

**PETERBOROUGH WEST NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE
 (AREA NORTH & WEST 3)**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 1 SEPTEMBER 2011, 7.30 p.m
 AT THE CRESSETT, BRETTON, PETERBOROUGH**

Members Present:

Chairman	Councillor Nash
Bretton North	Councillors Nash (as Chairman) & Fitzgerald
Bretton South	Councillor Fletcher
Ravensthorpe	Councillor Murphy
West	Councillors M Dalton & S Dalton

Officers Present:

Julie Rivett	Neighbourhood Manager, PCC
Steven Pilsworth	Head of Corporate Services, PCC
Peter Gell	Strategic Regulatory Services Manager, PCC
Karen Kibblewhite	Safer Peterborough Manager – Cutting Crime, PCC
Jamie MacFarlane	Neighbourhood Environment Officer, PCC
Ian Tobin	Neighbourhood Environment Officer, PCC
Pep Cipriano	Media & Communications Officer, PCC
Cherry Lester	Locality Manager, PCC
Sabrina Bezkorowajnyj	Community Based Youth Worker, PCC
Carmen Jeffery	Community Based Youth Worker, PCC
David O'Connor-Long	Lawyer, PCC
Gemma George	Senior Governance Officer, PCC

Also in Attendance:

Andy Barringer	HMP Peterborough
Bev Stephens	HMP Peterborough

Others Present:

20(+) members of the public attended, including representatives from Deerleap Resident's Association, Westwood Resident's Association and the North West Urban Panel.

ITEM	DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS	ACTION
1. Apologies for absence	Apologies were received from Councillor Arculus and Councillor Martin. Apologies were also received from Maureen Lazaretti, Cross Keys.	
2. Declarations of Interest	There were no declarations of interest.	
3. Minutes from the Previous Meeting	The minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2011 were approved as a true and accurate record. Mr Lambert, a local resident, addressed the Committee and stated that comments raised by local residents at the previous meeting had not been attributed to individuals by name. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that names would be incorporated into the minutes going forward, but members of the public were reminded that they would need to state their names prior to making comments.	

