

**North Area Committee**

**Minutes**

At Manor Community College

**2 July 2009**

6.30pm – 9.35pm

**THOSE PRESENT FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION**

**City Cllrs** : Armstrong, Blair, Boyce, Liddle, McGovern, Nimmo-Smith, Pitt, Upstone and Ward

**THOSE PRESENT FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING**

**City Cllrs** : Armstrong, Blair, Boyce, Kerr, Liddle, McGovern, Nimmo-Smith, Pitt, Mike Todd-Jones, Upstone and Ward

County Cllrs: Pellew

**09/32 ELECTION OF CHAIR**

Cllr Nimmo-Smith proposed and Cllr Ward seconded the nomination of Cllr Armstrong as Chair.

Cllr Todd-Jones proposed and Cllr Pitt seconded the nomination of Cllr Todd-Jones as Chair. On a show of hands it was

**Resolved** (by 9 votes to 1) that Cllr Armstrong be Chair of North Area Committee for the ensuing year.

**09/33 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

Cllr Armstrong proposed and Cllr Blair seconded the nomination of Cllr McGovern as Vice Chair.

Cllr Todd-Jones proposed and Cllr Upstone seconded the nomination of Cllr Todd-Jones as Vice Chair. On a show of hands it was

**Resolved** (by 8 votes to 2) that Cllr McGovern be Chair of North Area Committee for the ensuing year.

**09/34 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

City Cllrs: Levy.

County Cllrs: Moss-Eccardt , Wijsenbeek and Wilkins

**09/35 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Interest</b>
Nimmo-Smith	09/0319/FUL	Had received a number of representations

		about the application
McGovern	09/0319/FUL	Had been contacted about the application
Boyce	09/0319/FUL	Had received a number of representations about the application

**09/36 APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION**

These minutes and the appendix 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.

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.

Under paragraph 4.2.1 of the Council Procedure Rules, the Chair used her discretion to alter the order of the planning applications. However, for ease of the reader, these minutes will follow the order of the agenda.

**1**  
**Site** Rees Thomas School Downham Lane  
**Proposal** Construction of External Plant Compound  
**Applicant** Mr Rob Rai  
**Application No** 09/0358/FUL  
**Recommendation** Approve subject to conditions  
**Public Speakers** Mrs K Harris (resident)  
**Decision** **Deferred** (by 8 votes to 0), to enable officers to obtain further information from the applicant, the emergency services and the Environmental Health Services as follows:

1. Confirmation from the applicant as to precisely:
  - I. what this equipment is to do;
  - II. why this additional equipment is required now;
  - III. why it was not designed as part of the original scheme; and
  - IV. what its implications are in terms of the renewables requirements of the principal application.
  
2. Written Confirmation from the Fire Service and the Ambulance Service that
  - I. the access itself is adequate in the event of an emergency (in the light of the neighbours view

- that the original plans showed that the main access to Hawkins Road would be 5.5 to 6.5 metres wide, but what has been built/retained is only 4.7 m wide which is not enough for a fire tender - 3.7m wide - and another vehicle to pass.
- II. That it is safe not to have a secondary access in the event that the primary access is blocked.
- 3 Confirmation by the Environmental Health Officer that there are no noise issues – not only for College Fields (which are seen as being protected by hedging) but also for the Hawthorns and other residential development.

2

**Site**

1 Brimley Road

**Proposal**

Erection of 4 semi-detached bungalows

**Applicant**

Mr Gavin Morris

**Application No**

09/0283/FUL

**Recommendation**

Approve subject to conditions and approval of S106 agreement by 15 August

**Public Speakers**

Mr Morris (applicant)

**Decision**

**Approve** (by 8 votes to 0) subject to conditions set out in the officer's report and completion of a S106 Agreement by 15 August and the following additional conditions and informative:

Condition: All the hard surface areas to be constructed for car parking and access to refuse storage and cycle parking shall be built using porous materials, details of which shall be submitted to the local planning authority for approval, which is to be given in writing before development commences. The hard surfaces shall be implemented in accordance with that agreed before the three flats approved are first occupied.

*Reason: To ensure that this detail is implemented in a sustainable manner (Cambridge Local Plan policies 3/1 and 3/12)*

Condition: Prior to the commencement of development, full details of the on-site storage facilities for cycle parking, which shall not be less than 3 cycle spaces for the 3 flats and 1 space for visitors (4 in total), shall be submitted to the local planning authority for approval, which is to be given in writing. The cycle parking

provision shall be implemented in accordance with that agreed before the three flats approved are first occupied.

