



## CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

### **South Area Committee (City Councillors representing Cherry Hinton, Queen Edith's, Trumpington Wards) 5 April 2007 7.30pm – 10.48pm Minutes & Actions**

**Present:** Councillors  
Russ McPherson, Stuart Newbold (Cherry Hinton)  
Alan Baker, Amanda Taylor (Queen Edith's)  
Andrew Blackhurst, Philippa Slatter, Sheila Stuart (Trumpington)

**Also Present:** County Councillors Christine Carter and Geoffrey Heathcock

Additional information for public: City Council officers can also be emailed [firstname.lastname@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.lastname@cambridge.gov.uk)  
The Committee Manager for Area Committee South is [gary.clift@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:gary.clift@cambridge.gov.uk)

**Action by  
(see  
action  
sheet  
attached  
also)**

Members of the City Council have individual email addresses which are listed on the City Council website:

[www.cambridge.gov.uk/councillors/members.htm](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/councillors/members.htm)

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[Firstname.lastname@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Firstname.lastname@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

#### **07/0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**9**

Apologies were received from City Councillors Dryden and Stebbings and County Councillor Kent

#### **07/1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**0**

The following personal interests were declared:

07/16 – Cllr Slatter as Honorary Life President of Directions Plus

07/16 – Cllr McPherson as Musical Director of the Cherry

Hinton Festival and Manager of the event.

## **07/1 MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING**

**1**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 February were agreed and signed by the Chair.

Matters arising:

07/04 dropped kerb in Alpha Terrace – Cllr Stuart reported that the work was due to begin in May. The Chair added that work on all the dropped kerbs and pinch points agreed by the committee under the Environmental Improvements grants would be undertaken over the course of this new financial year.

07/04 Anstey Way green and fencing – Cllr Slatter reported that there was not progress on that particular corner but that a general clean up in the area was planned.

07/04 Litter bin on corner of Bishop's Road/Hauxton Road footpath – Cllr Blackhurst reported that the cost could not be met under existing budgets and that the proposal for a bin would be on the list of Environmental Improvements coming to the next meeting of the committee.

07/04 Poor design of dropped kerbs – Cllr Slatter reported that she had pursued this with the Council's Access Officer. There was no easy answer as the standard design for dropped kerbs had major problems which it was difficult to address.

07/04 Dropped kerb in Brooklands Avenue/Hills Road – Cllr Stuart reported that this had now been installed.

## **07/1 OPEN FORUM**

**2**

1. A resident put a seven-part question about a possible Travellers' Site at East Pit:

- a) How was the East Pit site chosen as a serious choice for the whole of Cambridge?
- b) Has there been research done to see how having a

- transit traveller site next to residential houses affects the value of property and social effects also?
- c) How can it be possible to consider East Pit when it fails on the council's own criteria eg access, poor connection to road network etc?
  - d) This site is next to a Special Site of Scientific Interest – the impact from travellers in past cases has a big effect – rubbish, playing kids etc.
  - e) Issue of policing a transit site. How will this be envisaged?
  - f) This is a privately owned site (Gonville & Caius). How do the Council expect to proceed?
  - g) What cost to the tax payer?

The Chair welcomed Councillor Nimmo-Smith, Leader of the Council and responsible for such decisions, who said he understood that there was considerable concern about all the sites being considered by the Council since these had been published. The publication of the list followed a request for the information under the Freedom of Information Act. He emphasised that no site had yet been chosen. All sites had been partially evaluated in a desk-top study which had not yet been completed. He acknowledged that there were major issues with the East Pit site which needed to be addressed. The current situation was that the desk-top study was on hold until all potential sites in the city had been identified. The Council had not yet approached Gonville & Caius College. Any approach would be to rent or lease the land. There was no question of buying the site. When any approach was made, it would be with a proposal that a joint arrangement be set up to open up public access to the Site of Special Scientific Interest and to use another part of the site as a traveller site. The latter would not be left unmanaged and only travellers with an urgent need for a stopping place would be admitted. Those who used it would be known to the Council.

Cllr Nimmo-Smith said there was considerable information on the Council's website at the link below and encouraged any concerned residents to access this. He was also intending to hold a public meeting on the issue.

<http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/ccm/content/housing->

[services/travellers-sites.en](http://services/travellers-sites.en)

The Chair said that there was a long way to go before any decision was made as any site would need planning permission which in turn required public consultation.

The resident asked if there was any research that summarised the experience of other councils with regard to the impact of traveller sites on local communities. He was particularly concerned about the impact on house prices as for some people their house was their pension. He quoted from some research done by Anglia Ruskin University which seemed to indicate that there were considerable problems. He also asked what powers the police had.

