

## DOGSTHORPE, EAST AND PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE (NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE C&E2)

**DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 1 JUNE 2011, 7.00 p.m.**

**Members Present:**

Park	Cllrs Peach (Chairman), Kreling and Shearman
East	Cllrs Shabbir and Todd
Dogsthorpe	Cllrs Saltmarsh and Ash

**Officers Present:**

Alex Daynes	Senior Governance Officer
Cate Harding	Neighbourhood Manager - Central and East
Karen S Dunleavy	Governance Officer

**Other Attendees:**

Barry Day	Chief Executive, Greenwood Academy Trust
Stuart Jackson MP	Member of Parliament for Peterborough

**Others Present:**

27 members of the public attended the meeting including representatives from Victoria Park Residents Association.

ITEM	MINUTES	ACTION
1. Apologies	Apologies received from Councillors Goldspink and Miners	
2. Declarations of Interest	None	
3. Minutes of previous meeting	Councillor Kreling proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2011 were approved as an accurate record, seconded by Cllr Todd and agreed by Members.	
4. Election of Vice Chairman for 2011-12	Cllr Peach proposed Cllr Saltmarsh. This was seconded by Councillor Todd. No other nominations were received. Councillor Saltmarsh was appointed as Vice Chairman.	
5. Open Session	<p><b><u>Hydrotherapy Pool</u></b></p> <p>A member of the public asked whether any financial support would be provided by the Council to run the Hydrotherapy Pool.</p> <p>Councillor Peach advised that Councillors had been approached to see if there was any money from the Ward Community Leadership Fund that could be donated to the running of the pool. Funding availability needed to be gathered and agreed before a final figure could be allocated.</p> <p>Councillor Ash added that the Community Leadership Fund was very limited and was requested for other many other things. CLF would be insufficient to keep pool going and</p>	

that maybe funding could be found in other areas.

Councillor Shearman added that it would be good to use a small amount of Community Leadership Fund for the Hydrotherapy Pool.

Councillor Saltmarsh advised that the Councillors from Dogsthorpe ward had donated £500 from their Community Leadership Fund.

Councillor Peach asked if there could be consideration to use the funding from the Neighbourhood Committee budgets.

Cate Harding advised that the budget for Neighbourhood Committees was for capital spending only so would not be appropriate for the day to day running of the pool. Cate added that the Neighbourhood Team had been actively involved in the development of the Hydrotherapy Pool project and work was being done to identify any possible sponsorship opportunities. NHS Peterborough would be approached to see if it could provide any support. There had also been support given from some of the Council's own internal funding. Plans were underway for the pool to be managed by a community group. A charitable organisation was more likely to attract a wider range of partner involvement and funding opportunities.

#### **Issues Raised About The PCT Consultation Over The GP Surgeries Proposed Changes and Closures**

A member of the public raised a concern over the proposed changes within the consultation for GP services and the proposed closure of Alma Road surgery.

Councillor Peach advised that Councillors also shared the community's concerns, as lot of people over the city relied on these services.

Councillor Peach further advised the meeting that the PCT would be holding a presentation at the following meetings:

- Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> June 2011 at the Parnwell Primary School, which would be ideal for Parnwell and Dogsthorpe residents to attend; and
- The North and Central wards Neighbourhood Committee to be held at Gladstone Park Centre on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

Councillor Peach encouraged all residents to attend any of the meetings where they could put forward their views. The PCT consultation over the GP Surgery Closures would end in August 2011.

Cate Harding added that meetings were being made more relevant to those areas affected by the closures. Monday 6 June's meeting would cover Dogsthorpe and Parnwell

surgeries and the meeting on Thursday, 16 June would cover the Alma Road and Lincoln Road areas.

Councillor Shearman advised the committee that he had attended a meeting with staff at the Alma road centre to discuss the consultation and development of that area. When the playing field site was developed the consultation that took place outlined that there would be a Pavilion, Medical Centre, Community Centre and Play Group. The Community Centre was never built and the Medical Centre was now to be removed. Councillor Shearman added that there should be a united approach by Councillors to raise the community concerns at the PCT consultations.

Councillor Ash added that he had attended a residents meeting at Dogsthorpe and the presentation from the PCT did not alleviate all of the residents' concerns.

Councillor Kreling added that it would be a great disappointment if the closure of the Alma Road surgery was to go ahead.

Councillor Todd advised the committee that East Ward (including Eastfield and Eastgate) had no Doctors surgeries and some constituents needed to go to Paston to see a doctor. Many residents do not have transport to get to Paston so where were patients supposed to attend to seek medical care if the closures went ahead?

Councillor Shabbir added that he gave his support to keeping open the Alma Road medical facility; however, there were some positive points of the PCT consultation including where some surgeries were highlighted as being difficult to book appointments and the PCT were looking to tackle this issue.

