



**North Area Committee
(Comprising City Councillors representing Arbury, King's Hedges, East
Chesterton and West Chesterton Wards)**

Thursday 17 November 2005: 7.40pm – 11.10pm

Minutes & Actions

Councillors Present:

Arbury: Anthony Hymans, Rhodri James and Tim Ward (chair)
King's Hedges: Louise Downham and Elizabeth Hughes
East Chesterton: None
West Chesterton: Diane Armstrong, Max Boyce and Ian Nimmo-Smith

County Councillors: Rupert Moss-Eccardt (Arbury), Elizabeth Hughes (King's Hedges),
Julian Huppert (East Chesterton) and Kevin Wilkins (West Chesterton).

Action by

05/52 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Bell, Bailey and Liddle

05/53 MINUTES

The **minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2005** were confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair with the following amendment:

Page 6: 05/0432/FUL 8 Victoria Park

PSR: Richard Drayton (Applicant), Rosemary Laff Lass (neighbour)

The **minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2005** were confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair with the following amendment:

Page 12: Resident 11 complained about ~~refuse collection~~ cleaning at Kilda Avenue

05/54 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

State of pavements in the King's Hedges Ward

Photos were shown to the Committee to prove the appalling state of the pavements. Discussions are being carried out with City Homes.

Pavements in this ward are still awaiting repair.

Cllrs
Downham
&
James

Cleaning on St Kilda Avenue

Housing Officers have been monitoring the cleaning at this address. The cleaning is carried out on Wednesday and Thursday, a total of 2 hours per week.

It has been explained at residents' meetings that **issues need to be reported to our help desk on 01223 458282**. We will respond to any calls as soon as possible as the cleaner works locally and can respond as needed.

Cllrs
Nimmo-
Smith
&
Downham

Section 106 for Arbury Camp Site

A report was presented to the committee, which allocated a total of £100,000 in expenditure to sports facilities, youth centres and local shops.

Cllr
Nimmo-
Smith

Fen Road Disposal Sites

Traffic in Fen Road has priority funding and is waiting for an assessment from the **County Council Traffic Management Cabinet on 6 December**.

Rejection of the application for planning permission was recommended.

Cllr
Huppert
(County
Council)

St Andrews Community Hall

A grant was awarded to fund St Andrews Community Hall

Cllr
Nimmo-
Smith

05/55 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

05/45 Councillor Nimmo-Smith declared personal interest in the application for 24 De Freville Avenue, as he knew the applicants.

05/55 Councillor Huppert declared personal interest in the Minor Cycle Schemes as a member of the cycling campaign.

05/56 PRESENTATION ON MINOR CYCLE SCHEMES

Background

Cambridge City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council are able to fund significant improvements to the Cambridge city cycle network such as new cycle and pedestrian bridges and cycle links along strategic radial corridors (e.g. Newmarket Road and Trumpington Road).

Officers:
Clare
Rankin
&
David
Bradford

These funds stem from: The Local Transport Plan, The joint-funded capital cycleways budget, Contributions from developers.

Small Local Schemes

However small local schemes, to create new links or remove barriers for cyclists, can have a significant effect on cycling in a particular area. These schemes can often 'slip through the net' in the midst of a list of larger projects.

Consequently Cambridge City Council has set up a **Minor Cycleways Budget**. Over the last 10 years this budget has funded schemes such as the opening up of Herbert Street to cyclists, improved links to the Milton cycle/pedestrian bridge, the replacement of pram arm barriers with combined cattlegrids and gates across the city's commons,

This year the budget has increased from £10,000 to £15,000. We are therefore publicising this to residents in order to encourage groups and individuals to contribute ideas for schemes.

The Process

As in previous years Councillors and residents can make suggestions for improvements. Suggestions are assessed in terms of cost and achievability. If suitable they are then assessed according to the following criteria:

- i) Will this form part of the strategic cycle network (as identified through the signage project)?
- ii) Will this form part of an important local link (e.g. is it identified on the cycle map)?
- iii) Will this scheme open up a route for more users such as cyclists with trailers, motorised (i.e. larger) wheelchair users, those with double pushchairs etc.
- iv) Will this scheme encourage more use by cyclists (e.g. increase in safety, convenience etc)

If the scheme is off road then the effect on pedestrians will also be considered.

Schemes that meet at least one of the above criteria will then be considered and prioritised by the Cambridge Cycle Liaison Group (consisting of County and City Officer and representatives from the Cambridge Cycling Campaign and pedestrian and disability groups), which meets on a quarterly basis.

Costs

Whilst the aim of this budget is to fund a number of small schemes to improve cycle facilities, there may be occasions when a larger scheme, for which there is no funding from elsewhere, may be deemed a higher priority and take up the full budget for the year.

To give an idea of how much schemes are likely to cost the following rough figures will be helpful:

- Installation of a flush kerb: £1,000
- Removal of a pram arm barrier: £200
- Installation of a chicane: £300
- 10m of off-road cycle path (2.5m wide): £ 2,000
- Moving or installing a lamppost: £1,500
- Cycle Parking: £100 per rack (there is another small budget for cycle parking but there may be scope to include some schemes)

This budget is limited; hence it will only be possible to undertake a small number of schemes per year. However, information about problems encountered by cyclists around the city and suggestions for improvement will be useful and it may be possible to fund some of the schemes through alternative mechanisms. For example if a scheme improves connections to a new development site it may be included in works to be undertaken as part of the development.

