



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

Thursday 27 April 2006: 7.35pm – 9.00pm

Minutes & Actions

Councillors Present:

Arbury: Anthony Hymans, Rhodri James and Tim Ward (chair)
King's Hedges: Elizabeth Hughes
East Chesterton:
West Chesterton: Max Boyce and Ian Nimmo-Smith

County Councillors: Rupert Moss-Eccardt (Arbury), Elizabeth Hughes (Kings Hedges)
and Julian Huppert (East Chesterton)

**Action
by**

06/74 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absences were received from Councillor Downham (King's Hedges), Councillor Armstrong (West Chesterton) and Councillors Liddle and Bailey (East Chesterton).

06/76 MINUTES

The **minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2006** were confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair after some corrections.

06/77 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Conversions without planning permission

County Councillor Huppert will be advised on this issue by planning officers and will report to the Committee at a future meeting.

County
Cllr.
Huppert

Vandalism to King's Hedges' bus shelters

Councillor Ward advised that the North Area Committee would not receive a budget to repair the damage caused to bus shelters in King's Hedges.

Neighbourhood policing

The Chair welcomed Inspector Martin Gregory as an advisor on any of the issues raised by residents in relation to neighbourhood policing matters.

06/78 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

6/79 OPEN FORUM

Lighting on Green End Road

To a question from a member of the public on lighting on Green End Road, County Councillor Huppert suggested the area next to the Penny Ferry at the start of the Halingway as a site for an environmental improvement scheme. This area consists of a paved car park in need of repair, perhaps by the County Council, and a wild green with a broken-down fence. It would be desirable to preserve the natural elements while providing an attractive entry landmark to the Halingway. The design would also need to encourage access by bikes, pushchairs and wheelchairs, while limiting access for quad bikes and similar vehicles.

Chesterton High Street traffic calming area

Residents enquired about the status of the traffic-calming project for Chesterton High Street.

Councillor Huppert advised that the project was still with the designer and that he was not clear about the deadlines.

County
Cllr
Huppert

Fen Road: travellers site and waste transfer sites

Residents at the end of Fen Road raised the following concerns about travellers on the site:

- Their disregard of the law.
- Daily intimidation of and fear of retaliation prevents new residents from speaking out.
- Their dangerous driving, at high speed and on footpaths.
- Their vehicles are not registered or are registered remotely.
- There was an incident in which a helicopter hovered over the travellers' site for more than three hours, as 300 travellers were involved in bare-knuckle fights, while more than 40 police officers waited at the other end of Fen

- Road in case intervention was needed.
- Police acknowledge the problem but do not actively intervene to resolve it.

Inspector Gregory confirmed most of the points and clarified that, in fact, there were some people fighting and 300 others watching the fight. He stated that no people were arrested.

County Councillor Huppert advised that David Howarth (Member of the Parliament for Cambridge) was carrying out negotiations with South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridge County Council and Cambridge City Council on this issue.

Unauthorised waste transfer sites

- Regarding the **illegal waste site at the bottom of Fen Road**, residents expressed the following concerns:

- Two skip companies are still dumping waste on the greenbelt land.
- These vehicles run from 6.30am, making residents' life a misery.

Fen Road residents acknowledged that these sites were not within the Cambridge City boundaries. However, the only access route to these sites was within the City's jurisdiction.

They urged immediate action and appealed to Cambridge City Council to stop these illegal activities.

They also urged the Council to deal effectively with the problem of access to the Fen Industrial Estate and sites in a similar way to the access that has been provided in Milton.

County Councillor Huppert advised that South Cambridgeshire District Council did not have immediate plans for Fen Road and anticipated no further development in the next year despite Cambridge City Council's efforts.