Cllr Newbold acknowledged that the Council had a statutory duty to provide a site and that such a site would help to stop illegal encampments. As a ward councillor he knew that many Cherry Hinton residents were concerned especially about the whole process of how a decision would be taken. He said that a new officer was in post and that in future there would be an opportunity for a wider review of possible sites.

Cllr Nimmo-Smith undertook to contact the resident who had raised the question.

2. A resident who is a wheelchair user quoted from a 1999 leaflet "Disability Equality" which said "We will train out staff and councillors to know about disability equality issues". The resident was of the view that this training, if it had been carried out, had not been effective.

The Chair said that he had spoken to the Strategy Officer for Equalities, Sigrid Fisher, (tel: 01223 457063) who said that there was diversity training (diversity covered all minority groups) for all new members of staff provided by SCOPE. Each department with front line services to the public was responsible for providing the necessary training. The Disability Equality Scheme was currently being updated.

Cllr Slatter spoke as a councillor member of the Council's Equalities Panel which also had members of the public and employees on it. She said that both the members of the public and the employees alerted the Council to issues through this Panel.

3. A Resident: As today's theme is the Environment, may I suggest that the DEC bus, with its fuel pollutants and shoddy interior be scrapped. It should be replaced with an environmentally friendly vehicle, adding modern IT equipment with appropriate programmes to its current provision. The present DEC bus is a disgrace and only serves to make the young people using it feel like second class citizens. The dedicated Youth Worker needs our support.

Cllr  
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Cllr Stuart responded in her capacity as Executive Councillor for Community Development & Health. She said that a substantial sum had been allocated for a replacement vehicle which would be furnished with all the appropriate IT technology.

4. A resident: Private coaches were seen regularly parking for hours at a time in a lay-by close to Waitrose in Trumpington High Street and also near the Botanic Gardens.

County Cllr Heathcock agreed to follow this up with the appropriate officer at the County Council.

**07/1 ENERGY FOR GOOD – A RENEWABLE ENERGY ASSISTANCE SCHEME**  
**3**

This item had been withdrawn from the agenda for this meeting.

**07/1 THE USE OF FIXED PENALTY NOTICES**  
**4**

The Chair welcomed Cllr Colin Rosenstiel, Executive Councillor for Environmental Services and Roger Coey, Head of Environmental Services.

Roger Coey gave a short introduction highlighting that most enforcement was a last resort. The Council officers

spent considerable time on public education. Any income received from the Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) would be applied in protecting the local environment. Feedback from the public about whether they would support the use of FPNs was welcomed.

A resident showed a photograph of an unswept area near a bollard in Trumpington ward. He said it had been like this for months despite complaints. So he wondered if the council would be issuing a FPN to itself!

Roger  
Coey

Cllr Rosenstiel and Mr Coey explained that this was a task for the Streetscene section of the Council who cleaned the streets. So it was not something that was covered by the FPN legislation. They agreed to follow up with the officer concerned.

Cllr Slatter spoke as ward councillor and agreed with the resident that this issue had been unaddressed for two years. When she took it up with the Head of Streetscene, he said the problem was likely to be associated with problems of the cleansing machine reaching the affected area on a busy main road.

[Post committee note: The Head of Streetscene has informed the Committee Manager that the area has now been cleaned and was expected to be cleaned twice a year. This would be monitored.]

Cllr Taylor asked how many enforcement officers there were as she thought they might receive quite a number of phone calls because of the variety of issues covered by the legislation.

Roger Coey explained that there were two dedicated officers and he introduced Yvonne Collins who was present at the meeting. FPNs would be used as a tool when they were needed when other methods had failed.

Cllr Taylor asked what sort of evidence would be required for an FPN to be issued.

Roger Coey explained that most people usually accepted

that they had erred when observed and challenged. If the FPN was not paid, then the Council would prosecute.

A resident asked if the offence for which an FPN was issued was in any way a lesser offence than what would normally go to court.

Cllr McPherson asked how the evidence would be gathered. Could a third party report a sighting or did it have to be the Enforcement Officer who observed the incident.

Yvonne Collins explained that the evidence could be provided by any City Council Officer or the PCSOs. However, any evidence had to be able to stand up in court.

The Chair asked how income would be used to protect the environment and what was the definition of nuisance parking.

Roger Coey said that, at another area committee, residents had commented on the importance of sites for amateur cultural organisations to be able to display posters for events. So one possibility would be to provide additional notice boards for community events to help reduce the incidents of fly posting. People tended to deposit litter at local recycling centres and income could be used to instal CCTV cameras to help identify the culprits. Other uses for the income would evolve over time.

The definition of nuisance parking referred to businesses repairing or advertising vehicles for sale on the verge.

A resident asked about cars blocking rights of way and whether these would be subject to the new legislation as the police said they could not issue FPNs.

