

**North Area Committee
Minutes & Actions**

Thursday 14 August 2008
6.30pm – 9.45pm.

City Councillors Present:

Arbury: Mike Todd-Jones, Alan Levy and Tim Ward

King's Hedges: Mike Pitt, Neil McGovern

East Chesterton: Clare Blair

West Chesterton: Diane Armstrong, Max Boyce and Ian Nimmo-Smith

County Councillors Present:

Rupert Moss-Eccardt (**Arbury**), Kevin Wilkins (**West Chesterton**) Elizabeth Hughes (**King's Hedges**)

Action by

08/34 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from City Councillors McGovern, Blair and Holness.

08/35 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Ward declared a personal interest in minute number 08/42 as a Conservator of the River Cam.

08/36 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.

1

Site Proposal	29 Chesterton Road, Cambridge Erection of two 1-bed apartments on land to the rear of 29 Chesterton Road.
Recommendation	APPROVE subject to the satisfactory completion of the

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Application No	s106 agreement by 14 September 2008 and subject to conditions detailed in report
Applicant	07/1422/FUL Mr A Marino 19 Rutherford Road Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB2 8HH
Public Speakers	
Decision	APPROVED (8-0) as Agenda
2	
Site	83 Hertford Street
Proposal	Erection of single dwelling including integral garage.
Officer	APPROVE subject to the satisfactory completion of the S106 agreement by 30 September 2008 and subject to conditions detailed in report
Recommendation	<u>To Note:</u> The applicant has now submitted a completed S106 unilateral undertaking (see paragraph 8.22 of the committee report), which has been passed to the Council's Legal Officers for checking and engrossment.
Application No	08/0054/FUL
Applicant	Caroline Fisher 83 Hertford Street Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB4 3AF
Public Speaker	Jim Ross (Agent of Applicant)
Decision	APPROVED (8-0) with the addition of the following informative INFORMATIVE: The applicant is advised that in the event that any of the current on-street parking prohibition in the western part of St Luke's Street is removed by the highway authority, and replaced by residents-only parking, the City Council will not support any request for the re-imposition of parking prohibition in order to facilitate manoeuvring into or out of this garage.
3	
Site	Rear of 67 Elizabeth Way
Proposal	Provision of two mews style two storey apartments, parking, bin and bike stores. <u>To Note:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amended plans have been obtained which omit the rear wall enclosing the bin storage area. This allows the building to be moved back from Sandy Lane by some 0.7m, which will reduce its prominence within the street scene. This minor alteration will also allow for a small area of hard

Draft until 9 October 2008

landscaping to the front of the building, which will provide an improved interface between the building and Sandy Lane.

- The applicant has now submitted a completed S106 unilateral undertaking (see paragraph 8.22 of the committee report), which has been passed to the Council's Legal Officers for checking and engrossment.
- Full comments have now been received from the Council's Environmental Health team, who suggest the imposition of the following additional conditions below.

**Officer
Recommendation**

APPROVE subject to the satisfactory completion of the S106 agreement by 22 August 2008 and subject to conditions

New Condition: In the event of the foundations for the proposed development requiring piling, prior to the development taking place, the applicant shall provide the local planning authority with a method statement for approval detailing the type of piling and the mitigation measures to be taken to protect local residents from noise and vibration. Potential noise and vibration levels at the nearest noise sensitive locations shall be predicted in accordance with the provisions of BS 5228 – Part 4 “CO for noise and vibration control applicable to piling operations”. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To protect the amenity of the occupants of nearby dwellings (Policy 4/13 of the Cambridge Local Plan 2006)

New Condition: Prior to the commencement of development, full details of the on-site storage facilities for waste including waste for recycling shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. Such details shall identify the specific positions of where wheelie bins, recycling boxes or any other means of storage will be stationed

Draft until 9 October 2008

and the arrangements for the disposal of waste. The approved facilities shall be provided prior to the commencement of the use hereby permitted and shall be retained thereafter unless alternative arrangements are agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: To protect the amenities of nearby residents/occupiers and in the interests of visual amenity. (East of England Plan ENV7 and Cambridge Local Plan 2006 policy 3/4)

New Condition: The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the approved plans received on 1 July 2008 and 6 August 2008, numbered 23301 PA 100A, 23301 PA 201, 23301 PA 200A and 23301 PA 001A.

