

Councillors Present:

Arbury: Anthony Hymans, Tim Ward (Chair)
King's Hedges: Louise Downham, Neale Upstone
East Chesterton: Marian Holness
West Chesterton: Diane Armstrong, Max Boyce, Ian Nimmo-Smith

Also present – (for 07/17) Executive Councillor for Environmental Services Colin Rosenstiel

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

Action
by

07/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Bailey, Hughes, James and Liddle. Apologies for lateness from Councillor Holness.

07/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A Code of Conduct personal interest in the following planning application was declared as follows:

Councillor	Application	Nature of interest
Nimmo-Smith	4 Leys Avenue	The applicant was an officer of the Council with whom he had worked because of his portfolio duties.

07/13 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2007 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

07/14 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

06/126 – ASB Group Noted that **Cllrs Huppert & Downham were still to pursue.** [copy from 1/2/07 minutes “Councillor Downham referred to the recommendations from the ASB Group relating to the installation of a flashing 30mph sign at both ends of Kings Hedges Road. County Councillor Huppert had agreed to follow up the Group’s recommendations; Cllr Downham said she would ask Cllr Huppert if any progress had been made on this or the related issues.”]

Cllrs
D’ham
H’pert

07/05 – Pedestrian phases at Gilbert Road/Histon Road traffic lights

The Chair advised that the County Council had stated that this would happen soon.

07/05 – Parking of trade vehicles

Cllr Nimmo-Smith provided the following answer from the Council’s Parking Contract Monitoring Team:

“We were aware that this charge would be levelled at some time, so Parking Attendants have always been instructed to issue Penalty Charge Notices based only on whether a vehicle is parked in contravention on the highway and whether any exempt activity is being carried out, not on who owns the vehicle. We monitor their performance in this respect by observing them on the streets and we investigate any

complaints made about a specific incident. We have found no evidence that any organisation is receiving preferential treatment.

We cannot identify PCNs issued to organisations with any accuracy as the ownership details of a vehicle are only obtained if the Penalty Charge remains unpaid for more than 3 weeks, a challenge is received or we have issued a permit and so I cannot give any meaningful comparative figures for PCNs. (The figures I have are 3 to Apollo and 7 to City Council liveried vehicles – there may be more of each but there is no way of being certain) I can compare applications for relief from parking restrictions (waivers – permits that allow a vehicle to park where they normally would not be allowed in order to for the vehicle to be used to complete a task). We have issued 22 permits to City Services for work on residents' property and 26 permits have been issued to Apollo. This demonstrates our even-handedness. In addition, we have received similar complaints from City Services staff who feel that we are operating a reverse discrimination, targeting them in an attempt to be seen as beyond reproach."

07/05 – Parking of trade vehicles Cttee noted an outstanding action for Councillor James [copy from 1/2/07 minutes] "he would take up the issue of parking restrictions as he had concerns over emergency vehicle accessing the Molewood/Hazelwood estate." Cllr James

07/05 – Kendal Way traffic calming – County Cllr Huppert stated that a thorough survey had been undertaken and the majority view of the survey had been that the problems had reduced as a result of the scheme. A member of the public stated that she was undertaking her own survey. County Cllr Huppert undertook to provide a copy of the County Council's survey to two members of the public who expressed an interest to see it. Cllr H'prt

07/05 – Kings Hedges Road Cycle Route – County Cllr Huppert advised that consultation was currently taking place.

07/05 – Old Chesterton Residents Association comments – a member of the public was able to update the Committee on the **Pillar Box at 184/92 High Street**. It was due to be re-installed within two weeks.

07/15 OPEN FORUM

Transit site for travellers

A member of the public asked a question about recent press reports concerning a list of sites in the City that the Council was considering for a transit site for travellers. The Committee were told of a survey undertaken in the Mortlock Avenue area, which showed strong opposition to such a proposal. A number of other members of the public expressed views about the list of sites being inappropriate.

Councillor Nimmo-Smith was leading on this matter. He stated that the current unauthorised encampment on the former Rees Thomas School site (which a member of the public had also raised) illustrated why the Council should be looking for a transit site. A project had been set up following the decision, in January 2006, not to proceed with the Cowley Road site. The list of sites published in the press, which followed what was in essence a Freedom of Information request, had mainly come from the Council's Land Audit and all but Lime Kiln Hill were now deemed unsuitable and would not be looked into further (this included Mortlock Avenue). The Council would be undertaking an more exhaustive search, possibly joining one being co-ordinated by Cambridgeshire Horizons and East Cambridgeshire District Council, to come up with potential sites. Any site would be the subject of two sets of thorough

consultation, first with the general public prior to a decision to take forward a site for implementation, and second through the planning application process.

