

Minutes & Actions

Councillors Present

Abbey: John Durrant, Caroline Hart, Miriam Lynn

Coleridge: Jeremy Benstead, Lewis Herbert, Tariq Sadiq

Petersfield: Ben Bradnack, Lucy Walker

Romsey: Sarah Ellis-Miller, Raj Shah

County Cllrs Martin Ballard and Alice Douglas,

Also Present: Cllr Ian Nimmo-Smith (Leader of the City Council)

07/30 Election of Chair of East Area Committee for 2007/08

Agreed that Cllr Durant be appointed Chair for the next year 2007/08

07/31 Election of Vice Chair of East Area Committee for 2007/08

Agreed that Cllr Blencowe be appointed Vice Chair for the next year 2007/08

[Members noted that Cllr Ellis-Miller had been appointed Group Spokesperson by the Liberal Democrat Members on the Committee.]

07/33 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 17 May 2007 were approved and signed as a correct record.

07/34 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- 07/15 St Matthew's Piece and Citylife Community Innovation Centre.

Members noted that the initiative now lay with the City Council on resolving the situation in terms of preserving the integrity of St Matthew's Piece. The members would continue to report on the situation as a solution emerged.

07/35 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

City Cllrs Blencowe, Harrison and Smart; County Cllrs Harrison and Sales.

07/36 Declarations of Interest

Councillor	Application	Nature of Interest
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07/37 Neighbourhood Policing Profile

Mr John Fuller introduced the first Neighbourhood Profile by the Policing Team for the East Area as part of the Constabulary's strategy for neighbourhood policing. Inspector Hutchinson reported on the statistics gathered which reflected the level of crime and disorder in the 4 wards in the East. The report contained a summary and the crime context of each ward.

Inspector Hutchinson spoke to the profile and responded to a number of questions on a wide range of topics related to policing issues. These included:

- Cycling crime and poor adherence to the traffic legislation by cyclist in Cambridge.
- Skateboarders using the roads and pavements without care for other users.
- Language students who have not received any advice training on the use of cycles.
- The benefit of the additional telephone lines for contacting the police on non-emergency issues.
- The ability of the Police to respond to the increasing demand for policing.
- The benefits from the use of CCTV and the mobile unit.
- The increased level of disorder at the Cambridge Leisure Park.
- The need to report petty acts of vandalism to cars, homes and in public areas so that the issues can be properly assessed.
- The impact of Strawberry Fair and Midsummer Fair on the community and the level of policing required to keep order.
- The extent of the expansion of the S30 areas in the city.
- The benefit of otherwise of having a DPPO in operation.
- The restriction available to impose on licensees selling to people with alcohol and addiction problems
- the police's powers to request review of alcohol licences

The Committee considered the recommendations for prioritising the crime and disorder issues which had been highlighted in the Profile and agreed the following:

1. Cycle theft in Petersfield ward.
2. Anti-social behaviour in the Council estates of Abbey ward (e.g. Ditton Fields and Thorpe Way).
3. Anti-social behaviour and crime associated with the 'street life' community in Mill Road and Brooks Road and in Romsey generally.
4. Theft and anti-social behaviour at the Cambridge Leisure Park.

07/38 Concentration of Health and Social Care Facilities in the East Area - Discussion

The Committee had invited representatives of organizations providing health and social care in the Mill Road area to speak about the current status of their service in the area and likely developments.

Vicky Crompton the County DAAT Co-ordinator

Mike Bell - Manager of Mill House/Pharmacy

David Greening - City Council Single Homeless and Rough Sleeper Co-ordinator

Alastair Roberts – City Council

Each of the above spoke to issues which affected their services and referred to a public meeting held on 21 June which had covered much the same ground and had been convened to try to resolve the issues raised in Romsey and neighbouring wards. Notes from that meeting had been circulated and made publicly available and are appended for information.

Residents present asked the questions or commented as follows, to which the representative responded at the meeting:

- Had an alternative location been found from which to provide services to the client group being addressed?
- What proportion of the client group were suffering mental health issues?
- Residents were concerned to see young people, especially young girls, sometimes with their children, involved with or part of the people receiving these services. What was being done to address those issues?
- When the PCT took resources away from that area of health provision, the people affected were left to their own resources, as individuals the public felt powerless to help.
- Because there was no alternative provision, Streetlife people tended to congregate on existing play areas, or public places and were then being pushed out from them.
- The contract for the drug treatment service was soon to be retendered in 2008, the County Council, on which the responsibility for the service rested, should be encouraged to take into account how the service should be monitored, and how it could be dispersed more equitably throughout the city.
- Previous commitments to disperse the services more widely had yet to be carried out, the concentration of services into the Mill Road area was detrimental to the area, and there was increasing concern over the effect on residents especially the young people and children in the area.
- Would there be any improvement if the opening times of the pharmacy were staggered so that there were fewer people attending at a given time.
- How could the problem of carelessly discarded needles be addressed, this appeared to be one of the more dangerous manifestations of the Streetlife issue?
- Why were the numbers of people attracted to this type of life on the increase and why were they attracted to this area of Cambridge?