<p>4. Issues Arising from the Previous Meeting</p>	<p>The Neighbourhood Manager addressed the matters arising from the previous meeting in turn and further advised the Committee that the minutes would also include an action sheet going forward.</p> <p><u>New School Provision</u></p> <p>Councillor Murphy had raised the issue of new school provision at the previous meeting, particularly in relation to West Town School. It was advised that discussions had been held with the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University and he was due to attend the next NW3 Neighbourhood Committee meeting alongside Jonathan Lewis, the Assistant Director Education and Resources, in order to discuss future schools provision in the vicinity and across the city in general.</p> <p><u>City Hospital Traffic Lights</u></p> <p>Issues around the city hospital traffic lights lane merging system had been raised at the previous meeting by Glennis Bentley and the Neighbourhood Manager advised that she had held discussions with the Traffic Development Team. A change was due to be implemented to the lanes, with the left hand lane being utilised for traffic travelling straight ahead and the right hand lane for traffic turning into the hospital.</p> <p><u>Westwood Grange Allotments</u></p> <p>The Neighbourhood Manager advised that the asbestos and rubbish located at the allotments was to be removed in due course and the issues which had been experienced with the drains had now been resolved.</p> <p>It was highlighted that in order for the vehicles to access the site for the removal of the asbestos and the rubbish, a small amount of tree trimming would need to be undertaken.</p> <p><u>Emergency Planning / Floodrisk</u></p> <p>Mr Lambert, a local resident, addressed the Committee and advised that he had been a volunteer flood warden for Thorpe Meadows and Riverside Gardens for seven years. Mr Lambert believed that there were a number of areas in Peterborough that ought to have flood wardens in place. Mr Lambert further advised that he had attended meetings with Julia Chatterton, the Flood and Water Management Officer for Peterborough City Council, and Stuart Hamilton, the Resilience Services Manager, in order to assist with the development of emergency contingency plans in relation to floodrisk, both of these meetings had been very productive.</p> <p>Going forward, the Environment Agency, in conjunction with the Emergency Planning Team, had organised a flood fair which was to be held on 23rd and 24th of September 2011, where a number of flood defence devices would be exhibited. Further information of the works being undertaken by the Environment Agenda and the Emergency Planning Team would be published in due course.</p> <p><u>Hospital Site and Station Quarter</u></p> <p>At the previous meeting, Councillor Arculus had queried why the</p>	<p>Cllr JH/JL</p>
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	<p>hospital site did not include provision for education. It was advised that the developer had argued that the site would have been unviable if it incorporated a school and with regards to a university, there had been no robust case put forward to the landowner in the first instance.</p> <p><u>Midland Road</u></p> <p>Councillor Murphy had requested clarification as to whether land along Midland Road was to be used for a cycle route or for development land. In response it was advised that Barry Kirk, the Infrastructure Planning and Delivery Group Manager for Peterborough City Council, had been contacted and it had been advised that until development came forward for the site, it could be included in the city centre transport plan.</p> <p>In response to a number of the matters arising, Councillor Murphy stated that although the asbestos was to be removed from the Westwood Grange Allotment site, this had been promised on a previous occasion and it had been stated that the asbestos would be removed within two days. This had not been undertaken as promised and was therefore bad customer care.</p> <p>Councillor Murphy further stated that he had specifically requested school provision to be included on the agenda for that particular meeting. It was regrettable that this would now not been addressed until the meeting in January 2012. In response to this point, the Neighbourhood Manager advised that although Members had expressed a preference for the schools provision to be discussed in September they had also expressed a preference for the correct people to be present in order to discuss the provisions. Jonathan Lewis was currently on holiday and the Chairman had been consulted and had agreed to the deferral of the item until January 2012.</p>	
5. Open Session	<p>Attendees of the meeting were given the opportunity to ask questions and raise issues affecting the area in which they lived. These included:</p> <p><u>Community Leadership Fund</u></p> <p>Terry Metcalf, a representative of Westwood Resident's Association, addressed the Committee and stated that £1k from the Community Leadership Fund had been provisionally put aside for three day trips to take place for children from one parent families and children with special needs. This funding had been received on a regular basis over the years, however the decision was currently on hold and clarification was requested as to why this had occurred and how long it would take to authorise the payment.</p> <p>Councillor Murphy advised that the payment had originally been put on hold in order to allow for certain checks to be carried out, however the payment had now been authorised.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Manager stated that all forms had now been submitted for payment and a check would be undertaken the progress of this particular request and report back to Terry Metcalf directly.</p> <p><u>Shrubs</u></p> <p>Glennis Bentley, Chair of the North West Urban Panel Meeting, addressed the Committee and stated that there was an issue with the</p>	JR

upkeep of the shrubs in the area. Could Enterprise be addressed about this? The Chairman advised that an email would be sent directly to the Director of Commercial Operations to chase.

Westwood Grange Allotments

Gordon Barker addressed the Committee and stated that, although it had already been mentioned at the beginning of the meeting, the issue of rubbish at the allotments needed to be addressed as soon as possible. It had originally been stated that the rubbish would be cleared week commencing 6th June 2011 and it was now September 2011. In response, the Neighbourhood Manager advised that she would obtain a firm date for the removal of the rubbish and feed this information back to Mr Barker if he provided her with his details at the end of the meeting.

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Netherton Football Club Cycleway

Gordon Barker further addressed the Committee and stated that Netherton Football Club Cycleway was being used like a racetrack. The issues had been raised with the council previously and they had been taken on board, but cars were still parking where they shouldn't and the double 'S' bend was dangerous and it was only a matter of time before there was a serious accident. In response, the Strategic Regulatory Services Manager advised that further investigation would be undertaken on the site and feedback would be provided within seven days.

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Commercial Vehicles Parking

Mary Claxton, a local resident of Essendyke, addressed the Committee and advised that there were a number of commercial vehicles parking in the area, around houses, overnight. This was occurring particularly along Eyrescroft. Was this not illegal and could anything be done? The Strategic Regulatory Services Manager stated that this practice was illegal and residents could speak to him directly about any specific concerns in relation to specific vehicles and the situation would be investigated.

Additional Parking Provision

Mary Claxton further addressed the Committee and queried whether there were any plans to increase the parking provision in the Bretton area. In response, Councillor Fitzgerald stated that solutions were being looked into and a number of schemes were being worked on.

