

East Area Committee

MINUTES

Date:	Wednesday 8 July 2009
Time:	7.00pm – 10:40pm
Place:	Lichfield Hall, Lichfield Road

Committee Manager: Toni Birkin
email: toni.Birkin@cambridge.gov.uk

Telephone: 01223 457086
write to: Committee Services,
Room 11, The Guildhall,
Cambridge CB2 3QJ

Council Members Present

City Cllrs: Blencowe, Bradnack, Ellis-Miller, Hart, Herbert, Howell, Smart,
Walker and Wright
County Cllrs: Bourke and Sedgwick-Jell

Council Members that considered Applications for Planning Permission

City Cllrs: Blencowe, Bradnack, Ellis-Miller, Hart, Herbert, Smart, Walker and
Wright

Minutes

09/29 ELECTION of CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Cllr Herbert nominated Cllr Blencowe and Cllr Ellis-Miller nominated Cllr Howell as Chair. Cllr Blencowe received 6 votes to Cllr Howell's 2 and was appointed as Chair.

Cllr Howell nominated Cllr Ellis-Miller as Vice Chair and Cllr Herbert nominated Cllr Hart. Cllr Hart received 5 votes to Cllr Eliis-Millers 2 as was appointed as Vice Chair.

09/30 APOLOGIES for ABSENCE

Apologies were received from the following:
City Cllrs: Benstead, Lynn and Shah
County Cllr: Harrison and Sadiq

09/31 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 May 2009 were approved and signed as

nothing has been done.

A) (Cllr Smart) The fencing is not owned by the City Council and is private property. The housing department is not responsible for it and would not be willing to spend the money needed to repair it. Cllr Herbert suggested that this issue contributed to anti social behaviour and therefore the housing department might consider splitting the cost with Safer City budgets. A Tenant Initiative Scheme bid was also suggested. Further discussion are needed to resolve this issue.

Q) Open spaces and Gardens in the Tiverton Way area are in a poor condition. A Ranger visited and promised Street Scene would attend to carry out work but this has not happened.

A) (Cllr Herbert) Street Scene has had a number of problems with staff sickness absences. This has resulted in concerns about the cleansing services being provided in a number of areas. Cllr Herbert will follow up this issue.

**Cllr
Herbert**

09/35 RIVERSIDE OPEN DISCUSSION

Lynette Gilbert spoke on behalf of the Riverside Area Resident Association. Residents are in favour of the idea of a conflict reduction scheme but feel there are a number of issues that must be resolved. Pedestrians should be given priority with a promenade next to the riverside. At present, the low number of motor vehicles allows for safe cycling. Separating cycles from cars is not a priority.

The initial consultation on this area was overshadowed by the Brunswick planning application.

Cllr Bradnack spoke from the floor as a resident of the area. As a long term resident of the area he is well versed in its history. Cllr Bradnack stated that his position in regard to the improvements has often been misrepresented. Pre 1999 he had pushed for improvements to the junction. However, the resulting work had made the situation worse and he has since spent a lot of time trying to correct this.

The recent consultation process had been limited and confused with the Brunswick situation. Many residents were unaware of the proposals. The residents of numbers 11 to 24 will be most effected by the work and deserve more consultation.

Cllr Bradnack questioned the status of further section of the work. Will this be deliverable? What if the rest of the project is never delivered? A holistic, clear vision of the entire project is needed before any work is undertaken. Value for money is also questionable.

Jane Ellwood spoke on behalf of the residents of the residents of 11 to 24. She expressed concerns about the consultation process. Residents would like to know what benefits they will see from the improvements. They are unclear on the details of the plan and uneasy about the proposed tree planting. They would like to know how their views can influence the decision and how much of the project is already decided.

The Chair assured them that the committee had heard their concerns and would feed those back into the decision making process.

09/36 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME 2008/09

The Principal Landscape Architect introduced the item and gave an update on current projects as per the report. Cllr Walker asked for an update on item 3.1 Fairsford Place and this will follow shortly.

