

CABINET	AGENDA ITEM No. 9
16 JANUARY 2017	PUBLIC REPORT

Contact Officer(s):	Pippa Turvey, Democratic and Constitutional Services Manager	Tel. 452460
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OUTCOME OF PETITIONS

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM: Directors	Deadline date : N/A
It is recommended that Cabinet notes the actions taken in respect of petitions.	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is submitted following the presentation of petitions directly to Council officers and to Council at its meeting held on 14 December 2016.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on the progress being made in response to petitions submitted at meetings of Cabinet and Council.
- 2.2 This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.3 – ‘To take a leading role in promoting the economic, environmental and social well-being of the area’.

3. TIMESCALE

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. OUTCOME OF PETITIONS

Presented to Council Officers

- 4.1 **Petition relating to Management of Woodland Area adjoining Householder’s Gardens to the back of Coniston Road, Gunthorpe, Peterborough**

This petition was presented to Council officers on 23 November 2016 by Linda and Trevor Redshaw. The petition contained 21 valid signatures and called upon Peterborough City Council to take action in relation to tree management in the woodland area behind Coniston Road, Gunthorpe.

The Council’s Amey Partnership Manager responded to the lead petitioner and confirmed that the matter had been investigated by the Natural and Historic Environment Manager and the Tree Service Manager at Amey.

The response outlined that the trees directly to the rear of the properties were not owned by Peterborough City Council, however the adjoining woodland was.

Arrangements have been made for the relevant checks to establish ownership to the land to the rear of the properties, however it was currently believed to be unregistered and not within the Council's power to maintain.

Amey would complete a health and safety inspection of all the Council owned trees to the rear of the properties and would undertake any work necessary to prune or fell trees with defined Health and Safety risks.

In the longer term the Council was keen to reduce the impact of its woodland and shelter belts on adjoining properties. Over the first part of 2017 the Trees and Woodland Strategy was to be reviews, and would include consideration of how the Council could tackle the city's shelter belts and woodlands over the medium and long term period.

4.2 **Petition relating to parking issues in Zone F**

This petition was presented to Council officers on 25 November 2016 by Andrew Moore. The petition contained 55 valid signatures and called upon Peterborough City Council to take action to deal with parking issues in Zone F.

The Council's Network and Traffic Manager responded to the lead petitioner and advised that the petition's suggestion of dividing the current Zone F into smaller zones to prevent issues from happening was a possible solution. However any such solution would require a change to the legal order that covered on street parking, and this would need to follow the statutory procedure, including consultation with all properties within Zone F. The process would take a minimum of 4-6 months to complete and would require changes to the resident parking signage throughout the zone. There would also be a subsequent transition period, in terms of enforcement, as the old resident permits could take up to 12 months to expire.

A similar process would need to be followed to implement the petition's alternative suggestion of including the street name on the parking permits. This would also require amendment to the legal order to enable Zone F to be removed. It was advised that the benefit of a parking zone was that it enabled residents to park in adjoining streets on those occasions where all the parking in their own is occupied, and this benefit would be lost with the second suggestion.

The Council were in the process of changing the way in which business permits were dealt with. These changes should be in place for April 2017. This should reduce the number of business permits issued whilst still ensuring that those businesses with a legitimate need can still operate successfully.

The operational hours for parking enforcement, which whilst not directly linked to the Zone coverage, were being reviewed by parking services at present.

The solution suggested by the Network and Traffic Manager was to consider the first option of consulting on the creation of two smaller zones, with the split being along an east-west line along Padholme Road. The Lead Petitioner's thoughts were sought on this proposal before any consultation process was commenced.

Presented to Council – 14 December 2016

4.3 **Petition relating to measures on Eastern Avenue to ensure safe crossing during busy hours**

This petition was presented to Council on 14 December 2016 by Councillor Smith. The petition contained 117 valid signatures and called upon Peterborough City Council put in place measure on Eastern Avenue to ensure safe crossing during busy hours.

The Principal Transport Planning Officer responded to the lead petitioner and advised that officers had surveyed the junction of Eastern Avenue and Newark Avenue after receiving a previous request for a new crossing. The results of this survey were currently being examined alongside the junction to if it scored highly enough to warrant a new crossing.

It was further advised that if the site did merit a new crossing, then it was likely that this would not be installed until 2018/2019. This was because the Council's capital programme for new highway infrastructure was already set out for the next financial year.

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 As the petitions presented in this report have been dealt with by Cabinet Members or officers, it is appropriate that the action taken is reported to Cabinet, prior to it being included within the Executive's report to Council.

6. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 6.1 There have been no alternative options considered.

7. IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no legal, financial or equalities implications arising from the issues considered.

8. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985)

- 8.1 Petitions presented to Cabinet and Council and responses from officers.

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