Mary Claxton stated that some areas had signs mounted which highlighted that no parking was allowed in that area. Why were these in some area and not others? Councillor Fitzgerald advised that if a sign was present, that indicated that there had been a traffic order placed upon the road. The Strategic Regulatory Services Manager advised that if residents were concerned about a particular area, these concerns could be further discussed in order to identify whether further parking enforcement, signs etc, would be suitable for implementation.

Rubbish Along Residential Streets

Bridget Baker, a representative of Deerleap Resident's Association,

	<p>addressed the Committee and stated that Enterprise cleared rubbish from the parkways but not from the residential roads. This was being undertaken by the residents themselves. Messages had been left the (Mike Heath) and the Cabinet Members for (Lee) but no response or acknowledgement had been received. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that this point would be further investigated and it would be requested for Enterprise to attend the next meeting in order to address this, and other issues which had been raised.</p> <p><u>Peterborough City Council Website and E-Cops</u></p> <p>Glennis Bentley, Chair of the North West Urban Panel Meeting, commented that the Peterborough City Council website was out of date in a number of areas. Glennis further queried whether an E-Cops style system could be incorporated into the Peterborough City Council website. In response, the Media and Communications Officer for Peterborough City Council advised that keeping the website completely up to date was a substantial task and specific update requests could be sent directly to the media team.</p> <p>With regards to E-Cops, the Media and Communications Officer advised Glennis Bentley that he would speak to her outside of the meeting.</p> <p>A final point was raised by a local resident, and he stated that there did not appear to be as much rubbish laying around in Netherton whilst the school children were on holiday. The children needed educating about the impacts of dropping litter. In response, the Chairman advised that she would have a discussion with the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University in order to identify whether anything could be done along the lines of education.</p>	<p>JR</p> <p>PN</p>
<p>6. Matters for Committee Decision</p>	<p>The Neighbourhood Manager advised that there were no matters for Committee decision to be discussed. Going forward, this would be a standing item on the agenda.</p>	
<p>7. Updates on Matters of Interest Relevant to the Committee</p>	<p>a) Standing Invitee Update</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Manager stated that it had previously been highlighted that the standing invitee list was now out of date. An email would be circulated in the forthcoming weeks and individuals would be responsible for responding to that email in order to ensure the list was up to date.</p> <p>b) Youth Forum Update</p> <p>The Chairman addressed the Committee and introduced the Youth Forum Representatives.</p> <p>Cherry Lester, the Locality Manager introduced herself alongside Community Based Youth Workers from Ravensthorpe and Bretton.</p> <p>The Youth Forum wished to be more involved in the North West Neighbourhood Committee, as they were in the South of the city, and steer was sought as to how this could be progressed.</p> <p>A training day had been held at the Town Hall in Peterborough, and the Chairman of the Peterborough West Committee had been in</p>	<p>JR</p>

attendance. The session had been utilised for a number of issues and out of it, fifteen Youth Forum Members had expressed an interest in attending the Neighbourhood Committee meeting on a regular basis.

In response, Councillor Samantha Dalton stated that although this was good news, there had been no age restrictions put on the meeting in the first instance. Young people were welcome to attend at any time and it did not need to be pre-planned.

Councillor Samantha Dalton further advised that she had been undertaking a number of projects with regards to young people in the city.

Councillor Matthew Dalton reminded the Committee that there was a Youth Council in Peterborough and a standing invitation should perhaps be extended to them.

Councillor Murphy stated that there was a 6th Form Students Council for Peterborough and perhaps they should also be invited.

The Neighbourhood Manager addressed the Committee and provided an overview of how working alongside the Youth Forum in the south of the city had been a great success. Members of the Forum had been given the brief to look at issues in their area and to decide how best to spend an allocated part of the budget. This had been successful and a portion of the budget had been awarded to them.

The Youth Forum were anxious to participate and to get involved and the Chairman put it to all those present whether they would be happy for them to attend and participate on a trial basis. The Committee collectively agreed to this trial.

b) Midland Road Week of Action

The Neighbourhood Manager addressed the Committee and gave an overview of the forthcoming week of action, which was due to focus on Midland Road.

The week was due to commence on Monday 12th September and would involve door knocking, street surgeries, a graffiti inspection, rubbish clearing and getting to the crux of the public's issues, such as hotspots for crime and licensing issues. Issues around fire were to be addressed and a fire engine was due to be on location on the Friday, a street bus was also due to be travelling around in order to get the public more involved and work was also being undertaken with West Town School around road safety issues.

