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DOGSTHORPE, EAST AND PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL (NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL C&E2)

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8 APRIL 2010, 7.00 p.m.

Members Present:

Cllrs Lowndes (chair), Collins, Peach, Ash, Kreling, Goldspink

Officers Present:

Cate Harding Neighbourhood Management, PCC
 Louise McAvoy Neighbourhood Development Worker, PCC
 Mark Speed Transport Planning Team Manager, PCC
 Cathy Summers Team Manager - Passenger Transport Contracts and Planning, PCC
 Andy Tatt Asset Management Group Manager, PCC
 Colin Miles Lawyer, PCC
 Alex Daynes Democratic Services, PCC
 Mark Denson Neighbourhood Officer, PCC

24 members of the public attended the meeting.

ITEM	DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS	ACTION
1. Apologies	Cllr Miners and Cllr Todd	
2. Declarations of Interest	None.	
3. Minutes of the last meeting	The minutes of the meeting held 17 December 2009 were approved.	
Notice Boards	<p>The Chairman requested that those in the audience take a few minutes to ask questions of attending officer on any issue that was highlighted on the information notice boards. The following responses were given:</p> <p><u>Site Allocations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Collins explained the colours codes for the map provided – purple = partly or undeveloped for employment use, orange = allocated for housing; • Cllr Collins advised that it looked like several sites were not included in the allocation document provided – a more up to date map was needed. <p><u>Bus Service:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council buses are funded by the council budget rather than central government. Where some less used services have been reduced, improvements have been made to other services. <p><u>Road Works:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Collins requested that East Ward residents raise any 	

	<p>issues that needed addressing in their area;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Collins advised that the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities had already recommended 20mph outside every rural school and encouraged Neighbourhood Councils to request the same for their areas; • Cllr Lowndes – if varied time restrictions for speed limits it could be more difficult to enforce; • Mark Speed – This is currently the final year of the Local Transport Plan (LTP) 2 and the council is coming into LTP3 and will look again at a proposed 20mph for Park Ward. 	
<p>4. Parking on Verges</p>	<p>The Asset Management Group Manager advised the audience that a toolkit was currently being created to better tackle the issue of parking on verges and requested ideas to include in it. Partner organisations had already been contacted to repair damage done in the area following renovation or building works.</p> <p>Responses to questions raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council was working with Mears to address damage caused and to stop damage being cause in the first place; • Not all verges are classed as highways so different types of work could be carried out depending on the classification; • Many older roads were not designed for multiple cars for each house so need to be mindful that some roads are restricted in what can be done; • Old bylaws might not apply if there has been more recent legislation to replace them or when the council went Unitary; • Some traffic legislations overrule bylaws regarding parking, a working group is being put together to form new policy; <p>Following discussions, the main issues raised and suggestions for improvements included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a verge scheme so take ownership of verge; • Time banking to pay volunteers for work done; • More pull-offs or grass-crete; • Education of motorists and residents; • Natural deterrents/obstacles; • Seek compensation from residents/tenants or offenders; • Inclusion in tenancy agreements to maintain verges; • Different uses for verges; • Spread costs over time of dropping kerbs for residents outside properties. <p>ACTION: Investigate legal status of previous bylaws regarding parking and whether they are still enforceable.</p>	<p>Colin Miles</p>
<p>5. Closure of Public Conveniences</p>	<p>The Neighbourhood Manager introduced the item and provided the audience with pictures of the conditions of the recently closed facility in Alma Road. The Neighbourhood Manager asked the audience to discuss the issues regarding the use of and reasons for reopening.</p> <p>Comments received included:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The two public facilities in Dogsthorpe, are well used. What alternative is there? • Better policing needed not just closure of the facility; • More action needed against anti-social behaviour then the facility would not become run-down; • Other cities are able to maintain public toilets, there is no other alternative. <p>DISCUSSION: Further discussion took place and comments were submitted to the Neighbourhood Manager to develop.</p> <p>Cllr Goldspink leaves</p>	
7. Open Session	<p>Attendees were given opportunity to ask questions and raise issues affecting the area they lived in. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problems with traffic accidents at Garton End Road – awkward corner – cars ending up in gardens etc; • Cllr Collins – Junction off Parnwell Way and Finchfield – impossible to turn right; • Junction 8 – revisit decision? Lots of money – consider footbridge, pavements around the Parnwell area; • Central Park – concerned about dogs running free off lead out of control especially around children. Children’s play area – often taken over by teenagers, not young children – intimidating - Cllr Lowndes – will bring to attention of Friends of Central Park; • Cllr Ash – condition of paving and footpaths especially slabs wonky – A Tatt – there is an ongoing slab replacement programme; • Bishops Road – lots of flooding as water comes back up through drains – very frequently; • Curb on corner of Star Road and Bishops Road – widen and concrete the corner? • Cathedral Square – lots of works but no trees for shade; • Toilets – local retailers could provide toilets for non-customers, maybe for a fee – maybe in Tourist information or Town Hall put up details; • Practice Manager for Millfield Medical Centre has offered to purchase the toilet facilities in Alma Road; • Cllr Kreling – teenagers can’t play in park without being offered drugs; • Number of wooden bridges around the city – now very dangerous due to condition of footing; • Increase in complaints re weight limit on Oxney Road; • Matalan Car Park – traffic backing up and blocks other roads especially through Millfield and Triangle. When will work be done to alleviate this? 	
8. Next Meeting	To be advised after Council on 14 April 2010.	

Meeting closed 8.50 p.m.

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