Reason: In order that the development be carried out in accordance with adopted policy, Cambridge Local Plan 2006.

Application No
Applicant

08/0915/FUL

Sandy Lane Developments

C/O Agent Camal Architects LLP 25 Cambridge Place,
Cambridge CB2 1NS

Decision

APPROVED (8-0) subject to the additional conditions included on the amendment sheet.

08/37 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting on 18 June 2008 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

08/38 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

08/28 (also 08/14 and 08/19) Tesco Deliveries

Cllr Blair has arranged for a representative of Tesco's to address this meeting. The Chair thanked Cllr Blair in her absence for arranging this.

08/28 St Kilda Dropped Kerbs

Cllr Pitt has looked into this issue and is satisfied that no further action is needed.

08/28 Pye Recreation Ground feasibility study

Due to the holiday period and Cllr Blair's absence, this will be Cllr Blair

carried forward to the next meeting.

08/31 Changes to Number 4 Bus Stop

Due to pressures of time Cllr Nimmo-Smith has not been able to look into this issue.

Cllr Nimmo-Smith

08/31 Size and Frequency of Tesco Deliveries

Cllr Nimmo-Smith has had discussions with Cllr Reid and the County Council over this issue. The speaker from Tesco's will give an update on progress over this issue later.

08/39 SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

Paul Griffin, Community Safety Strategy Officer, introduced this item. He outlined two current pieces of joint working across agencies. The first is to evaluate the effectiveness of this item on the agenda. He distributed an evaluation form and asked for feedback on how useful the Safer Neighbourhoods item is felt to be. A show of hands showed support for the item.

The second item is the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment document. Cards were distributed giving a link to a website survey:

www.snapsurveys.com/communitysafetysurvey.

All completed surveys will be entered into a £50 prize draw.

Jon Hutchinson, Neighbourhood Policing Inspector, gave an update on progress on the priorities agreed in April.

- Reducing Drug Dealing in the vicinity of schools and increasing drug awareness with young people

A lot of work has been done and a number of drug raids have produced results reducing the availability of drugs in the area. Diversionary tactics have been used successfully with young people on the periphery of the drugs culture. Work has been done in schools and Jimmy Quinn of Cambridge United has helped raise drugs awareness.

- Tackling ASB in the Molewood Close and Hazlewood Close area, also considering environmental factors such as fly-tipping

Joint working has produced results in this area and a Street Forum and Clean up has been arranged for the 11th September 2008.

- Reducing offending by young people and reducing victimisation of young people in green and open spaces

Summer problems such as attacks on foreign students and drinking in open spaces, have not been as big an issues this year as previous years in the North of the City. However, there have been some problems in the south of the City involving young people who live in the North. This is thought to be due to the willingness of some shops in the Mill Road area to sell alcohol without challenging young people about their age. Some parents have also been fined for giving their underage offspring alcohol.

Inspector Hutchinson then gave an update on the current crime and incident levels in the area as detailed in his report. He then invited questions.

Question 1. Where is the police presence on the streets?

A. There has been a reduction in the viable presence due to shortage of officers. Additional staff have been recruited and visible patrols will increase over the next few weeks. Cycle patrols will be introduced and Smartwater expanded. Smartwater is a crime prevention tool that marks property with a unique code that is visible under ultra violet lighting. Funding has been secured from the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership to provide 900 homes in the North of the City with this free of charge.

Question 2. Can something be done about cars and bicycles failing to stop at pedestrian crossing in particular, Mitcham's Corner?

