

Minutes & Actions

Councillors Present:

Abbey: Caroline Hart, Miriam Lynn, Margaret Wright

Coleridge: Jeremy Benstead, Lewis Herbert, Chris Howell

Petersfield: Kevin Blencowe, Lucy Walker

Romsey: Sarah Ellis-Miller, Raj Shah for minute numbers 08/42-08/44, Catherine Smart

County Councillors: Paul Sales (Abbey), Martin Ballard (Coleridge), Kilian Bourke (Romsey)

Cllr Blencowe as current Vice Chair in the Chair.

He welcomed County Cllr Bourke and City Councillors Howell and Wright to their first meeting of the area committee.

08/36 Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2008/09

Chair

Cllr Herbert proposed and Cllr Walker seconded the nomination of Cllr Bradnack as Chair. As there were no other nominations,

Resolved that Cllr Bradnack be Chair of East Area Committee for the ensuing year.

Vice Chair

Cllr Walker proposed and Cllr Lynn seconded the nomination of Cllr Hart as Vice Chair. Cllr Ellis-Miller proposed herself seconded by Cllr Smart for the nomination as Vice Chair.

On a show of hands, 5 votes were cast for Cllr Hart and 4 for Cllr Ellis-Miller. It was therefore:

Resolved that Cllr Hart be appointed Vice Chair of East Area Committee for the ensuing year.

08/37 Minutes

Cllr Smart asked for a correction to be made to the minutes of the meeting of 17 April on page 5. The amended minute reads as follows (corrections in strikethrough and bold):

Cllr Smart said **that the County Council officers had said** that all the options ~~for this at this site~~ had been considered and **that** the result was the best available. The County Council had been asked to explain more fully what had been done.

The Minutes of the meetings on 6 March 2008 and 17 April as amended were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

08/38 Matters Arising from Previous Meetings

- **Minute 08/30: Brunswick Site Traffic Access**

As requested by the Area Committee, the consultation relating to the Riverside / Abbey Road Conflict Reduction Scheme has been brought forward.

The consultation documentation has been distributed to local residents and road users and a considerable number of completed questionnaires have already been received and collated. The closing date for responses is 23rd June 2008.

It is proposed to report the results of the consultation to the Cambridge Environment and Traffic Management Area Joint Committee on 14th July 2008.

- **Minute 08/20: Licensing Consultation on Cumulative Impact Zone - Mill Road**

Cllr Smart reported that the Full Council had resolved to approve the Statement of Licensing Policy with the following revisions:

To adopt the entire length of Mill Road (excluding Brookfields) as a third area within the special policy on Cumulative Impact within the statement on licensing policy.

Minute 08/33: Timing of the lights at River Lane/Newmarket Road/Coldhams Lane

Minute 08/34 City Centre Management & Tourism

Agreed that the Executive Councillor for Customer Services & Resources be asked to carry out a feasibility study for the refurbishment of the Market Square.

Response from the Executive Councillor for Customer Services & Resources:

I agree that consideration should be given to the enhancement of the Market Square area. However, I believe it would be premature to do this before the long term arrangements for Tourism & City Centre Management have been agreed and implemented. A report on the management arrangements is due to be considered at the Special Meeting of the Strategy & Resources Committee on 16 June 2008 and it is proposed that a new partnership will be set up for the next financial year when it would be appropriate to review the timetable for any feasibility work on the Market Square.

08/39 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from City Councillors Bradnack and Shah (for lateness).

08/40 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hart declared a personal interest in minute number 08/43 with reference to the grant for Abbey Parent Forum as she was a governor. She took no part in the discussion and did not vote on the item.

08/41 Open Forum

A resident from Norfolk Street expressed dismay at the decision of the city council to grant a licence for the sale of alcohol to another retail outlet in Norfolk Street. She had objected to the application and wished the committee to note that she was speaking on behalf of parents with young children at St Matthew's School whose children have to see the effects of alcohol misuse in the area. She asked whether Norfolk Street could be included in future in the Cumulative Impact Zone.

A business woman with premises in Norfolk Street gave an example of an incident where 4 teenage girls had distracted a member of staff while 4 teenage boys moved the security camera and stole items from the shop. She was concerned that this happened at 3pm on a Monday and that the boys knew about the security system in the shop.

Cllr Blencowe said that he and Cllr Walker as Petersfield councillors were aware of these incidents and were working with the police and other agencies to address them. He asked the police to provide feedback when they have found the culprits.