Yvonne Collins said that FPNs could only be issued for nuisance parking. Obstruction was more complicated because, depending on the nature of the offence, the appropriate authority was either the Local Parking Enforcement Officer (LAPE) for cars parked illegally on

yellow lines or the police. In the first instance it was probably advisable to contact the LAPE office at the City Council as they could liaise with the police as necessary.

Roger Coey said any incidents that related to graffiti, flyposting etc should be reported in the first instance to the Helpdesk at the Mill Road Depot on 01223 458282.

Cllr Rosenstiel thanked the public and committee for their comments and said there were information leaflets on the table by the door.

## **07/1 SOUTH AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD PROFILE AND 5 POLICING**

After a brief introduction from John Fuller, Police Community Engagement Manager, Sergeant Simon Cross explained that Inspector Martin Gregory had moved on. Sergeant Cross gave a short presentation about the results of the previous 8 weeks work on the three priorities agreed at the last meeting. The full report can be found on the Council's website at the link below:

<http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/public/councillors/agenda/2007/0405areas/07.pdf>

Sergeant Cross summarised as follows:

1. Youth anti social behaviour on Cherry Hinton High Street – Patrols had been increased and criminal damage was down by 20%. With young people who offended, their parents had been contacted and, if future incidents occurred, behavioural contracts would be set up with the young person. For flytipping incidents, the police were working closely with Streetscene.
2. Crime and anti- social behaviour in Wulfstan Way – Hulatt Road had also been included. More patrols had been introduced and the police mobile CCTV van used. Behavioural contracts would be delivered. Eleven warnings had been issued to moped riders for riding anywhere other than on the road or for driving in an anti-social manner. One warning was to a 63-year old woman. The image of the area did influence behaviour so the work with

Streetscene keeping the place clean and tidy was important. There were also plans to set up a Youth Club in the summer in conjunction with Romsey Mill.

3. Theft from vehicles in Trumpington High Street – these occurred mostly to cars of visitors to pubs and restaurants. Notices warning drivers of thefts had been put up.

The crime update showed that the level was similar to the previous 3 years. Trumpington and Queen Edith's wards had the lowest crime rate in the city. Cherry Hinton was highest of the three wards for trends in anti-social behaviour and 28 of the incidents were youth related. The most common location was outside shops and it was important to recognise that young people as well as the elderly and infirm wanted to feel safe.

The trends per ward showed that Trumpington had an increase in criminal damage which had occurred at the city centre end of the ward as well as an increase in abandoned vehicles. Parking in Cherry Hinton High Street had been highlighted at the last meeting and fourteen and a half hours of patrol by the LAPE officers had provided a high visibility deterrent. In Queen Edith's there was a high level of cycle thefts mainly from schools and at Addenbrooke's.

Sergeant Cross referred to a request made in the Open Forum that Hulatt Road be included with Wulfstan Way and agreed that it would be.

Another resident asked if there could be a more visible police presence in Bateman Street and that also was agreed.

Cllr McPherson asked what was being done to tackle the riders of mopeds on the Recreation Ground and at Cherry Hinton Hall.

Sergeant Cross said that everyone who had received a warning last year had been sent a reminding letter this year. Those that live in council properties had been told that they were putting their tenancy at risk if they did not drive their moped sensibly. As it was important to identify individuals, a joint application had been made to the

Chair

Safer City Partnership for CCTV cameras.

Members of the committee then asked the following and the police responded:

Cllr Heathcock raised the issue of damage to bus shelters in Queen Edith's and Trumpington. He suggested that liaison between the police and the City Council department responsible for replacing materials could be helpful. Answer – There is a problem of the ownership of shelters and this had been included in the analysis. He strongly suggested that people not make assumptions that damage had been reported and to report any damage they saw. While an immediate response might not be possible, investigation would be made.

Cllr Heathcock requested that the City Council's Executive Councillor for Planning & Transport address the ownership difficulties as some shelters were owned by Adshell and some by the council itself.

Cllr Slatter asked that parking issues include parking in cycle lanes and on pavements. Answer – agreed and outside schools as well.

Cllr Newbold asked whether in relation to the first recommendation, a permanent CCTV camera could be installed for Cherry Hinton High Street. Answer – Wulfstan Way would not be linked to the council monitoring system; the police would be using their own van. The hope was that permanent CCTV would not be required.

The Committee agreed the recommendations to the Neighbourhood Action Group:

- Youth ASB on Cherry Hinton High Street should remain a priority
- Crime and anti-social behaviour in Wulfstan Way area, including Hulatt Road, should remain a priority
- Vehicle crime in Trumpington had reduced and should be removed as a priority with the potential for reactive work if the problem should re-emerge.
- Parking issues across the neighbourhood including parking in cycle lanes, on pavements and outside schools should remain a priority

**07/1 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND LEISURE  
6 GRANTS**

Before awarding the grants, councillors asked the following to which the Grants Manager answered:

Cllr McPherson asked whether the Aspire Project which was part of the Romsey Mill application could be given more than the £1000 recommended. Answer – as this was an organisation that could obtain funds from other sources, recommend keeping the award at £1000.