A. Beat officers will be asked to have a look at this area.

Question 3. Residents have lost confidence in policing, as there is no presence in the area and have expressed concern at the response times in the evenings.

A. Although there has been a decrease in visible policing, plain clothed officers have been operating in the area and have made recent arrests. Response times have remained consistent.

Question 4. PACE guidelines on Stop and Account procedures are being overridden without prior discussion or due process. How can the public have faith in the police if they do not follow their own rules? This is also bad for Public Relations.

A. This issue has not been handled as efficiently as it might have been. Cambridge decided to abandon the Stop and Account forms for a trial period, as they are time consuming and take officers away from their real work. The trial was seen as a success and the forms are no longer regularly completed. However, while the rationale was felt to be correct, the process has not been handled as professionally as it might have been. The trial was unofficial. An official trial is being carried out in the Metropolitan area and Cambridge's experiences will be fed into their report.

County Cllr Wilkins asked what authorisation had been given for the change in procedures. Cllr Todd-Jones asked for clarification on the current situation is and what the policy is for the future?

Currently, minimal details are recorded in the Officer's notebook. There is no legal requirement to give your name if stopped. In future a system of Airway and Receipt might be introduced. Those stopped would be given a receipt and the Officer would radio in details brief details to control. No decision has been reached to-date.

Agreed Priorities

The following were agreed (8 to 0) as priorities for the next four months:

- Arbury Court to be adopted as a hot spot. Particular focus on tackling anti-social behaviour connected with underage drinkers and older street drinkers.
- Anti-social behaviour in East Chesterton, focussing on the High St and Green End Rd.
- Cycle crime across the Neighbourhood, which is expected to increase significantly in the forthcoming period. The increase is cyclical and due to returning students and the start of the school year.

08/40 TESCO AREA MANAGER – KATHY ABBESS

Draft until 9 October 2008

Kathy Abbess introduced herself. She began by saying that she accepts that in some area stores are not a good neighbour and outlined Tesco's commitment to improving relationships with local communities.

Tesco have launched 5 community promises to in stores:

- 1) Actively support local communities
- 2) Buying and selling our products responsibly
- 3) Caring for the environment
- 4) Giving customers healthy choices
- 5) Good jobs for local people

The size and number of deliveries in the Chesterton area has been an on-going problem. Kathy has arranged for a number of deliveries to be combined and from September there should be 11 less deliveries in the Chesterton area.

A trial is currently taking place in Harlow and if successful it could be rolled out across the region. This would result in a further reduction of 14 deliveries a week in the Chesterton area.

Tesco Express Store managers are being encouraged to listen to and engage with local communities and staff are being trained to be aware of the need to be a good neighbour. In future they will be more aware of noise, rubbish and recycling. A Community Day is being arranged to refurbish the Wyn Williams Gardens at Chesterton Community College and ideas for further community projects would be welcomed.

Question 1. Why are prices at Tesco Express higher than larger Tesco stores?

A. Staples (Bread, Milk and so on) are the same as larger stores but other items carry a premium cost to reflect the higher operating costs of smaller outlets.

Question 2. The expansion of Chesterton High Street Store resulted in the lose of the storage yard. Boxes and crates are now a hazard. Can this be addressed?

A. In the short term staff have been told to be tidy and considerate. Tesco are working with other traders and neighbours to find a long term solution.

Question 4. Histon Parish Council (PC) has similar issues. Will Tesco meet with them?

A. Kathy was happy to pass on her contact details and will arrange for the store manager to make contact with the PC.

Question 4. Would the store manage be willing to attend

Draft until 9 October 2008

An Anti Social Behaviour meeting being held in the area?

A. Yes and Ms Abbess will do her best to also attend

Question 5. Litter in the Campkin Road area is a problem. Can packaging be reduced to limit the problem?

A. Tesco's are encouraging customers to reuse bags.

However, this comment will be feed back to the store manager along with a request to increase litter picking in the area.