*Reason: To ensure that this detail is implemented in a sustainable manner (Cambridge Local Plan policies 3/1 and 3/12)*

Informative: In the interest of the future occupiers of the flats approved by this notice, and the adjoining occupier at 54 Carlton Way, the applicant is reminded of the need to take all proper measures to ensure that appropriate sound attenuation is introduced between the various units.

<b>3</b>	
<b>Site Proposal</b>	253-255 Chesterton Road Erection of 9 flats (1 one-bed flat, 7 two-bed flats and 1 three-bed flat)
<b>Applicant</b>	Mr C Bartram
<b>Application No</b>	09/0310/FUL
<b>Recommendation</b>	Approve subject to conditions and completion of a S106 Agreement by 29 August
<b>Public Speakers Debate</b>	<b>Mrs A Milne</b> (resident) Members expressed concern over a number of issues which included the lack of cycle parking and bin provision, the overbearing and unsympathetic nature of the proposal, the unsy
<b>Decision against officer recommendation</b>	<b>Refuse</b> (by 8 votes to 0) for the reasons based on those set out above in debate and to be drawn up by officers and subsequently agreed by Councillors Armstrong and McGovern, referring to the failure of the application to comply with local plan policies 3/4, 3/7, 3/11 and 3/12 (and associated East of England Plan policy and national guidance).

### 09/37 MINUTES

The minutes of the 14 May 2009 were approved and signed as a correct record.

### 09/38 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

- **09/26 Environmental Improvement Grants**

**Primary Court Scotland Road Area:** Cllr Blair was pursuing this issue with officers, residents and police

**St Albans Recreation Ground lighting:** Cllr Todd-Jones said that the problem was one of finding a funding source for the project and the preparation of a project appraisal by the officers. Cllr Blair said a cost would need to be identified before the funding could be identified. Dinah Foley Norman, Principal Landscape Architect commented that there were a number of issues surrounding the project including the visual impact and the feasibility of using solar lighting.

- **09/28 Use of Midsummer Common by Strawberry Fair in 2009**

In Cllr Wilkin's absence the issue of the total cost of policing the event in 2009 was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

**Action:** Cllr Wilkins

**09/39 OPEN FORUM**

**Q1 High Kerbs and lack of Pedestrian Crossing in Emmanuel Street**

Residents had found that the high kerbs installed along Emmanuel Street and the lack of a pedestrian crossing made it difficult for older or disabled people to cross the street. Were there any proposals in hand to provide a suitable safe crossing?

**A** County Cllr Pellew agreed to follow up the issue and report back to the Committee.

**Action:** Cllr Pellew

**Q2 Penny Ferry car park**

The improvements to Penny Ferry car park had been carried out, but they did not match the design approved by the Committee. Should the amendments to the design have been approved?

**A** Cllr Liddle explained that the minor amendments to the design, the repositioning of a bollard and a dropped kerb, had been carried out in response to comment by the public and had been approved by members. The project had been successful and had made a significant improvement.

**Q3 Chesterton Festival**

Cllr Blair said that Mrs Lill Speed had asked her to remind everyone attending that it was the Chesterton Festival at the coming weekend.

**Q4 Resurfacing of Thrift's Walk**

The resident reported that the resurfacing project had been very successful and invited Councillors to look at the results. The residents at Thrifts Walk proposed to hold a Street Party to celebrate the completion of the project.

Members welcomed the update and congratulated the residents on their achieving their aim.

## **09/40 POLICING AND SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD REPORT**

The Chair introduced the report asking that members limit the recommendations to three actions to ensure their achievement within available resourcing.

Sgt Wragg, speaking to the report identified ongoing and emerging crime and disorder issues, and outlined the recommendations for future priorities and activity in order to facilitate effective policing and partnership working in the area. He also expanded on the Police's engagement activities in the wards.

He covered staffing changes in the neighbourhood, reasons for the recommendations for future priorities and trends within each of the 4 wards.

Members of the public asked a number of questions to which Sgt Wragg or John Fuller, Community Engagement Manager, responded. These referred to:

- The Police speed check exercise at Water Street
- Fly Tipping and the ability of PCSOs to issue tickets to offenders
- The successful policing of Strawberry Fair this year
- The find of a large number of needles and their origins
- A recent public meeting about drug dealing
- Traffic speeding on Kings Hedges Road
- The efficacy of the traffic calming measures down Fen Road
- Problems with alcohol related violence (to be referred to the city violent crime task group)

John Fuller confirmed that the information on the speed survey at Water Street would be made available to members. He added that suggestions for areas to speed survey, such as Kings Hedges Road, Fen Road and Northfield Avenue, would be prioritised with others made for streets in the City.