Residents were encouraged to attend the meetings above to hear the options being put forward by the PCT and to highlight those surgeries where it was difficult to book an appointment. Councillor Shabbir added that option 3 of the PCT consultation would mean that residents living in Eastfield and Eastgate could lose the Parnwell facility and would have to travel as far as Park and Central to seek medical care.

June Cambell, Parnwell Community Development Worker, added that it was not clear in the letter regarding the PCT consultation that the Eye Road, Parnwell and Popular Avenue surgeries were affected by the proposals. June urged members of the public to attend the meetings to get fully informed about the changes.

Councillor Peach updated Members that the PCT Surgery consultation paper had been discussed at the Council's Scrutiny Commission for Health Issues 18 months ago. The PCT had agreed to return to the Scrutiny meeting to present the draft consultation before it was sent out to the

public but this did not happen. Some of the information within the consultation paper may therefore be inaccurate.

A Learning Support Assistant working at the Beeches Primary School commented that children who had accidents at the school would use the Alma Road Surgery. If the medical centre was to close down children would need to be taken further to the A & E department in Bretton which would involve many hours of sitting and waiting to be seen. The public should take the issues as far as parliament and requested Stuart Jackson MP's support to do this.

### **Parking Issues**

A member of the public raised questions over the double yellow lines that had already been approved on Star road as residents felt that they had not been fully informed about the changes. Buckle Street already had residential parking and Burton street would also be affected. Issues were also raised over the double yellow lines placed by Stage Coach.

Councillor Todd advised members that Stage Coach had applied to the Highways department to add the double yellow lines to create a bus pull-in area. Highways had contacted Stage Coach to inform them that the lines would be removed if they were not being used.

Councillor Todd continued that residents in Burton Street, parking opposite the junction, were breaking Highway Law, which was why the lines would be put in. There was a bottleneck problem inhibiting access for ambulances; the single yellow line parking restrictions would be applicable from 8 am – 6 pm Monday to Friday and would not include weekends. Vehicle registration numbers were taken from cars that parked at Burton street on a regular basis; the findings were that those drivers had no connection with the residents. The changes would make the junction a safer one.

Councillor Shabbir added that he had attended a meeting with Cate Harding to see what options were available to address the Star Road and Burton Street parking issues. It had been highlighted that buses were far too big for the small number of passengers travelling on them.

A member of the public raised concerns that residents felt that if the restrictions were to go ahead it would make the road wider, which would enable other car drivers to drive at increased speeds.

A member of the public raised an issue over neighbours parking on the grass verges at Lawn Avenue and asked for a solution to be found on how to tackle the problem.

Cate Harding advised that the grass verge parking issues had been raised at a previous meeting and that the Neighbourhood team and Highways department had been

	<p>looking into the hot spot areas. A handout was available for residents to take away, which detailed plans on how to tackle the issue.</p> <p>Councillor Shearman added that he had received a number of complaints from residents about grass verge parking and had held a meeting with Chris Palmer, Project Manager - Estates &amp; Facilities from Community Services to discuss the issues. It was suggested that additional an car parking area could be created for the Hydrotherapy Pool .</p> <p>Councillor Ash added that the Dogsthorpe Residents Association was involved in a project to introduce a ban on parking on grass verges. It was hoped that the scheme would be rolled out across the city, but has not to date.</p> <p><b><u>Bus Shelters</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Shearman sought clarification around the consultation over the removal of bus shelters particularly on Park Road. The Transport team did offer to install lighting but there had been no action to date and nothing had been installed.</p> <p>Cate Harding was to update Councillor Shearman after the Neighbourhood Committee meeting.</p> <p>Councillor Peach requested that a Traffic Engineer from the Highways department attend the next meeting to answer residents' questions about all the parking issues raised in this meeting.</p> <p>Councillor Shearman relayed his thanks at this meeting to former Cllr Lowndes for her work in Park Ward during her term of office.</p>	<p>Cate Harding</p>
<p>6. Greenwood Academy Trust</p>	<p>Barry Day, Chief Executive, Greenwood Academy Trust, gave a presentation on the bid for the development of a new academy at the Hereward college site at Eastfield. The Trust was now waiting for approval from the Government for plans to go ahead. The main points and issues included in the presentation were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yr 7 Places predicted to run out in 2013;</li> <li>• Children in the area currently having to travel long distances to attend secondary school;</li> <li>• Literacy and languages focus for the new school;</li> <li>• Redevelopment for the school;</li> <li>• New Library;</li> <li>• Early development of sport for the Community;</li> <li>• School for the local community encouraging pupils to walk or cycle;</li> <li>• Education centre of excellence;</li> <li>• Safety - better parking separating children away from traffic;</li> <li>• Provisions for developing reading skills for young</li> </ul>	

boys;

- Buddy system for younger students;
- Environment friendly design;
- Good ICT facilities which can be used at any time;
- Sports facilities to be used all the time not just for school;
- Hiring the Academy facilities as a venue for conferences and weddings etc.