Question 6. Could Tesco's provide a drop off point for disposal of used batteries and low energy light bulbs?

A. This should be possible and Ms Abbess will look into this.

Question 7. While the reduction in delivery lorries would be very welcome it raises the question about previous deliveries. Were the lorries half empty?

A. No. The reduction will be made possible by changing the delivery patterns.

Question 8. Can this style of deliveries be rolled out across the region / Country?

A. It already happens in London and if successful and popular could be taken up by other areas.

The Chair thanked Ms Abbess for coming and invited her back later in the year to discuss progress. Ms abbess said she would be happy to return and welcomed the chance to improve relationships with the communities Tesco serves.

08/41 OPEN FORUM

Question 1. What can be done about overgrown hedges obstructing public footpaths?

A. The City Rangers are able to help with this problem and will ask residents to cut hedges back. Rangers are able to help with this if the residents are elderly or disabled and unable to do the work themselves. The City Council could be subject to a legal challenge if they carry out the work without permission.

Question 2. Can refuse collectors be given guidance as litter and recycling is often left in the streets on collections days.

A. Recycling boxes currently have no lids and items blow about. Nets to fit over the boxes are being tried out in some area. If there are problems with collections these can be reported via the web link or by telephone to the Customer Service Centre. If the problem is not resolved in this way, your local Councillor will be able to help.

08/42 UPDATE ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR NORTH AREA

The Principal Landscape Architect introduced the report and outlined progress made so far as detailed in the report. Staff shortages have caused some delays and this situation is likely to continue for the next few months. Therefore, the committee is asked to prioritise some projects. Some project still need a Champion.

The Committee then considered the recommendations in the officer's report.

Penny Ferry and Haling Way The Committee were asked to approve an updated project cost of £45,500 for work that will include improvements to drainage, resurfacing the car park and footpaths, more robust planting area and new seating and litter bins.

Agreed (8-0)

East Chesterton Residents Association asked to see the plans

Dinah Foley-
Norman

for Haling Way. This will be sent to them.

Milton Road/Ramsden Square Junction verge damage

The officer asked the Committee to approved the work with an estimated cost of under £1,800.

Agreed (8-0)

Environmental Improvement Projects, their priority and Project Lead Councillor

Recommendation 1: Officers recommend that the committee accept the EI programme of implementation as shown in the Appendix to the end of November 2008.

Agreed (8-0)

Recommendation 2: Officers recommend that the Committee reviews their list of approved schemes.

Agreed (8-0)

Cllr. Levy had confirmed at the start of the item that Cllr. Blair was of the opinion that Chesterton High Street EI scheme should not be pursued at this stage.

The following were agreed as immediate priorities:

- Verge overrun, Milton Road/Ramsden
- Square The Ship Pub Car Park recycling area
- Shrub Island, Campkin Road
- Pavement Bollards, Trafalgar Street/Victoria Avenue

The Hawkins Road and Downham Lane Fencing will be deferred due to other work being carried out in the area, which may potentially damage the new fencing.

Further priorities will be agreed at a later date when the above schemes are nearing completion.

Recommendation 3: Officers recommend that the Committee consider Project Lead Councillors for schemes not already having them.

Agreed (8-0)

Draft until 9 October 2008
Lead Councillor

Project

Verge Overrun, Milton Road/Ramsden Square	Cllr Pitt
Hawkins Road and Downham's Lane Fencing	Cllr Upstone
Milton Road, (Mitcham's Corner) Shop Frontage	Cllr Boyce
Pavement Bollards Trafalgar Street/Victoria Ave	Cllr Nimmo-Smith
Footpath next to St Laurence's School	Cllr Pitt
Windsor Road/Histon Road shop frontages	Cllr Ward

A member of the public questioned how the committee could agree the additional spend on Penny Ferry without seeing the plans. The Committee responded that this is not a major change and will achieve a better result. Therefore, they are happy to approve as recommended by the officer.

The meeting finished at 9.45pm

Chair