Cllr
N-S

Councillor Nimmo-Smith undertook to arrange a city-wide debate on this matter. He asked that those members of the public who would like to be invited should leave there details with the officers at the meeting or email the committee manager gary.clift@cambridge.gov.uk

Head
Com.
Dev.

Arbury Park – a member of the public stated that it had been reported that the business development proposals for Arbury Park had fallen through. The Chair stated that he had requested that the Committee receive a presentation on the future community and leisure facilities proposed for the site and a general update would be sought. Councillor Downham stated that she would contact South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Any problems with fortnightly wheelie bin collections – one member of the public commented that once emptied, the wheelie bins of flat owners/tenants had a habit of going missing. The Executive Councillor for Environmental Services who was present for another agenda item stated that, unfortunately, stolen wheelie bins were a city-wide problem.

Condition of paths – a member of the public circulated photographs of some pathways which were trip hazards. Councillor Nimmo-Smith undertook to look into the matter if provided with a list, as the photos alone could not ascertain the location. He asked that the public also notify Streetscene on Cambridge 458282 of any trip hazards. An officer from Streetscene stated that an annual review of paths was undertaken but the local City Centre Ranger was also a useful contact.

Noting that Councillors and the public had differing views of the services provided by the City and County Councils, the Chair would undertake to arrange for a City and County Council Officer to listen to the public's concern on the condition of paths in the north area.

Cllr
Ward

Committee decision to grant planning permission to approve mosque & cultural centre – a member of the public asked whether the decision taken at the last meeting on 1 February would have wider implications and leave the Council open to challenge. Councillor Nimmo-Smith stated that if a person had reason to believe that the Committee had acted improperly there was the recourse to law or the Local Government Ombudsman.

Trees on Arbury Road/Mere Way outside 1/9 Hanson Court – a member of the public asked that the trees which had been recently trimmed be cut further as residents could not park their cars because of the overhanging branches. Councillor Downham would follow-up and asked that it be added to the list of projects on the Committee's Environmental Improvements Programme.

Cllr
D'ham
Env
Imp.
Officer

07/16 ENERGY FOR GOOD – A RENEWABLE ENERGY ASSISTANCE SCHEME:

A representative from Energy for Good presented the work that it is doing with Cambridge City Council. Leaflets were available for the public.

- **Energy for Good** is managed by the National Energy Foundation in partnership with Local Authorities, County Councils and EST Advice Centres.
- It **helps** householders who are interested in purchasing renewable energy systems by giving accurate technical and economic advice.
- The scheme **handholds** customers through to completion. It helps customers access grants and deal with any disputes that may arise.

- It offers an **assurance** by insisting on high technical standards of installation and value for money from appointed local installers.
- It generates **enquiries** from members of the public who are interested in renewable energy for buildings and transport applications.

Energy for Good in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire

energyforgood@nef.org.uk

www.cambridge-energy4good.org.uk

Tel: 0845 83 82 815

07/17 THE USE OF FIXED PENALTY NOTICES

The Executive Councillor for Environmental Services and the Head of Environmental Services introduced this item.

It was noted that the Council wanted to encourage responsible behaviour and educate, with fines being the last resort. The public were being asked for their views on whether the Council's priorities (litter on street and wheelie bins left on street) were correct.

Members of the public did not have any comments about the Council's priorities but raised issues to do with: 1) whether recycling boxes for plastic bottles were adequate – officers stated that the design of these had been carefully looked at but the public were encouraged to contact Streetscene 458282 with any litter caused by plastic bottle collection [the public were also entitled to a second box if they wanted] 2) where in some locations it was difficult to store bins anywhere other than on the street – the Head of Environmental Services stated that in certain areas where there were known difficulties, discussions would take place with the residents. 3) A member of the public asked about nuisance/business parking and the Enforcement Officers mentioned the Verge Parking By-Law trial on Mowbray Road/Fendon Road which was proving successful. A review and potential roll-out would be considered in the autumn.

07/18 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND LEISURE GRANTS

Councillor Nimmo-Smith asked the Grants Manager to look into city-wide funding of the Romsey Mill application for North Cambridge Music Project (NAC/CD7 priority 3) as the beneficiaries were likely to be from across the city despite the project located in the North.

Councillor Downham proposed reducing grants to Romsey Mill (priorities 1 and 2) to £2,500 and £1,500 respectively. The amendment was lost by 1 vote in favour to 5 against.