Members clarified that there are now 3 Cumulative Impact Zones in the city (Mill Road, City Centre and Leisure Park) and that any new applications for licences to sell alcohol or food have to demonstrate that they will not be adding to the problems of anti social behaviour in the area. However, the Cumulative Impact Zone can only be considered if it is specifically mentioned in objections to any particular application and residents were encouraged to bear this in mind when registering objections. Premises that already have a licence can be reviewed if they are not abiding by the law and the licensing objectives that apply to them.

A resident from Romsey expressed concern about the lack of visible adult presence after events at the Junction. He had picked up children from an event and seen incidents from other youngsters particularly in Clifton Road. He said that there was no obvious presence of adults in fluorescent jackets to

provide some deterrent. There seemed to be a lack of clarity about whether security was the responsibility of the Junction of the Leisure Park.

Sergeant Cross reported that the Leisure Park had been a focus of attention with all the organisations involved working closely together. Staff of both the Leisure Park and the Junction now wore fluorescent jackets. He acknowledged that there were problems after 12.30am when some events at the Junction finished. Majority of incidents took place in Clifton Road and action was required by the owners of the premises there. However, crime rates were considerably reduced eg violent crime in that area was down by 85%.

The same resident noted there was a reduction in the numbers of street drinkers on the Romsey side of Mill Road and he wondered if this were due to the change in the agency dealing with those with alcohol and drug problems.

Cllr Sales commented that this was pleasing news but that the drinkers were now congregating in Burnside and the park on Brooks Road.

Sergeant Cross confirmed that the new agency called Addaction had taken over on 1 May and that they had different policies about how drugs were prescribed. Rather than these being provided at one location (Mill House) as before, they were now available at pharmacies throughout the city.

The resident noted that young people buying alcohol in the Co-op were asked for ID to prove their age and that there was a notice in the shop warning explaining the procedure. He wondered if this applied to all retail outlets and not just to supermarkets.

He was assured that any premises selling alcohol had to abide by the law and the licensing objectives.

The Secretary of Romsey Action said they understood a sum of money had been allocated for the refurbishment of the recreation ground. Would there be public consultation and what was the timescale for this project?

Cllr Ellis-Miller said there would be public consultation with local residents, with local schools and other stakeholders. To avoid doing this in the school holidays it was likely that the consultation would be in the early autumn. It was important to find out what young people and residents wanted. Nevertheless some small improvements could be made gradually and the whole was likely to be completed within twelve months.

Cllr Sales asked that his concerns about cars speeding on roads that led off Newmarket Road be noted. He specifically mentioned Keynes Road, Wadloes Road and Dudley Road and said this had been reported to the police who had failed to take action. He asked the police to ensure that this

was dealt with.

08/42 **East Area – Safer Neighbourhoods**

Sergeant Cross updated the meeting on the outcome of the actions to address the three priorities agreed at the February meeting:

Anti Social behaviour in Thorpe Way/Jack Warren Green area of Abbey Ward

Drugs – 6 warrants had been issued including the closure of one cannabis factory; class A drugs and cash had been confiscated. The police were working closely with Katie Wood from City Homes South and were building relationships with residents who were now reporting incidents to both the police and the council.

13 young people had been identified as ringleaders and 11 had received letters giving strict warnings on the risk to their council house tenancy if the behaviour continued. Two young people agreed to anti social behaviour contracts to help address the problem.

A key initiative had been Abbey Action Clean Up Day where volunteers had collected rubbish and put it in a skip. This plus the new re-cycling facilities in the area had made a difference to the appearance of the area which residents valued.

A youth worker would engage with the young people over the summer providing activities.

ASB involving young people on the green spaces across the area

Sergeant Cross acknowledged that Vinery Road recreation ground was still problematic but that Coleridge Road Recreation ground had improved.

Officers concentrated on Saturdays and Sundays.

The Community Alcohol Project to be implemented in July would also help. Ravensworth Gardens had particular problems because of its location close to the City Centre and to the rail station. On Friday and Saturday nights the special constables targeted the area to address problems.

Vehicle crime particularly in Tenison Road, Glisson Road and Lyndewode Road area

The special constables were also patrolling this area. They had also met with the residents to try and identify preventative and deterrent measures. It had been agreed that CCTV would be too intrusive.

Sergeant Cross responded to the requests about traffic issues. Speeding had been referred to the central unit and there were 26 roads on the list. There were also issues about one way streets for vehicular traffic which now had cycling both ways and drivers not obeying or not understanding the new sign for no entry for vehicles. The police were in discussion with the County Council about this.