St Margaret's Square Yellow Lining

Members expressed concern at being asked to pay for this work and at the cost for a small job. The Engineering Client Officer explained that a large proportion of the cost is for advertising rather than the work itself. Cllr Howell asked if there could be a saving made if small jobs were combined into a single larger job. While, this was agreed to be a good idea it was thought to be unworkable in practice. Cllr Herbert was concerned at the unacceptable delays in completing this project.

Decision: Agreed implementation and TRO advertising costs of up to £2,000.

Mill Road/Cavendish Road junction Landscape Refurbishment Public Consultation

Cllr Ellis-Miller has been leading this project and is happy to see it go to public consultation.

Decision: Agreed

Riverside Conflict Reduction Scheme

The Principal Landscape Architect outlined the changes that have been made to the plans following the consultation process. The public consultation process included the Cambridge Environment and Traffic Management Area Joint Committee (AJC) public consultation in January and report in July 2008. The AJC public consultation was followed by an exhibition in May 2009 and as a result, the proposed street furniture has been reduced and relocated. The final positions for tree planting will not be made until trial holes have been bored as there are a number of utilities in the area.

The Engineering Client Officer outlined a number of issues relating to the project. As the project affects more than one Area, it should be joint funded. To-date, East Area has agreed to fund £60,000 which has been used on fees for WS Atkins (the designers), North Area has pledged £81,700 on the proviso that other areas do the same and West Central has agreed up to £40,000.

Members agreed that the costs quoted so far for the project were quite high and asked if this was due to the quality of the specification or the amount of work required. The officer response was that the intention of the project was primarily to reduce cycle/vehicle conflict and improve the junction. However, the project was also aspirational and seeks to do more than just install bollards; it seeks to improve the area as well

To ensure that the project is good value for money and will be able to be extended at a later date to the whole of Riverside, Atkins have been using Value Engineering techniques. That is to say, always examining and re-examining whether the design and the choice of materials are right for the job. However, there is currently no commitment or budget to roll out the design to the entire Riverside area. Members agreed that it would be sad if this did not happen.

Cllr Howell questioned the use of S106 money and if this created pressure to spend money quickly. The officer responded that there is £215,000, S106 money from the Tesco project which will need to be used in the next three and half years.

Members asked what happens next. Officers informed the meeting that Atkins will finish the design to the point of being ready to begin work on site as well as the costings. The Traffic Regulation Order has not yet been advertised as officers did not want to seek powers to undertake work until the funding is confirmed and there is final agreement by County Highways to the project. The project and methods of funding will be discussed in a senior officer and member meeting as soon as possible. Members agreed with this approach.

09/37 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND LEISURE GRANTS

The Grants Manager introduced the item and explained changes to the administration and management of area committee grants. A partnership has been formed between the City Council and the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (CCF), who are fund raising experts, to manage area committee grants on the City's behalf. Benefits include the opportunity for voluntary and community groups to be considered for other grants through one application process, which increases their chances for funding and potentially makes area committee funds go further. No change had been made to the decision-making process, members will still make decisions on who gets what and at what level. Reports will be written and presented by the CCF Grants Officer.

The Chief Executive of the CCF explained that the organisation had been set up in 2004 and worked as a mechanism for donors to use to access and distribute grants to community and voluntary groups. To date over £3m had been distributed and over 49% of those grants had been for £1000 or less – meaning that groups could be helped at grass root level. Grants are available in a number of formats and staff are available to help applicants. The cost of using the Foundation is 10%

of grants allocated which does not come from area committee funds. There is a saving in officer time processing applications which enables better monitoring of how grants have been spent.

Members were concerned about the ability to make decisions on the authority of the Chair to avoid groups missing the opportunity for funding. There will still be a chairs action process and this will be confirmed following the review of this first cycle of awards. Cllr Wright was concerned that charitable donations could be at risk in the current financial situation. To-date this has not been a problem and donors appear to recognise the increased need for such contributions. Cllr Walker asked about the accountability of the Foundation. As a registered charity, its annual accounts are published.