- The problem was having a detrimental effect on the commercial life of the Mill Road area, this in turn lead to a loss of available services to residents.
- Was a new location for a wet centre likely to be identified?
- The issue of street drinking and anti social behaviour was to be covered in a report to the City Council's Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee and the Leader in September. Some of the problems raised this evening would be addressed then.

The Chair thanked the representatives of the organizations for their participation and said that the Committee would inevitably revisit some of the issues raised and hoped that the representatives would be able to return and report on progress.

Cllr Bradnack proposed that the following resolution be made by the Committee to the County Council:

The East Area Committee requests Cambridgeshire County Council to ensure that, in the new service specification for drug treatment due in 2008 on which the County Council is the lead authority, a commitment is required to measurable dispersal of medical and pharmacy provision across the area for which the service is responsible.

Agreed that

- 1 That Cllr Bradnack's proposal be approved and communicated to the relevant County Council authority.
- 2 Cllr Nimmo-Smith's comments on the provision of a wet centre by the City Council be noted.

07/39 Open Forum

Q1 The Vacant Wilko's Shop was rumored to have been taken over by Tesco's. Did members have any information?

A No information was available on this. If the rumor proved to be correct, it would not be a planning issue as there would not be a change of use,

Q2 Additional signs, lack of yellow line restricting parking.

A Some of the signs erected were the City Council's responsibility, the yellow lines remain the responsibility of the County Council, the issue would have to be raised at County Council level.

Q3 When were the traffic lights going to be erected outside Romsey School in Coleridge Road?

A Cllr Herbert said that the work was on the County Council's list for completion.

Q4 In the past a request for a crossing from Vinery Road to the Recreation ground was made. What is the current state of this issue? Is it still being

considered?

A This was also believed to be on the County Council list of works to be completed.

Q5 Any there any plans in place to provide facilities for teenagers in Romsey?

A The East Area Committee was to consider provision of facilities for young people as one of its 'Themes' at a forthcoming meeting. Residents would be advised of which meeting this would be.

07/40 Applications for Planning Permission

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.

At the beginning of this item some Members said that they would not be taking part in the determination of planning applications as it would inhibit their ability to represent residents in their ward. They felt that they lacked expertise in planning matters and that the members of the Planning Committee had acquired such expertise and was the proper body to consider applications.

Cllrs Durrant (Chair), Ellis-Miller, Hart, Herbert, Shah and Walker remained at the meeting to determine the following planning applications.

10.1

Application No	07/0393/FUL
Site	57 Cherry Hinton Road
Proposal	Conversion of existing dwelling into HMO including single storey rear extension.
Recommendation	Approve, subject to conditions
Applicant	Whitfield Associates
Public Speakers	Cllr Benstead (Ward Cllr)
Note	Cllr Herbert was not present for the discussion, having declared an interest.
Debate	Those members minded to refuse the application said that that the application, if approved, would lead to intensification of use of the property, would have a negative impact on the neighbourhood, and cause a loss of amenity in the wider area, and increase noise and disturbance to neighbours. It was felt that insufficient weight had been given to the arguments against approval.
Decision	Refused against officer recommendation , by 4 votes to 0, for the reasons discussed and referred to above.

10.2

Application No	07/0333/FUL
Site	19 Devonshire Road
Proposal	Part retrospective application for a bedsitting room at roof level (rear dormer).
Recommendation	Approve, subject to conditions
Applicant	S Lloyd-Beavis
Public Speakers	Mr Reeve (for applicant)
Decision	Approved , by 6 votes to 0, subject to the conditions set out in the report.

10.3

Application No	07/0402/FUL
Site	149 Thoday Street
Proposal	Erection of one 2-bed semi-detached dwelling to side of 149 Thoday Street
Recommendation	Approve subject to conditions and completion of a unilateral undertaking by 26 August 2007
Applicant	Mr. And Mrs. Woodhead
Public Speakers	-
Decision	Approved , by 6 votes to 0, subject to the conditions and informatives set out in the report and to the satisfactory completion of the unilateral undertaking by 26 August 2007.

10.4

Application No 07/0553/FUL
Site Garages to the rear of 90, 92, and 94 Perne Road
Proposal Erection of a private bungalow.
Recommendation Approve subject to conditions and completion of a completion of the s106 agreement
Applicant Mr. And Mrs. F. Smith
Public Speakers -
WITHDRAWN by the applicant before the meeting

10.5

Application No 07/0470/FUL
Site 54 Whitehill Road
Proposal Division of the house (including Annex) to two residential units
Recommendation Refuse planning permission
Applicant H Fani
Public Speakers Mrs H Fani
Debate Those members minded not to refuse the application said that the reasons given for recommending refusal of the application were insufficient to do so.
Decision **Approved, against officers' recommendation**, by 4 votes to 1, subject to conditions to be drawn up by the Head of Development Services and agreed by the Chair and Spokesperson of East Area Committee

07/41 Outside Bodies

It was noted that the Labour Group had requested an item on Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee to review the Appointments to Outside Bodies. Accordingly the existing appointments should stand until the review took place: the following appointments to Outside Bodies had been delegated to this Committee,

- by the Executive Councillor for Climate Change and Growth:
Cambridge Airport Consultative Committee (1): Cllr Shah
- by the Executive Councillor for Community Development & Health:
East Barnwell Community Centre (1): Cllr Lynn

The meeting finished at 11.25pm

CHAIR