



Cllr P Nash (Chairman)  
 Bretton North: Cllr W Fitzgerald, Cllr S Martin, Cllr P Nash  
 Bretton South: Cllr M Fletcher  
 Ravensthorpe: Cllr G Nawaz, Cllr E Murphy  
 West: Cllr M Dalton, Cllr N Arculus, Cllr S Dalton

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Of a meeting of the Peterborough West Neighbourhood Council  
 (Area North & West 3)**

**held on**

**Thursday 2 June 2011 at 7.00pm at Ravensthorpe Primary School,  
 Brigstock Court, Peterborough**

**Members Present:**

Chairman	Councillor Nash
Bretton North	Councillors Nash (as Chairman), Fitzgerald & Martin
Ravensthorpe	Councillor Murphy
West	Councillors Arculus, M Dalton & S Dalton

**Officers Present:**

Julie Rivett	Neighbourhood Manager, PCC
Andrew Edwards	Head of Growth and Regeneration, PCC
Peter Gell	Strategic Regulatory Services Manager, PCC
Richard Matthews	Senior Trading Standards Officer, PCC
Jamie McFarlane	Neighbourhood Officer, PCC
Cherry Lester	Locality Manager, Young People's Service, PCC
Sabrina Bezkorowajnyj	Community Based Youth Worker, PCC
Carmen Jeffery	Community Based Youth Worker, PCC
Kathie Longbone	Neighbourhood Lead, NHS Peterborough
Bethan Griffiths	Media & Communications Officer, PCC
Carol Aston	Crime Reduction Officer, Cambridgeshire Police
Eileen Le Voi	MD of Safe Local Trades
Gemma George	Senior Governance Officer, PCC
Dania Castagliuolo	Acting Governance Officer, PCC

**Others Present:**

15 members of the public attended and Mr Stewart Jackson MP was also in attendance.

ITEM	DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS	ACTION
1. Apologies for absence	Apologies were received from Councillor Fletcher and Councillor Nawaz.	
2. Declarations of Interest	There were no declarations of interest.	
3. Minutes from the previous meeting and	The minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2011 were approved as a true and accurate record.	

<p>matters arising</p>	<p><u>Library Hours</u></p> <p>A local resident addressed the meeting and stated that he had previously been advised that he would be contacted with regards to a petition he had submitted against the reduction in library opening hours.</p> <p>In response, the Neighbourhood Manager advised that consideration had been given to the petition received and after further discussions a change of direction had been confirmed with regards to the opening hours.</p> <p>Councillor Fitzgerald commented that the original proposal to cut the opening hours of the libraries had been reviewed following representations received and the Cabinet Member for Culture, Recreation and Strategic Commissioning had issued a statement highlighting that some cuts were necessary but they would not be as severe as first anticipated.</p> <p><u>New School Buildings at West Town School</u></p> <p>Councillor Murphy sought clarification as to the progress being made on the new school provision, which had originally been scheduled for build in 2013 / 2014. He advised that Jonathan Lewis, Assistant Director Education &amp; Resources, had informed him that the original dates were incorrect. Would this build be put back on the agenda? In response, the Chairman advised that she would look into this matter and get back to Councillor Murphy in due course.</p>	<p>PN/JR</p>
<p>4. Election of a Vice Chairman</p>	<p>Councillor Matthew Dalton was nominated by Councillor Fitzgerald. This nomination was seconded by Councillor Samantha Dalton and Councillor Matthew Dalton was duly elected as Vice Chairman of the Committee.</p>	
<p>5. Open Session</p>	<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>City Hospital Traffic Lights</u></p> <p>A local resident addressed the Committee and requested further information regarding the City hospital Traffic Lights. She felt that nothing was being done about the issue and the Traffic Lights continued to be dangerous. In response, the Chairman advised that she would look into this and provide feedback.</p> <p><u>Westwood Grange Allotments</u></p> <p>A local resident addressed the Committee and queried what was happening with the Westwood Grange Allotments. He had enquired on numerous occasions and had been told by the Planning Department that the allotments were nothing to do with the Council. In response, the Chairman advised that she would look into this point and get planning to provide the gentleman with a response.</p> <p>Councillor Matthew Dalton requested to be copied in to the response and Councillor Murphy added that something needed to be done about the situation as soon as possible.</p>	<p>PN/JR</p> <p>PN/JR</p>