The Neighbourhood Manager requested that all those present cascade the information to other local residents who were not present at the meeting in order to get as many people involved as possible. In the meantime, Jamie MacFarlane and Ian Tobin, Neighbourhood Environment Enforcement Officers, were the first port of call if people wished to get involved. The Committee was further advised that there would be adverts in the local press also.

Councillor Samantha Dalton expressed her gratitude to the Neighbourhood Manager for all the work she had undertaken in order to organise the week of action.

Councillor Murphy queried what the future plans were for the Midland Road Station Quarter and the empty Vawser Lodge. Regeneration was desperately needed and the Neighbourhood Committee needed to have sight of what was planned. In response, the Chairman advised that if the area was cleaned up, developers would realise its potential. Councillor Samantha Dalton further added that the area would be part of the Station Quarter Development site and she did chase for updates on the progress of this site regularly.

d) Verges

The Strategic Regulatory Services Manager addressed the Committee and gave an update on the progress that had been made in relation to a number of issues. Previously, the lack of enforcement and the state of the verges due to the weather changes, coming into winter especially, had been highlighted.

With regards to enforcement, there had been insufficient staff members to adequately tackle the problem of parking. Four new members of staff had therefore been recruited. In addition, from the end of October 2011, an enforcement vehicle would be patrolling the area, particularly around schools, and would utilise CCTV.

Barrier access to car parks was also being looked into and there would be additional persons patrolling the car parks going forward.

With regards to verge parking, a Highways Engineer and Neighbourhood Officer had identified specific areas of concern and collated these onto a map. This map had been submitted to the Highways Team in order to identify possible affordable solutions. The Capital Programme of Works for the current year had been taken so ideas would be put forward for 2012. However, ideas could also be put forward for the current year (for example grasscrete and hardstanding to create additional parking) and Members funds etc could be utilised.

The Parking Policies were being looked into by the Director of Operations and civil sanctions, as well as criminal sanctions, were to be looked into also.

David O'Connor-Long, Lawyer, addressed the Committee gave a brief presentation detailing suggestions for tackling the anti-social and visual problems caused by unauthorised parking of vehicles. Key points were highlighted as follows:

- Generally, legal proceedings taken against individuals were rarely successful, this tended to be due to the lack of reliable and forthcoming witnesses willing to attend court;
- Issues were identified via numerous sources including Ward Councillors, residents and the Police;
- Reports were best made in writing to the Council and the inclusion of photographs was also encouraged;
- An initial decision was made on the evidence gathered and if an issue was identified, a letter would be sent to the perpetrator;
- If further investigation was required, the ownership of the land would have a bearing on the legal action the Council would be required to take;
- It was extremely important to ensure that the right perpetrators

were identified, hence the need for reliable witnesses;

- The Council could take further action as ‘the Highway Authority’, ‘the landowner’ and ‘as protecting the public’;
- The Council was not always able to achieve the outcome desired by an individual and legal proceedings were not always the answer but where the situation called for it, the Council would act accordingly.

The Committee was invited to comment on the presentation and the following issues and observations were highlighted:

- Terry Metcalfe stated that more car parking spaces were required in Ravensthorpe as demand outweighed the number available;
- Glennis Bentley stated that when Ravensthorpe was first built it had been assumed that each house would require 1.7 parking spaces. This was not the case now and solutions were needed quickly. She further stated that an action plan was needed;
- David O’Connor-Long advised that on the ground work, such as the provision of additional car parking spaces, was required. Legal proceedings would not always work and solutions were needed;
- Mary Claxton commented that it was difficult to know who to make representation to, as the land tended to be owned by different people;
- Terry Metcalfe stated that there was an issue with parking on corners, especially along Oldfield. How many accidents had this type of behaviour caused?

Following comments, Peter Gell addressed the meeting and stated that creative thinking was required with regards to tackling the situation.

Councillor Murphy and numerous residents commented that timescales and action outlines were required if progression was going to be made.

The Chairman stated that feedback on progress would be brought back to the next meeting, due to be held on 12 January 2012.