The government was due to make a decision on the bidding process in September 2011. The Trust was to submit a speculative bid this year with the view to opening the school in 2012.

Comments and questions included:

A member of the public asked if the school would be for local children and what would happen if the academy was not successful in the bidding process to secure the funding.

Councillor Peach advised that he had attended lots of meetings and there were no guarantees but was relatively certain that the bid would be successful. Some years ago schools were closed as the places were not being filled.

The Chief Executive, Greenwood Academy Trust added that there was a small possibility that the bidding would not be successful in this round; however, there would be a new school by 2013 and the closer you lived to the school the better chance your child would stand of being allocated a place.

In a response to a question raised regarding Thomas Deacon Academy intake, Councillor Peach advised that school Governors were doing all they could to increase the figures and that work had been carried out to increase capacity at other local schools.

A member of the public asked why children living in Thorney seemed to be allocated places at Thomas Deacon Academy, when pupils in Parnwell were unable to secure places.

MP Stuart Jackson advised that he had raised the issue with the Department for Education and the admission code needed to be reviewed. There was a formula that Education department was using which created a 'black spot' for Parnwell.

A member of the public commented that he was encouraged by the Trust's vision over admissions for the school, but was concerned over the web site stating that the new school would be taking pupils from across city.

A member of the public raised a concern over the admissions at Thomas Deacon Academy; in 2003/04 the secondary school consultation was delivered, led the public

to believe that pupils attending the Hereward, John Mansfield and Deacons schools would have a place made available at Thomas Deacon Academy. The figures now show that there has been a significant drop in intake for children from Parnwell Primary school. Parents felt let down as pupils now had to travel up to an hour to get to other schools.

The Chief Executive, Greenwood Academy Trust confirmed that there would no problem with proximity admission criteria and sibling criteria would also be part of this new schools ethos, which had been included in the criteria for the bid.

A member of public raised a concern about school transportation for pupils travelling long distances to get to school and asked that Peterborough City Council provide free transport. The bus shelters were also in a very bad condition and were not suitable for pupils to wait at.

Councillor Peach confirmed that there was a national criteria set to provide free transport for any pupil travelling long distances to school, but there were some cases that did not qualify. Improvement plans were underway to modernise the old bus shelters.

A member of the public asked how big the classes would be at the new Academy and how the Trust would deal with issues such as racism and bullying?

The Chief Executive, Greenwood Academy Trust advised that class sizes would be kept to around 29-30 pupils. Smaller classes would be provided for pupils needing additional support and those that had difficulty in speaking English. There would be firm policies and home to school agreements in place to address racism and bullying. The Trust would also engage with the community to become involved in the school in order to tackle these issues.

Councillor Shabbir sought clarification over the recruitment process for teachers and whether Peterborough teachers would be given priority; or if vacancies would be open nationally to employ teachers with specialised experience?

The Chief Executive, Greenwood Academy Trust advised that all positions for administrative support and in house functions would be advertised locally. However, the Trust would run a recruitment campaign nationally to attract the best teachers they could.

In a question raised by a member of the public, the Chief Executive, Greenwood Academy Trust confirmed that the outcome of the bid would be communicated through the Education service and that letters would go to all year 6 pupils to inform parents on the day of the decision.

7. Neighbourhood Council Review	<p>Councillor Todd gave a presentation on behalf of all Ward councillors providing information on the outcome of the scrutiny review of Neighbourhood Councils, the main points raised were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name change to Neighbourhood Committees</li> <li>• The Working Group formed to discuss new ways forward and ideas</li> <li>• Communication problems in raising awareness for Neighbourhood Committees</li> <li>• Parish Councils fears</li> <li>• Purpose of meetings - engaging local residents over things like Section 106 funding; giving residents the opportunity to say how the money could be distributed</li> <li>• Separate forums proposed for the Neighbourhood Committees to enable residents meet their local Councillors and talk about ward issues.</li> <li>• Announcements to publicise the new format of the meetings.</li> <li>• Free transport to be arranged for disabled residents</li> <li>• A six month consultation to review the new format</li> </ul> <p>Residents would see a change very soon on how future meetings would be run and Ward Members were eager for residents to give their views.</p> <p>No comments or questions raised by the public.</p>	
8. Next Meeting	4th October 2011 (Venue to be confirmed as Kings School)	

Meeting ended 21:03