	<p><u>Emergency Planning</u></p> <p>A local resident addressed the Committee and stated that, with regards to emergency planning, it was his responsibility to identify vulnerable people in his area. He had been informed that he would be contacted by someone with regards to emergency planning, however he had not been contacted so far. There had been a meeting planned recently however this had been cancelled, this was not good practice. In response, the Neighbourhood Manager advised that Andy Tatt, the Network Management Group Manager and Stuart Hamilton, the Resilience Services Manager would be contacted directly and a response would be provided. Going forward, these issues were pertinent to the whole Neighbourhood Committee and they would be revisited.</p> <p>Mr Stewart Jackson MP addressed the Committee and stated that he would be happy to write a letter to the Environment Agency on behalf of all those residents concerned with emergency planning. In response, the local resident stated that there was no need for Mr Jackson MP to write a letter on his behalf as he would take the situation up with the Council directly.</p> <p>Councillor Samantha Dalton addressed the Committee in further response to the residents concerns and stated that floodrisk was due to be addressed within the next Council Budget. In the interim, Councillor Dalton stated that she would request that the Flood &amp; Water Management Officer to write to all concerned residents.</p> <p>Mr Stephen Lee from Thorpe Gate Resident's Association requested to be copied in to this letter.</p> <p>Councillor Wayne Fitzgerald stated that it was important that contingency plans were put in place to look after vulnerable people and it should be the responsibility of the Resilience Services Manager to look into this. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that she would look into this subject further and provide a response.</p> <p><u>Bin Provision</u></p> <p>A local resident addressed the Committee and advised that the bin provision around Netherton shops and the surrounding area was inadequate and unsuitable. The bins were not emptied regularly, they had no provision for recyclable rubbish and they were not child friendly for an area with three schools. In response, Councillor Matthew Dalton advised that a portion of the CLF fund could possibly be used to this end. The bins in question were not owned by the Council however, bins could be purchased and placed on Council owned land. Residents were requested to write to Councillor Dalton and request this formally.</p> <p><u>Rubbish on Midland Road</u></p> <p>Councillor Ed Murphy addressed the Committee and stated that there was an issue with rubbish accumulating along Midland Road. Could this be looked into? In response, Councillor Samantha Dalton advised that the problem had been previously identified and the site had been earmarked for a clean up during a forthcoming 'Week of Action'.</p>	<p><b>SD</b></p> <p><b>JR</b></p>
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<p>6. Hospital and Station Quarter</p>	<p>Andrew Edwards, Head of Growth and Regeneration, addressed the Committee and gave a presentation which outlined the proposals for the hospital and station quarter.</p> <p>Key points were advised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The setting up of Growth and Regeneration;</li> <li>• The establishment of Opportunity Peterborough;</li> <li>• The roles of Growth and Regeneration, including acting as enablers to bring forward development that would not have happened otherwise and using the Council's assets and requirements to facilitate growth;</li> <li>• The focus for growth was on key sites;</li> <li>• The key sites were, South Bank, Retail Quarter, Northminster, the Station Quarter and the Hospital Quarter;</li> <li>• The Station Quarter was an important site with massive potential;</li> <li>• The site was attractive due to its proximity to London;</li> <li>• The Council did not own any land on the Station Quarter, however work could be undertaken to bring developers together to make the most of what is available;</li> <li>• The Hospital site was owned by the hospital;</li> <li>• The published Supplementary Planning Document provided more flexibility on the site so there was room for manoeuvre;</li> <li>• The future of Vawser Lodge residential care home was uncertain at that time.</li> </ul> <p>Mr Stewart Jackson MP addressed the Committee and queried why only one potential developer had been introduced to the site so far? Why had other developers not had the opportunity to bid in the open market in order to gain the best value for local residents? In response, Andrew Edwards advised that he was not aware of the details of the one offer however it would be up to the hospital to decide whether the offer was ultimately acceptable.</p> <p>A local resident addressed the Committee and queried whether the memorial wing of the hospital was to be retained. In response, Mr Stewart Jackson MP advised that the wing was to remain.</p> <p>Councillor Arculus addressed the Committee and stated that the site was extremely important for the city of Peterborough and it was disappointing that there was no provision for education contained within the Supplementary Planning Document. Would this not be an ideal university site? In response, Andrew Edwards advised that he would find out why no education provision had been outlined in the Supplementary Planning Document and he would email the findings directly to all interested. With regards to the site being allocated for the university, it was probably due to the fact that this provision would not be of high value.</p> <p>Councillor Fitzgerald added that the site had been considered four years ago for the university however it had not been progressed due to the issue of value.</p> <p>A local resident questioned the weight held by the Supplementary Planning Document. In response, Andrew Edwards stated that the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">AE</p>
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	<p>Document was still Council Policy however it could be challenged.</p> <p>Councillor Arculus queried what could be done to link the Station Quarter to the city centre. The improvements did not appear to be very sympathetic to this issue. In response, Andrew Edwards advised that work would be undertaken with the developers and discussions would be had with Network Rail to identify the best way of linking the railway to the city centre.</p> <p>A local resident expressed concern at the regeneration and queried what it would do to the community? In response, Andrew Edwards advised that the regeneration would help to create employment, it would bring more people to the city which would ultimately lead to more spending on housing and council tax. There would be long term benefit.</p> <p>Councillor Murphy addressed the Committee and requested clarification as to whether land along Midland Road was going to be used for a cycle route or for development land. In response, Andrew Edwards stated that he would enquire about this and respond to Councillor Murphy in due course.</p>	<b>AE</b>
<p>7. Rouge Traders and Distraction Burglary</p>	<p>Carol Aston, the Local Crime and Prevention Officer, Cambridgeshire Police, addressed the Committee and gave a talk about distraction burglary and rogue traders.</p> <p>Key points were advised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rogue traders were linked to distraction burglary;</li> <li>• Distraction burglary occurred when a trick or deception was used to gain entry to a premises to steal;</li> <li>• Between January and March 2011 there had been 1339 incidents across the country of distraction burglary;</li> <li>• There was only a 14% detection rate due to the majority of victims being elderly;</li> <li>• The key tricks used were “I need to read the meter”, “We are from the Police” and “We are from the water board”;</li> <li>• Operation Liberal, based at Leicestershire Police, was a national police operation in place to tackle this type of burglary;</li> <li>• A brochure had been produced which all attendees of the Committee could take to place in public areas;</li> <li>• There were certain groups of people who were extremely hard to target with regards to educating them about this type of incident;</li> <li>• If anyone was aware of anyone who was particularly vulnerable and susceptible to this type of crime, they could contact Carol directly;</li> <li>• People did get arrested for this type of crime. Three had recently been arrested and jailed.</li> </ul> <p>Richard Matthews, Senior Trading Standards Officer, addressed the Committee and gave an overview of the problems faced with regards to rogue traders. Attendees were advised that if anyone was a victim of cold calling and work commencing without permission, they were to contact Trading Standards and the Police immediately.</p> <p>Eileen Le Voi, owner and founder of Safe Local Trades, addressed the Committee and gave an overview of her company. Their aim was to educate people into not being fooled by rogue traders and it was</p>	