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e) HMP Peterborough

Andy Barringer and Bev Stephens, from HMP Peterborough, gave a presentation to the Committee which outlined the work going on in the prison. Key points were highlighted as follows:

- The majority of males discharged from the prison were discharged into the Peterborough area;
- Family days were held to ensure that the female prisoners saw their families;
- Many females served less than six weeks at the prison;
- The One Service, a unique service to the area, worked with males upon their release;
- There were dedicated resettlement officers;
- Work around drugs was undertaken and specific work around needles had been undertaken in conjunction with the Safer Peterborough Partnership;
- The Alcohol Needs Assessment which had been undertaken was the only one of its kind in the country;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic violence was being tackled by a number of initiatives; • A programme, targeting male prisoners who were victims of domestic violence, was being looked into; • Workshops targeting issues around theft and violence were undertaken at the prison; • Work around CVs and money matters was undertaken; • Work was undertaken alongside partners in the area in order to tackle the issues surrounding prolific priority offenders (PPOs) in the area; • Prisoners were let out on day release to a number of organisations in the area in order to help improve self esteem; • If any organisations wished to assist in the day release scheme this would be appreciated. <p>The Committee was invited to comment on the presentation and the Chairman queried whether domestic violence, with males being the victims, was a rare event. Bev Stephens advised that men being the victims of domestic violence was not a rare occurrence and Peterborough Prison was the first prison to run a domestic violence perpetrator course.</p> <p>John Woodhouse, a local resident, queried whether there were any figures available for those inmates undertaking community payback work. In response, Karen Kibblewhite, Safer Peterborough Manager – Cutting Crime, advised that the Community Payback Scheme was run by Probation and if anyone had any ideas of how prisoners could be utilised out on day release, then this could be relayed. The Neighbourhood Manager further advised that she would identify possible ways in which prisoners could help out around the Week of Action.</p> <p>John Green, from Bretton Residents Association, questioned whether the Council employed people who had previously been in prison. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that the Council was an equal opportunities employer and the application process was being addressed at the current time in order to make it fairer across the board.</p> <p>Bridget Baker queried how drug users were assisted with their addictions during, for example, a six week prison stretch. Andy Barringer, HMP Peterborough, advised that addicts were identified upon admittance to the prison and they were allocated a worker. They were stabilised on substitutes and detox would be offered. Prisoners were unlikely to be able to detox within six weeks however. Some of these prisoners went on to re-offend and some didn't.</p> <p>The Chairman queried whether tours around the prison were undertaken. In response, Bev Stephens advised that tours were conducted and it was good for people to come and see the work done.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Manager further advised that the visitors centre next to the prison would make an ideal venue for a future meeting of the Neighbourhood Committee.</p>	JR
8. Next Meeting	The next meeting was due to be held on 12 January 2011. Venue TBC.	

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Item	Action	Responsible	By When
4. Matters Arising	i) To provide an update on school provision across the area (city?) at the next meeting.	Councillor John Holdich Jonathan Lewis	January 2012 Meeting
5. Open Session	i) To check the status of Community Leadership Fund payments due to Mr Terry Metcalf and to report directly back to him.	Julie Rivett	ASAP
	ii) To provide feedback directly to Mr Gordon Barker with regards to when the Westwood Grange Allotments are due to be cleared.	Julie Rivett	ASAP
	iii) To look into the issues around the Netherton Football Club cycleway (parking and speeding) and to provide feedback within 7 days to Mr Gordon Barker.	Peter Gell	8 September 2011
	iv) To liaise with Enterprise regarding rubbish/litter not being collected from streets (e.g. Tysedale/Benland/Barnstock) and to invite them to attend the next meeting.	Julie Rivett	ASAP
	v) To have a discussion with the Cabinet Member for Education in order to identify whether school children could be educated with regards to throwing litter down (specifically in relation to Netherton).	Councillor Nash	ASAP
6. Updates on Matters Relevant to the Committee	a) Standing Invitee Update		
	i) To email around the Neighbourhood Groups/Associations etc to obtain nominations for standing invitees.	Julie Rivett	ASAP
	d) Verges		
	i) To feedback on progress being made with regards to verge parking.	Peter Gell	January 2012 Meeting
e) HMP Peterborough	i) To identify whether there are any opportunities for those	Julie Rivett	ASAP

	prisoners on the Community Payback scheme to help out around the Week of Action.		
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