For more information or to suggest a scheme please contact:

Cambridge City Council Walking and Cycling Promotion and Development Officers

Clare Rankin

Tel: 01223 457108

Email: clare.rankin@cambridge.gov.uk

David Bradford

Tel: 01223 457376

Email: david.bradford@cambridge.gov.uk

Address:

Cycling and Walking Officer

Cambridge City Council

Policy and Projects, Room 16, 3rd Floor

The Guildhall

Cambridge

CB2 3QJ

05/57 Questions after the presentation on minor cycle schemes

To questions from residents, the cycling and walking development officer advised that the budget to implement this scheme was secure and that the **possibility of providing cycle racks at the front of Kings' Hedges post office**, will be discussed with the

Officers:
Claire Rankin &
David Bradford

owner.

Councillor Huppert clarified that the maintenance of cycling routes are the responsibility of the County Council.

Councillor Downham raised the issue of enforcing parking restrictions in mandatory cycle lanes. Police did not see this as a priority and Local Authority Parking Enforcement Officers were not currently able to enforce this.

In relation to security, it was commented that 3 cyclists had died in the city this year, during daylight.

Councillor Huppert recognised that there was a lot of work being done on cycling information, with discounts on lights purchases and with the Cambridge Cycling Campaign.

05/58 OPEN FORUM

Milton Road Traffic Management Scheme

Councillor Huppert gave a presentation on the Milton Road Traffic Management Scheme.

Members of the public expressed the following concerns:

- The questionnaire lacked space for comments.
- Parking problems at the Arbury Road shops.
- Removal of parking from Gilbert Road to the roundabout.
- The move of the bus stop away from the traffic lights on Milton Road.
- Lack of proper information.
- Effects of traffic on Chesterton High Street and Elizabeth Way.

Councillors expressed the following concerns:

- Cycle line, bus lane, guided bus and the location of trees.

Councillor Nimmo-Smith advised that the **ward councillors will represent the residents' objections**. He also clarified that the pay-and-display parking proposed at the front of the shops will benefit the shops, as it will prevent vehicles staying for a long time.

Councillor
Nimmo-
Smith

Councillor Boyce justified the scheme as an attempt to discourage parents from taking children to school in cars. He noted that this was included in the Green Travel Plan.

It will also include moving the Union Lane bus stop 10 yards further down the road.

Councillor Huppert reminded those present that Cambridge County Council had consulted throughout the north of Cambridge. He noted that **a meeting with County Councillors will take place on 12th January 2006** and that a report from this meeting will be presented to the committee.

Councillor
Huppert
(County
Council)

Travellers' Site in Cowley Road

A member of the public expressed concern about travellers' sites and noted that there were 5 non-permanent sites and 2 unofficial sites in Cowley.

He also expressed the following concerns:

- The possibility that a temporary site would become permanent.
- Security in the area.

Councillor Nimmo-Smith, addressed these concerns by assuring that emergency properly managed travellers' sites will reduce nuisance and disturbance in Newham, Coleridge and Union Lane. He proposed to use expertise from neighbouring authorities with experience in managing sites of this kind.

Councillor Downham clarified that she had not proposed the site in Cowley Road and that between 20 and 30 residents opposed the site.

To a question from the public, Councillor Ward advised that this issue will be dealt with by the **Strategy Scrutiny Committee on Monday 21st November**.

Cllr. Ward

Councillor Hughes recognised the differences but also emphasised the importance of provision of facilities for visitors. She advised that the County Council owns the site and that South Cambridgeshire District Council managed it.

05/59 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

The Principal Landscape Architect introduced the report and, after due consideration of the schemes, the Committee **resolved**:

1. Approve extra planting works to Oak Tree Avenue.
2. Request officers to investigate the Ramsden Square parking scheme further.
3. Approve the principle of installing hanging baskets in Chesterton High Street.
4. Refer making the decision of requesting that the results of the consultation and cost of upgrading the surfacing between Mitchams Corner and Gilbert Road is brought back to this committee for decision.
5. Request officers to proceed to investigate the Cockerell Road scheme.

5/60 05/49 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

A 05/0785/FUL 24 De Freville Avenue, Cambridge, CB4 1HS
Public speakers: None

Decision: APPROVED (by 6 votes to 0, unanimously) subject to

conditions and informatives as set out in the officer's report.

B 05/0799/FUL Recreation Ground St Albans Road, Cambridge

Public speakers: None

Decision: APPROVED (by 6 votes to 0, unanimously) subject to the conditions and informatives as set out in the officer's report.

5/61 Report requesting authority to serve an enforcement notice to remedy an alleged breach of planning control

This report seeks authority to serve an enforcement notice under the provisions of Section 172 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) for an alleged breach of planning control at the rear of 192 Green End Road, Cambridge. The alleged breach relates to the making, without planning permission, a material change of use of an outbuilding from ancillary use to the adjoining commercial shop premises to a use as a single residential dwelling unit.

Resolved: That the Head of Legal Services be authorised to serve an enforcement notice under the provisions of Section 172 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) for, without planning permission, during a period within the last four years, the making of a material change of use of an outbuilding to a use as a single residential dwelling unit.

5/62 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 12 January 2005 at the Manor Community College, Arbury Road, Cambridge, CB4 2JF commencing at 7:30pm.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm.

Chair