Members asked questions of clarification and acknowledged the good work being done. Particular issues raised and the police responses were:

- Concerns about vulnerable groups such as the children of parents with

alcohol/drug problems.

Police: Working with the other agencies and developing a good relationship with Granta Housing were essential as were activities for children in the summer. Two PCSOs and a PC had good relationships with the residents.

- Concerns about whether the problems experienced at last year's Strawberry Fair would be addressed this year. The event was to happen at the coming weekend.

Police: There would be 200 police on duty. The police were carrying out a survey via e-cops to assess the impact on residents of the Fair and the effectiveness of the police.

Several members wanted to include the speeding of cars on the streets off Mill Road as a fourth priority. Cllr Howell spoke strongly in favour of this. Other members were concerned that the other three priorities which were crucial might not be properly addressed.

Sergeant Cross spoke about a new initiative in Ely where local residents were being issued with speed guns and reporting the car numbers of speeding cars to the police.

Several members supported the proposal to defer dealing with the speeding issue until the next time the police came to committee when the outcome of the Ely experiment would be reported.

Cllr Herbert proposed that the third priority include actions to identify where the teenagers were obtaining the alcohol from and this was agreed.

The Committee agreed (by 9 votes to 2) to the recommendations as printed in the agenda with the third amended as proposed by Cllr Herbert.

08/43 Community Development and Leisure Grants 2008-09

New members asked questions of clarification about the process of deciding on grant amounts in relation to the amounts requested, how groups eligible for grants were identified and the criteria for grants.

Cllr Lynn referred to the different rates of take up of grant money across the area committees and asked that the criteria for allocation be reconsidered.

Agreed that this matter be referred to the Executive Councillors for Community Development & Health and for Arts & Recreation and to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee for further scrutiny.

Cllr Blencowe in the Chair (as Cllr Hart had declared a personal interest and said she would not take part in the discussion or vote on the Abbey Parent Forum item)

In reply to questions from councillors, the Grants Officer confirmed that any grants for educational activities should be directed to the County Council. So equipment for children's centres would be classed as educational.

Cllr Smart proposed that the recommendations be accepted as printed except for Abbey Parent Forum and that if there were any funds left at the end of the year that the Forum could be reconsidered.

After discussion, Cllr Blencowe in the Chair summed up the feeling of the meeting which was to agree all the grants as printed in the agenda except for Abbey Parent Forum. This should be brought back for consideration only if the criteria for awarding grants were changed such that the application became eligible.

Councillor Hart in the Chair.

08/44 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 that 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			
Application No	08/0568/FUL	Agenda Item	9.1
Date Received	18 April 2008	Case Officer	Tony Collins
Target Date	13 June 2008		
Ward	Petersfield		
Site	2 Tenison Road, Cambridge CB1 2DW		
Proposal	Retrospective application for temporary change of use to additional assembly area for worship		
Applicant	1 Mawson Road Cambridge CB1 2DZ		
Recommendation	Approve with conditions		
Public Speakers	None		
Decision	Approved (by 7 votes to 0) as agenda.		

2			
Application No	08/0348/FUL	Agenda Item	9.2
Date Received	11 March 2008	Officer	Tony Collins
Target Date	6 May 2008		
Ward	Romsey		

Site 31 Brookfields, Cambridge CB1 3NW
Proposal Conversion and refurbishment of the existing building to create 9no 1bed and studio residential units.
Applicant MPM Properties (MK) Ltd c/o Justin Bainton York House Dukes Court 54-62 Newmarket Road Cambridge CB5 8DZ
Recommendation Approve with conditions
Public Speakers None
Decision **APPROVED** (by 6 votes to 0) as agenda but with an additional informative to read:
INFORMATIVE: In the light of the limited car parking provision made on site, the applicant is asked to ensure that prospective occupiers, purchasers or tenants, are made aware of the Car Club functioning in the City, which extends into Romsey Ward.

3

Application No	08/0296/FUL	Agenda Item	9.3
Date Received	4 February 2008	Officer	Andrew Thompson
Target Date	31 March 2008		
Ward	Abbey		
Site	698 Newmarket Road, Cambridge, CB5 8RS		
Proposal	Erection of 2 3-bed semi-detached houses.		
Applicant	Heddon Management Ltd c/o Agent York House Dukes Court 54-62 Newmarket Road Cambridge CB5 8DZ		
Recommendation	Approve subject to conditions		
Public Speakers	None		
Decision	Approved (by 7 votes to 0) as agenda.		

CHAIR