning committee. At the main Planning Committee about 17% of applications were refused against an officer recommendation to approve while at Area Committees the figure was closer to 25%.

Councillor Dixon pointed out that there were also many applications that were determined by officers under delegated authority.

Councillor Hipkin said it was vital that neither officers nor councillors gave any indication that their minds were made up about an application until the planning report was written or the planning committee was in session.

#### **04/02 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting on 11 December were agreed as a correct record.

#### **04/03 MATTERS ARISING**

**Action by**

The Chair raised the matter of Salmon Lane reported on the Action Sheet for the 16 October meeting. He explained that there had been a change to the way this project would be funded in the next financial year so that this committee was asked to make the decision to allocate £7,000 from the funds allocated to it from the Council. Councillor C Rosenstiel asked that adequate street lighting be part of the action.

#### **Resolved**

To agree in principle to the plans on the action sheet amended by Councillor C Rosenstiel's suggestion above and that the final scheme would be approved after consultation with the Chair, Ward Councillors and local residents.

The Chair also referred to the letter (attached to the minutes) about the Guildhall frontage and said it was an example of successful local consultation having an impact.

#### **04/05 APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence.

**04/06 DATES, LOCATIONS AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS OF WEST/CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE**

**Action by  
Committee  
Manager**

The Committee agreed the following dates until May 2005 (all meetings will be on a Thursday except where indicated):

<b>2004:</b>	<b>2005:</b>
8 April	13 January
<b>Monday</b> 14 June	10 March
29 July	12 May
23 September	
18 November	

The Committee also agreed to keep the same venue (Castle End Mission) and the start time of the meeting at 7.15pm for 7.30pm with the option to start one earlier (? 18 November) at 5.30pm to try and attract young people after consultation with community development officers and young people.

**04/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Code of Conduct personal interests in Planning Applications were declared as follows:

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Application</b>	<b>Nature of interest</b>
Schofield	C/03/1291/FP	Knows both applicant and objectors.
J Smith	C/03/1291/FP	Acquainted with 2 objectors

Code of Conduct (personal and prejudicial) interests in Planning Applications were declared as follows. The Councillors indicated left the room, took no part in the discussion and did not vote on the item.

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Application</b>	<b>Nature of interest</b>
Howarth	C/03/1291/FP	The applicant is a personal friend.
S Reid	C/03/1291/FP	Resident of Millington Road and knows many of those involved in the application.

Code of Conduct personal interests in other items were declared as follows:

Councillor Schofield for item 04/08 as Chair of the Steering Committee on Nature Reserves in the City.

**04/08 LOCAL NATURE RESERVES IN THE WEST/CENTRAL AREA**

The Community Liaison Officer spoke to the information handed round and explained his role and the desire to involve the local community in this initiative. In West/Central Area there was to be

an extension to the Paradise site and a warden would be employed.

The Committee welcomed the initiative.

#### **04/09 REVIEW OF PLANNING OBLIGATION STRATEGY: PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR FUNDING**

The Head of Parks & Recreation introduced the report and asked for advice in setting priorities and objections in relation to the items listed. In response to a question about the Newnham Skateboard facility (item WCF5), he explained that it would be a relatively small facility, similar to the one at Donkey Common, located opposite the Fen Causeway flats.

Councillor Hipkin commented on item WCF3, an all-weather multi sports area on Jesus Green, asking why it was in the formal open space category when it was recreation ground.

The Head of Parks & Recreation acknowledged that much had changed in the last two years and that this item would need careful consideration to ensure open access.

Councillor Hipkin welcomed items WC1-5 and WCP 1,4 and 9. County Councillor A Reid and Councillor S Reid mentioned the possibility of additional green space in the Lammas Land area being released by Trinity Hall and perhaps that might be mentioned on the list.

Councillor Dixon welcomed the good balance achieved between active use of open space and passive use (just enjoying it as open space).

Councillor C Rosenstiel (referring to Appendix 4) said he was not aware of public consultation happening about improvement to paths on Midsummer Common.

The Chair invited members of the public to give their views and the following were given:

- A welcome for the new skateboard facility as there were not many facilities in Newnham for the pre-teen age group.
- Concerns about the bright blue colour of waste bins and could they be changed to a more neutral grey. It was explained that these were probably trade bins and not ones under the control of the council.
- The Chair of the Castle Community Action Group raised concerns about the Bowling Club on Alexandra Gardens because of potential future difficulty in parking because of developments proposed there. The Head of Parks & Recreation said that strictly speaking there were no parking facilities there for the Bowling Green even now.