**Resolved –**

To approve all the grants as recommended in the officer report as follows:

Cherry Hinton Festival Society - £1100

Cherry Hinton Local History Society - £120

Cherry Hinton Townswomen's Guild - £370

Directions Plus - £2100 for 150 hours work

Romsey Mill Cherry Hinton Football Project -£3858

Romsey Mill Aspire Programme - £1000

Trumpington Elderly Action - £650

**07/1 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS -  
7 UPDATE**

The Chair explained that, since the report had been published, there had been a change to the cost of the works at Coronation Street. In order to pay for the advertising of the traffic regulation orders which were required by law an additional £2000 was required making the total cost £12,000. Once the advertising was in place, public consultation would take place.

Cllr Stuart said that at the meeting of the New Town Team Time Talk on 16 May, a presentation on the works at Coronation Street would be made.

The Chair then explained that once the initial consultation had been done, the final proposal would be taken to the Cambridge Environment & Transport Area Joint Committee after which there would be a final period of consultation.

**Resolved –**

To approve the expenditure of £12,000 on traffic calming works at Coronation Street.

**07/1 APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION**

**8** Full details of the decisions, conditions of permissions and reasons for refusal may be inspected in the Environment and Planning Department, including those which the committee delegated to the Head of Development Control to draw up. These minutes should be read in conjunction with the reports on applications to the committee, where the conditions to the approved applications or reasons for refusal are set out in full and with the Amendment Sheet issued at the meeting. Any amendments to the recommendations are shown.

**1**

<b>Site</b>	2 Long Road Trumpington
<b>Proposal</b>	Erection of 3no. 5 bed houses
<b>Recommendation</b>	Approve subject to conditions
<b>Application No</b>	07/0101/REM
<b>Applicant</b>	F Soubra C/o 51 Newnham Road
<b>PSR</b>	M Bogen (objector)
<b>Reasons for refusal raised in debate</b>	Those members minded to refuse the application mentioned over-development, overshadowing, amenity space, traffic impact and adverse impact on the amenity of neighbours. They referred to Local Plan policies 3 /4; 3/7; 3/10 and 3/12.

**Decision** Refused against officer recommendation (by 5 votes to 0) for reasons to be drawn up by the Head of Development Services in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair based on the above reasons for refusal raised during debate of the application.  
In the event that an appeal is lodged against this decision to refuse this application, the committee agreed to authorise the Head of Development Services to complete a section 106 agreement on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Obligation Strategy.

**2**  
**Site** 14 Babraham Road, Queen Edith's  
**Proposal** tion of 7 No. flats (including demolition of existing dwelling house).  
**Recommendation** Approve subject to conditions  
**Application No** 06/1408/FUL  
**Applicant** Kingsland Estates Ltd, 3 Drummond Drive Stanmore  
**PSR** Mr Michael Wilkin (objector); Mr Nicholas Isaacs (for the applicant)  
**Reasons for refusal raised in debate** Those members minded to refuse the application mentioned traffic impact, that the application did not match the character of the setting, the use of garden space as car parking space leading to disturbance to neighbours from noise and fumes. They referred to policies 3 /4, 3/7, 3/10, 3/12 and 8/2.

**Decision** Refused against officer recommendation (by 4 votes to 1) for reasons to be drawn up by the Head of Development Services in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair based on the above reasons for refusal raised during debate of the application.  
In the event that an appeal is lodged against this decision to refuse this application, the Committee agreed to authorise the Head of Development Services to complete a section 106 agreement on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Obligation Strategy.

**3**  
**Site** 39 Shelford Road, Trumpington  
**Proposal** Erection of 3 dwellings following the demolition of the existing bungalow.  
**Recommendation** Approve subject to conditions  
**Application No** 06/1393/REM  
**Applicant** J. Cooper 46 Wimpole Road Great Eversden  
**PSR** None  
**Decision** **Approved** (by 5 votes to 0) as detailed in the officer report.

**4**  
**Site** Land North Of Netherhall Upper School, Queen Ediths Way  
**Proposal** Installation of 12m telegraph pole with 3 antenna in a shroud and equipment cabinet and ancillary development.  
**Recommendation** Refuse  
**Application No** 07/0191/TELDET  
**Applicant** O2, C/o Savills Wessex House Priors Walk East  
Borough Wimbourne BH12 1PB  
**PSR** Mr Rattan (objector)

**Decision**                    **Refused** (by 5 votes to 0) as detailed in the officer report

The meeting ended at 10.48pm

**Chair**