

## **East Area Committee**

Cherry Trees, St Matthews Street

Thursday 5 October 2006

7.30pm to 9.20pm

### **Minutes & Actions**

#### **Councillors Present**

**Abbey:** John Durrant, Caroline Hart, Miriam Lynn

**Coleridge:** Jeremy Benstead, Lewis Herbert, Ben Stafford

**Petersfield:** Kevin Blencowe, Ben Bradnack, Victoria Bruce

**Romsey:** Sarah Ellis-Miller, Raj Shah, Catherine Smart

County Councillors: Alice Douglas (Romsey)

#### **06/36 Minutes**

The minutes of the meetings on 10 August were approved.

#### **06/37 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

##### **Contra-Flow Cycle Schemes/Schemes Being Considered by AJC**

A member of the public had commented on the introduction of contra flow cycle lanes in Petersfield, Cllr Bradnack suggested that this and similar traffic issues which were dealt with by the County Environment and Transport and Area Joint Committee should be addressed at Area Committees before being considered by the AJC.

##### **Developments on and around Newmarket Road**

Members asked whether any further discussion had been held on the Committee's request to the Executive Councillor for Planning and Transport about the traffic congestion in Newmarket Road and future development to the East of the city.

Officers said that they would pursue the matter.

#### **06/38 Apologies For Absence**

Councillors Paul Sales (Abbey), Martin Ballard (Coleridge), Nichola Harrison (Petersfield)

#### **06/39 Declarations Of Interest**

The Chair, Cllr Durrant, declared a personal interest as a committee member of Jimmy's Nightshelter, in relation to Question 1 in the Open Forum.

#### **06/40 Open Forum**

##### **Resident 1**

The resident referred to the increased numbers of street life people present in Mill Road and the surrounding area. He referred to the current drinking ban and the perceived lack of effect of the S30.

Cllr Bradnack said that the wet facility in Newmarket Road was for confirmed drinkers and while it dealt with some people with on-going substance abuse problems the remainder of the issue and how to progress it needed to be addressed. The S.30 was to be extended to Parker's Piece and Christ's Pieces

Cllr Smart confirmed the circumstances of the wet hostel and pointed out that the wet hostel was not open to any other than residents and was unlikely to attract people with problems with substance abuse. The future of the Brookfield Centre was unknown at this stage and the and there was no indication how the services provided there were to be rolled out. The Council's

strategy would enable consideration of the future management of the problems being experienced in the area, including encouraging people not from the city to return to where support would be more available.

The resident said the PHCT needed to clarify its intention for these services .

The Chair said that the issue was city wide, although it was more experienced more intensely in this area of the city.

### **Resident 2**

The resident said that parking at Tiverton Way and Birdwood Road was an increasing problem with car owners parking on grass verges and indiscriminately on the roadways.

Cllr Stafford said he had contacted the County Council officers about this problem and had drawn the officers' attention to it.

The Chair said this was a matter which could be referred to the AJC as suggested earlier.

Members noted that the County Council's budget for any work of this type had been suspended and it was unlikely that any remedial work could be undertaken in the near future.

Cllr Benstead pointed out that local consultation had taken place on traffic issues, but this had been mainly with those who were giving rise to the problems and not those who were suffering from the results.

### **Resident 3**

The resident said that there were occurrences of fly tipping at Burnside. When residents had contacted the Council there was a poor response from the relevant help desk.

Members said they would take up the issue and invited the residents affected to contact councillors to ensure the problem was addressed.

### **Freedom Club TimeBank**

Mr David Boffey of the Freedom Club TimeBank had planned to be present but had been unable to attend. The Freedom Club TimeBank had been running since May and was funded for this year by Sure Start Cambridge. It was a community exchange scheme based in the Abbey Ward of Cambridge but open to anyone in Cambridge with a practical approach, helping its members get things done and in the process helped to develop a better community spirit around Cambridge

### **06/41 Review of Open Space And Recreation Section 106 Programme**

The Head of Active Communities explained that The City Council was reviewing its programme for implementation of Section 106 Open Space and Recreation funded projects. The review followed the adoption of the new Cambridge Local Plan and the updating of the Council's Open Space Standards in July 2006.

The current programme was initially approved in 2002 and out of 64 approved projects, 20 had now been completed. Many of these originally approved projects were suggestions that arose from consultation between members of the public, ward councillors and officers. A total of 30 additional schemes had been suggested in the last 18 months. It was the view of the Council's Corporate Urban Growth Group (CUGG) that both sets of projects required strategic assessment so that the list could be 'pruned and prioritised' to ensure projects had an up to date verification prior to the identification of an efficient and cost effective method of delivery.

The purpose of her report was to inform Area Committees about the proposed revised programme and request feedback from members and residents on its content including the revised schedule of projects, prior to the drawing up of a final report to be taken for consideration of the Executive Councillor in the November Scrutiny cycle.

The schemes for the East Area were set out in the schedule appended to the report with the strategic and local need scores allocated. She invited members and the public to review the schemes included for the East Area.

Members commented on the ambiguity of some of the names of the schemes and the need to coordinate an approach with officers working on Environmental Improvements. The Head of Active Communities said that some schemes had been listed for a number of years and it was her intention that the schemes be verified by members and residents as still being valid before being progressed. The officers were taking a joint approach to schemes.

Members found the system of prioritisation was not altogether satisfactory but recognised that it enabled the allocation of priorities which then could be reviewed. The Head of Active Communities said that once the backlog of schemes had been dealt with a more strategic approach would be taken.

A resident commented that the intention of S106 schemes had been to ensure community facilities would be provided in the area of the development, he was concerned that any funding would be dispersed over the city.

The Head of Active Communities said that the terms of the agreements were such that funding was tied to the areas in which development had occurred.

**Resolved** to ask the Head of Active Communities to note the comments made at the meeting and revise the list of proposed programme and list of projects accordingly together with any further comments made by 3 November 2006.

#### **06/42 Applications For Planning Permission - 12 October Meeting**

The Committee noted that applications for Planning Permission were to be considered at a meeting on 12 October at 7.30pm at the Guildhall.

#### **06/43 Environmental Improvements Programme**

The report on Environmental Improvements referred to two schemes which needed decision and a number of schemes on which officers updated members

#### **Resolved**

- 1 to approve the scheme for the proposed planting within the triangle at the junction of Norfolk Street and East Road, the costs of the scheme were estimated at £4,600
- 2 to approve the scheme at Ravensworth Gardens which involves removing the existing shrub planting to open the area out, leaving the existing trees, and the generation of an play area for children by earth modeling and covering with turfs at a cost of £2,900.
- 3 to note that the remaining budget for environmental improvements for this committee is £120,217

The meeting finished at 9.20pm