The Chair then asked the committee to vote on the recommendations.

Councillor S Reid asked that the word “noted” rather than “endorsed” be used at the end of recommendation 2.1.

#### **Resolved**

To agree recommendations 2.1 (amended as above) and 2.2-2.6.

**04/10 APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION**

Planning  
Officer

- 1**     **Application No:** C/03/1329/FP  
**Site:** Denmore Lodge, Brunswick Gardens (Market)  
**Proposal:** Erection of 1No. 3 bedroom dwelling house  
**Applicant:** Peterhouse

Jennie  
Parsons  
01223  
457158

The Planning Officer referred to an amendment sheet which had been sent to the Committee on 2/02 and circulated at the meeting.

**PSR** Claire McIntosh (for the applicant) 4 objectors on behalf of different groups of residents (Prof Lentin for Brunswick Terrace; Chris Huntley for Maid's Causeway; Mr Van der Straeten and Mr J Alcock for Brunswick Gardens)

**DEFERRED** (by 4 votes to 3) to enable a full assessment of the proposal against previous reasons for refusal to be carried out to demonstrate how the reasons for refusal have been overcome, to obtain further information from the applicants with regard to contractor's arrangements and to enable further consultation to be carried out to show that the proposed development will not prejudice access by emergency vehicles and will be properly accessed by such vehicles.

Councillor Joye Rosenstiel in the Chair:

- 2**     **Application No:** C/03/1291/FP  
**Site:** 11 Millington Road (Newnham)  
**Proposal:** Erection of a two storey side extension to dwelling  
**Applicant:** Mr R Cantrill

Marcus  
Shingler  
01223  
457153  
(Sarah  
Dyer)

**PSR** Rod Cantrill (the applicant) Caroline Ferguson and Tanya Elliot (for residents)

The Planning Officer referred to the amendment sheet. The Conservation Officer had also been asked for additional comments. In his view it was suburban area, the plot was not being filled from one side to the other and it was in a green setting.

**REFUSED** (by 4 votes to 3) against officer recommendation. Reason for refusal to be agreed by Chair. Draft reason for refusal as follows:

The proposed development, by virtue of its height, and the proximity to the boundary of the wall and roof that form the south elevation of the extension, would have an unreasonably overbearing impact upon and would lead to an unacceptable loss of outlook to, the occupiers of 13 Millington Road. The consequent detriment to the residential amenity of 13 Millington Road demonstrates a failure to recognise the constraints of the site and is contrary to policies BE2 and BE8 of the Cambridge Local Plan

(1996).

- 3**     **Application No:** C/03/1343  
**Site:** Land adjacent to 9 Holyrood Close (Castle)  
**Proposal:** Erection of 1no 3 bed bungalow  
**Applicant:** Fred Smith Junior
- The Planning Officer referred to the amendment sheet.
- Ruth Lucy  
01223  
457475

**APPROVED** (by 9 votes to 0) as agenda, subject to Section 106 Agreement.

Councillor Howarth in the Chair:

- 4**     **Application No:** C/03/1375/CC  
**Site:** Railings Southside, Maids Causeway (Market)  
**Proposal:** Temporary relocation of post and fencing  
**Applicant:** Environment and Transport, Cambridgeshire County Council
- This application was withdrawn before the meeting.
- Janine Barker  
01223  
457147

- 5**     **Application No:** C/03/1234/FP  
**Site:** 30 Eden Street (Market)  
**Proposal:** Formation of new timber gateway following demolition of existing brick outbuilding  
**Applicant:** Mrs J Surry
- PSR:** Mrs Surry (the applicant)
- Rebecca Flood  
01223  
457164

**APPROVED** (by 9 votes to 0) as agenda.

- 6**     **Application No:** C/03/1250/LB  
**Site:** 30 Eden Street (Market)  
**Proposal:** Formation of new timber gateway following demolition of existing brick outbuilding and part demolition of wall within the curtilage of a grade II listed building  
**Applicant:** Mrs J Surry
- PSR:** Mrs Surry (the applicant)
- Rebecca Flood  
01223  
457164

**APPROVED** (by 9 votes to 0) as agenda.

The meeting ended at 10.25pm.

**CHAIR**