Grant
Mgr

Resolved

From 2006/07 budget:

St George's Lunch Club, Kitchen equipment	£200
Under fives roundabout playgroup, Toys and equipment	£1181

From 2007/08 budget:

18 th Cambridge Beavers, Outing to Gilwell Activity Centre	£200
AMBABYS, 4 summer holidays	£900
Directions Plus, Home visiting advice service	£2520
East Chesterton Family Fun, Summer outing	£700
Histon Action Plus Rangers, Holiday for 24 seven to elevens from Kings Hedges	£2500
Romsey Mill - Young women at risk in Kings Hedges: ten 13s to 15s. Research under 18s club provision	£3894
Romsey Mill - Manor Year 8 after school group. 10 young men. Weekly group session. Lake District residential. Sports activities. Motorbike outing	£2485
Royal British Legion: Arbury Manor branch, Summer outing	£800
St Andrew's Gardening Club Outing to Bressingham	£280
St Andrew's over 60s Club Outings to Hunstanton and local garden centre	£400
Under fives roundabout playgroup St Lukes Church Family outing	£120

07/19 NORTH AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

The Committee received an update from Sgt. Galloway on the policing priorities agreed at the last meeting. 1) Burglary - was down (there had been none reported in the last 10 days). Hot spots had been targeted. 2) Anti-Social Behaviour in East Chesterton - using Anti-Social Behaviour Contracts seemed to be working. CCTV van had been in use. Extra 150 hours of policing had been put in. Social Housing providers had been reminded to advise unruly tenants of the risk of losing the tenancy. ASB still exists and will review after next 8 weeks. 3) ASB in Molewood and Hazelwood – will be meeting with residents to see what they think of the situation. Using same strategy as in East Chesterton (although the situation is not as prevalent).

07/20 APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

10.1

Site	Leys Lodge, Union Lane
Proposal	Erection of 4 no. 2 bed flats (following demolition of existing dwelling).
Recommendation	Approve with conditions
Application No	07/0022/FUL
Applicant	Hills Pounder, 174A Hills Road
Public Speakers	Ms Benham, Mr Malyon, Mr Straw

Decision **Approve** (by 5 votes to 0)
subject to the satisfactory completion of the S106 agreement by 2 April and subject to the conditions and informatives set out in the report
Refusal Unless prior agreement has been obtained from the Head of Development Services, and the Chair and Spokesperson of this Committee to extend the period for completion of the Planning Obligation required in connection with this development, if the Obligation has not been completed by 2 April it is recommended that the application be refused for the reason set out in the report

10.2

Site 138 Victoria Road, West Chesterton
Proposal Change of use from single dwelling to two flats (incorporating existing alley way) and a raised balcony.
Recommendation Approve subject to conditions
Application No 07/0011/FUL
Applicant H K Bickerton, Chapel View West Wickham Road Horseheath
Public Speakers -

Decision **Approve** (by 7 votes to 0) with conditions as set out in the report .

10.3

Site Old Magdalene College Boathouse, Pretoria Road, West Chesterton
Proposal Erection of four-storey single dwelling
Recommendation Approve with conditions
Application No 06/1152/FUL
Applicant Dr Geoff Moggridge, Kings College
Public Speakers Dr Moggridge
Decision **Approve** (by 7 votes to 0) subject to conditions as set out in the report.

10.4

Site 4 Leys Avenue, West Chesterton
Proposal Single storey rear extension and rear/side roof extension.
Recommendation Refuse
Application No 07/0065/FUL
Applicant Miss Postgate And Mr Kelly, 4 Leys Avenue
Public Speakers Mr Kelly
Reasons for approval raised in debate A number of Councillors did not agree strongly enough with the officer in view on bulk of design of the roof extension, nor that it would be out of character with the street scene.

Decision

Approve (by 5 votes to 2) against the officer recommendation to refuse. Standards Conditions to be delegated to officers.

This development has been approved subject to conditions because subject to those requirements it is considered to generally conform to the Development Plan, particularly the following policies:

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Structure Plan 2003: P1/3.

Cambridge Local Plan 2006: 3/4 and 3/14

2 After representations had been made by both the applicant and the Planning Officer, and with knowledge of the local area, Committee took the view that the scale, bulk and massing of the roof conversion was acceptable and would not be out of context with the character of the surrounding area.

The decision has been made having had regard to all other material planning considerations, none of which was considered to have been of such significance as to justify doing other than grant planning permission.

These reasons for approval can be a summary of the reasons for grant of planning permission only. For further detail on the decision please see the officer report by visiting the Council Planning Department.

10.5**Site**

20 Jermyn Close, Arbury

Proposal

Conversion of residential property into 2 separate dwellings (2no. 2 bed houses).

Recommendation

Approve with conditions

Application No

06/1216/FUL

Applicant

Jose Cosme, 20 Jermyn Close

Public Speakers

Miss Smith

Decision

Approve (by 7 votes to 0) subject to the conditions in the report.

07/21 UPDATE RELATING TO PREVIOUS AUTHORITY GRANTED TO SERVE AN ENFORCEMENT NOTICE – 8 KING’S HEDGES ROAD

The agenda item was noted.

The meeting finished at 10.32pm

Chair