	<p>advised that there was currently a lack of regulations around tradesmen. Safe Local Trades offered the public a safe avenue for sourcing a tradesman. Eileen further outlined how the Safe Local Trades website worked and attendees were advised that if they had any further questions, they could approach Eileen after the meeting closed.</p>	
<p>8. Live Healthy, Live Green</p>	<p>Kathie Longbone, Neighbourhood Lead, NHS Peterborough, addressed the Committee and gave a presentation on the 'Live Healthy, Live Green Campaign'.</p> <p>Key points were advised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The campaign was the result of a collaboration between a number of businesses across Peterborough;</li> <li>• Peterborough had a higher number of births than the national average;</li> <li>• Life expectancy for girls and boys born in the least and most deprived areas varied by over 10 years for girls and 11 years for boys;</li> <li>• By 2018 it was predicted that obesity and binge drinking would have increased substantially with a decline in the number of smokers;</li> <li>• Peterborough recognised its impact on local and environmental challenges and had aspirations to be Environment Capital;</li> <li>• Each household produced a large amount of waste which was deposited into landfill each year and a large proportion of children travelled to school by car;</li> <li>• Change was needed and doing nothing was not an option;</li> <li>• New partnerships were being developed to deliver effective and efficient change;</li> <li>• Through partnership work support programmes would be delivered to help people drink less, eat healthy, lose weight and stop smoking amongst other things;</li> <li>• Everyone across the city needed to play their part;</li> <li>• There were 'My Pledge' cards available for all attendees to complete identifying one thing they would change to live health and live green.</li> </ul> <p>The Neighbourhood Manager addressed the Committee and stated that the Neighbourhood Committee had spent money on a green gym.</p> <p>The Chairman stated that Kathie should speak to the Youth Workers as the younger people were keen to learn.</p> <p>Councillor Arculus addressed the Committee and stated that he was shocked at the difference in life expectancy for underprivileged children. Would the project contribute to reducing this gap? In response, Kathie Longbone advised that this aspect was of top priority.</p> <p>Councillor Matthew Dalton addressed the Committee and stated that the best way to lose weight was to exercise. Therefore what work would be undertaken to promote this across the city and to ensure that the youth were getting involved at an early age. In response, Kathie Longbone advised that this aspect would be addressed and free exercise was to be promoted across the city next year linking in with the Olympic Games.</p>	