The CCF Grants Officer introduced the report and covered each application in detail.

- 1637 East Barnwell Friendship Club
Agreed recommendation of the report.
- 1663 East Barnwell Forget-me-Not-Club
Agreed recommendation of the report.
- WEB528 Mill Road Winter Fair
Cllr Walker proposed an additional £1,000, increasing in the sum offered to £3,500. Cllr Hart seconded this and it was agreed by a vote of 6 to 1.
- WEB975 Barnwell Baptist Church Golden Years Over 60's Club
Members felt it was unfortunate that this application had been rejected as the event had already happened and retrospective applications are not eligible. Cllr Hart proposed a retrospective grant of the amount requested. This was rejected by a vote of 7 to 1. Cllr Ellis-Miller proposed a grant of half the sum requested: £200. This was rejected by a vote of 5 to 3.
Agreed recommendation of the report.
- WEB976 Barnwell Baptist Church
Agreed recommendation of the report.
- Web1116 Christ the Redeemer Church
Agreed recommendation of the report.

09/38 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 that the committee delegated to the Head of Development Control to draw up.

Before the start of the planning applications, Councillor Howell explained that he would not be taking part as he did not agree with considering planning applications at area committees. Cllr Bradnack took no part in planning decisions.

1	
Site	122 Tenison Road
Proposal	Single Story side extension, loft conversion incorporating front and rear dormers and new roof over existing rear extension
Applicant	Mr Rob Rai
Application No	09/0053/FUL
Recommendation	APPROVE and subject to conditions
Public Speakers	Applicant Agent and Objectors Jeff Arnold and Nick Giesler
Decision	APPROVED (by a vote of 4 to 3) with the requirement that the windows frames be constructed in timber.

2	
Site	10 Blossom Street Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB1 2NQ
Proposal	Single storey rear extension.
Applicant	Mr Simon Matthews 10 Blossom Street Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB1 2NQ
Application No	09/0099/FUL
Recommendation	APPROVE
Public Speakers	Applicant Simon Matthews, Objector Julia Dale and Ward Cllr Bradnack
Decision	REFUSED (recommendation overturned)
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The proposed rear extension, specifically the continuation of the rear wing a further 2.2 metres to the west, at a height of 3.25 metres, on the common boundary with and only slightly west of due south of 12 Blossom Street, is unacceptable in that it would give rise to a loss of sunlight to

and outlook from that dwelling and its small, enclosed rear garden., dominating it from the south west side and leading to the creation of an undue sense of enclosure, which would be detrimental to the level of amenity that the occupiers of that dwelling should reasonably expect to enjoy. The development is therefore contrary to policy 3/14 of the Cambridge Local Plan 2006 and, in its failure to respond to its context or to relate satisfactorily to the surroundings, is also contrary to policy ENV7 of the East of England Plan (2008), to policy 3/4 of the Cambridge Local Plan 2006 and to advice provided by PPS1 Delivering Sustainable Development.

Cllr Herbert took no part in this decision.

3	
Site	104 Cherry Hinton Road Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB1 7AJ
Proposal	Change of use from A2 (financial and professional services) to A3 (restaurants and cafes).
Applicant	Ms Amanda Peters, 12 Mill End Road Cherry Hinton Cambridge CB1 9HS
Application No	09/0422/FUL
Recommendation	APPROVE
Public Speakers	Applicant Amanda Peters
Decision	APPROVED Unanimously With the hours of opening (condition 6) extended to 8.00hrs to 20:00hrs.

09/39 Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting was confirmed for 3 August 2009 at Cherry Trees Day Centre

Meeting finished at 10.40 pm.

Chair

Additional information for public:

City Council officers can also be emailed
firstname.lastname@cambridge.gov.uk

Information (including contact details) of the Members of the City Council can be found from this page:
<http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/ccm/navigation/about-the-council/councillors/>

Members of the County Council can be emailed:
Firstname.lastname@cambridgeshire.gov.uk