- The Old Chesterton Residents' Association (Fen Road Group) made the following points regarding the two unauthorised waste transfer sites at the bottom of Fen Road:

- Two skip companies, Skips R Us and A10 skips, were dumping waste from the city onto greenbelt land and onto the flood plain, including areas of natural beauty and biodiversity.
- The piles of waste could be seen from the towpath and the A14.
- The two companies cause excessive industrial traffic as heavily laden skips and enormous 8-wheel trucks speed noisily down Fen Road, which was a narrow street.
- The waste transfer industrial traffic had increased threefold since the survey in August 2005 from 25 trucks a day to 53 trucks a day.
- The noise caused anxiety and distress to residents from 4.00am to late in the evening and at weekends.
- These sites belonged partly to Cambridge City and partly to Milton Parish,

- who let them expand without any form of legal planning or containment.
- Fen Road Group was pleased that the County Council supported their campaign to prevent Skips R Us, and in the future A10 skips, from trading. Skips R Us had appealed to Central Government against the enforcement notice to cease the trading, and Old Chesterton Residents' Association would be challenging this appeal.

Fen Road Group asked the Council to challenge the appeal that Skips R Us had made to Central Government.

Councillor Nimmo-Smith would investigate the possibility of joint representation with South Cambridgeshire District to take further legal action.

County Councillor Huppert advised that Councillor Bailey has been very involved in a consultation exercise and that the Member of Parliament, David Howarth, would be objecting to the use of these skips in conjunction with Cambridge University, Cambridge City Council and Cambridge County Council.

Mr Bond suggested a mixed ownership between Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council to plan a long-term strategy for a sustainable economy and activities.

The Chair will be inviting the Director of Planning of South Cambridgeshire District Council to discuss the possibilities and future of this area. Cllr Ward

Update on St Andrew's Hall, Chesterton

Mr Bond addressed the Committee to provide an update on St Andrew's Hall, Chesterton, which was now open and running. In the last meeting, 50 residents came to welcome Mr David Kay and hear his presentation on recreation in the vicinity.

Mr Bond reminded the Committee that the developer signed the S106 agreement on 16th March. The Chesterton residents' association is still waiting for the money from the Council. The running cost of St Andrew's Hall is £100 per month.

Councillor Nimmo-Smith undertook to enquire about this payment.

Cllr.
Nimmo-
Smith

Councillor Huppert showed great interest in St Andrew's Hall and was invited to attend the next meeting of the Chesterton residents' association.

06/80 UPDATE ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAMME

Emily Bingley, Landscape Architect, presented the report to the committee.

The Committee **resolved:**

In relation to Ramsden Square verges, to contact the Local Residents' Association and do a leaflet drop to local residents to determine whether there was support for this scheme.

Emily

06/81 APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

A 06/0072/FUL 39 Milton Road, Cambridge

Retrospective change of use from residential dwelling to 4-room guesthouse and proposed erection of a single-storey rear extension.
Recommendation: approve

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

B 05/0210/OUT 10 Carlton Way, Cambridge

Erection of 1 4-bedroom bungalow and demolition of 2 garages for access.
Public speakers: Mr Pritchard and Ms Perry (objector)
Recommendation: Approve

Decision: REFUSED against officer recommendation (by 4 votes to 0)
Reasons for refusal to be drafted by Head of Development Control and agreed by the Chair and Spokesperson.
Following consultation with the Chair and Spokesperson after the meeting, the following reasons for refusal have been drawn up by the Head of Development Services:
The access arrangements to serve the proposed development would be likely to lead to vehicle to vehicle conflict and pedestrian/vehicle conflict within the parking court serving Carlton Court. In so doing the development fails to take account of the constraints of the site and to provide a safe access to the site for vehicles and would be likely to result in a degradation of existing residential amenities. The development is therefore contrary to policies NE8 and BE2 of the Cambridge Local Plan (1996).

06/82 DATES OF MEETINGS

The Committee agreed the following dates for the municipal year 2006/07:

Thursday 15th June

Thursday 17th August
Thursday 12th October
Thursday 14th December
Thursday 1st February
Thursday 29th March
Thursday 31st May

06/83 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 15th June at the Manor Community College, Arbury Road, Cambridge, CB4 2JF, commencing at 7:30p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

CHAIR