	<p>Councillor Fitzgerald addressed the Committee and stated that the pledges made by people did not necessarily have to be personal, they could be a pledge to help someone else change their way of life. Councillor Fitzgerald further stated that he believed the presentation should be taken to the Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee.</p>	
<p>9. Verge Parking</p>	<p>Peter Gell, Strategic Regulatory Services Manager, addressed the Committee and provided an update on the situation with regards to verge parking.</p> <p>Key points were advised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council was looking to increase the number of Parking Officers;</li> <li>• Verge parking was an issue in a lot of towns across the country;</li> <li>• Peter Gell had undertaken a number of site visits to identify the main issues;</li> <li>• The Council were unable to take action unless someone was parking on double yellow lines on the road;</li> <li>• Officers did not want to displace the issue and simply move it to another part of the city;</li> <li>• Bollards or planting could be put in place but tarmac was not an ideal option;</li> <li>• Data was being collated from residents and hotspots were to be mapped out;</li> <li>• Once the hotspots had been mapped, local affordable solutions would be sought;</li> <li>• The possibility of taking civil action against repeat offenders was being looked into;</li> <li>• Proposals would be drawn up and brought back to the Neighbourhood Committee for comment and discussion;</li> <li>• The problem would not be easy to solve, but it would be looked into.</li> </ul> <p>Councillor Samantha Dalton addressed the Committee and stated that verge parking had been brought up at every single meeting so far, therefore it was of concern to a number of residents. Councillor Dalton proposed that a portion of the £25k to be spent on capital projects was put towards this issue.</p> <p>Councillor Fitzgerald addressed the Committee and stated that the issue was predominantly an issue in Ravensthorpe however Bretton suffered also. There was a lack of available car parking spaces, therefore re-alignment to create more spaces was required and areas to do this upon needed to be identified. A project like this would mean utilising capital spend and the further possibility of utilising S106 monies going forward should also be looked into.</p> <p>Councillor Murphy addressed the Committee and stated that the imposition of further car parking spaces may help to alleviate the issue but it would not solve it completely. Councillor Murphy further added that action could be taken which would not cost £25k. He had requested a letter to be sent from legal to residents of Holdfield advising them that legal action would be taken against them if they continued to park in they way in which they had been. This letter had yet to be sent, and Councillor Murphy stated that he would gladly send the letter himself if the Council would not oblige. In response, Peter Gell stated that there was currently no statutory backing behind notices issued, however there were criminal sanctions against graffiti and flytipping.</p>	<p>PG</p>

	<p>This was currently being looked into and it was advised that Peter Gell would liaise with Councillor Murphy and keep him in the loop of progress made.</p> <p>A local resident addressed the Committee and stated that Westwood would be difficult to manage and innovative schemes would need to be implemented. In response, Mr Stewart Jackson MP stated that future consideration needed to be given to the synergies between Planning and Highways and works to combat these issues should be looked into and addressed at an earlier stage.</p> <p>A local resident stated that it would be appreciated if deadlines could be given on this matter as it had been going on for such a long time. Civil action should be brought against people parking irresponsibly.</p> <p>Councillor Samantha Dalton requested that Peter Gell look at the issue further, identify costs and bring an overview back to the next meeting for further discussion.</p>	<p><b>PG</b></p> <p><b>PG</b></p>
Any other business	The Chairman stated that members of the Youth Forum were keen to engage further and they would like to come and speak at the Neighbourhood Committee meetings. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that she would look into how they could become more involved in future.	
10. Next Meeting	The next meeting was due to be held on Thursday 1 September 2011.	

**The meeting closed at 9.10pm**