The following recommendations for priorities during the next reporting period were considered and approved:

1. To continue Engagement with Students at Cambridge Regional College
2. Criminal Damage in Arbury and Kings Hedges – areas to be further defined.
3. Vehicle crime in Kings Hedges, focus on the roads around Campkin Road

## **09/41 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND LEISURE GRANTS**

Ken Hay Head of Community Development and Jane Darlington the Chief Executive of Cambridgeshire Community Foundation, reminded members that since April 09 the application process had been managed by Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (CCF). The Foundation would advertise available funds; support potential applicants; assess applications; present applications to an independent grant panel with local knowledge; present recommendations to Area Committees; advise applicants of Area Committee decisions; make grant payments and seek feedback and monitoring from the funded projects.

Ken Hay and Jane Darlington responded to member's questions about the grants process and the availability of funding to applicants from sources other than the City Council.

Members considered the applications for Community Development Grants set out in the report and noted that there were no applications for Leisure Grants.

Members were concerned that the British Legion had not responded to a request for further information requested and noted that the Branch held significant reserves. By 7 votes to 0 it was agreed that the application be determined at the meeting. On a further show of hands, by 8 votes to 0, it was agreed that no grant be offered to the Branch and that the letter accompanying the notification explain the reason for this and that any further application by the Branch would be considered on its merits.

Agreed

1 that the following grants be made:

<b>Community Development current applications.</b>				<b>Fund Available: £11,299.00</b>	
<b>CCF ID</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Requested £</b>	<b>NAC Grant £</b>	<b>CCF Funded £</b>
1304	Royal British Legion, Arbury Manor Branch	Outing to the coast or other attraction.	800	0	0
1522	North Cambridge Parents View	Music and movement sessions.	287.50	0	290

1689	East Chesterton Community Action Group	Outing to the coast.	400	400	0
WEB 739	DEARA*	Circus theme street party.	1,000	800	0
*Darwin, Erasmus and Akeman Residents' Association					

- 2 To note that an application by the 4<sup>th</sup> Cambridge Guides had been withdrawn as the proposed event had been cancelled.
- 3 To note that all requests had been considered against other funds that Cambridgeshire Community Foundation held and North Cambridge Parents View were eligible to receive funding from other CCF funds.

## 09/26 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAMME 2008/09

Members considered a number of schemes put forward for consideration, a number of which required approval.

Following discussion, members determined the schemes as follows:

- 1 **Primary Court, Chesterton** - installation of a 500mm high timber knee rail to prevent parking on the grass verge  
**Agreed** to implement the scheme at a cost of £4,000, subject to consultation with adjacent households, approval by county highways and the public consultation being over 50% in favour.
- 2 **Verulam Way/Rutland Close** - Mobility Crossing  
**Agreed** to provide a double mobility crossing at an estimated cost of £1,900, subject to final agreement of the details by ward councillors and County Highways.
- 3 **Penny Ferry, The Haling Way (Cllr. Liddle)** - Planting  
**Noted** that the project was complete except for the planting of the permanent plants (trees and shrubs), which would be carried out in the late autumn.
- 4 **Campkin Road Shop Forecourts (Cllr Pitt)** – Design of improvements  
**Noted** that trial pits had been dug to ascertain the extent of the existing tree roots which had revealed that the roots were far wider spread than first thought. The design of the project was being altered accordingly in consultation with the project lead councillor.  
**Agreed** to allow public consultation on two options for the area following agreement of the project lead councillor.

- 5 Trafalgar Street/Victoria Avenue - Junction Bollards (Cllr. Nimmo-Smith)**  
**Agreed:** to approve the installation of new bollards at the junction at a cost of £3,600 subject to consultation proving over 50% in support.
- 6 Campkin Road Verges – Formal Parking Area**  
**Agreed:** to progress proposals by digging of trial pits to ascertain location of utilities at a cost of £1,500.
- 7 Riverside - Conflict Reduction And Environmental Improvement Scheme**  
Work by the designers, WS Atkins, had been delayed.  
**Agreed:** that further clarification was needed on a corporate view for this project as the 3 contributory area committees had committed different sums. A further report be brought to the next meeting on 27 August on the final design and estimated costs.
- 8 Thrift's Walk - Resurfacing**  
**Noted** that the contribution towards the resurfacing of Thrift's Walk had been put to good use and residents had welcomed the completed scheme.
- 9 Kings Hedges Road Post Office – provision of cycle racks on forecourt**  
**Defer** the consideration of this scheme pending consultation with the operator of the Kings Hedges Road post office on the installation of new cycle racks on the forecourt.
- 10 Apthorpe Way**  
The project had been assessed by the Project Lead Councillor, Cllr. Pitt and officers.  
**Agreed** to defer project until a later date when some of the current projects had been completed.

The meeting finished at 9.35 pm.

**Chair**