

PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Hampton and The Ortons Neighbourhood Council (South 2) held on Monday, 7 December, 2009 at The Goldhay Centre, 105 Paynels, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough.

Present: Councillors Goodwin (Chairman), Allen, Eley, North, Seaton and Trueman.

Officers Present: John Harrison – Executive Director of Strategic Resources
Steven Pilsworth – Head of Corporate Services
Lisa Emmanuel – Neighbourhood Manager
Emma Black – Head of Legal (Litigation)
David Blackburn – Principal Democratic Services Officer (Clerk)

There were 35 persons present in the audience.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Scott and Winslade.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 October, 2009 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to inclusion of the following additional wording in Minute 4 – Community Action Planning: “There was a discussion about the future of Orton Gate during which it was identified that the site had been sold by the city council to a developer. Councillor Trueman suggested that a future meeting of the neighbourhood council might provide an opportunity for the developer to update residents on proposals for Orton Gate.”

3. Naming of Neighbourhood Council

The Neighbourhood Manager reported upon public consultation undertaken since the previous meeting concerning the naming of the Neighbourhood Council.

It was agreed that the Neighbourhood Council for the South 2 area of the city be named Hampton and The Ortons Neighbourhood Council.

4. You Said We Did

The Neighbourhood Manager provided an update on the following matters:

Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour on Public Footpaths

A review had been instigated of alley closures and gating procedures and it was now proposed that best practice be examined in other areas as well as the legal implications of any changes. It was anticipated that the review would be completed early in the new year. In response to questions from members of the public, the Neighbourhood Manager indicated that any application to the Neighbourhood Management Team would be considered including those relating to footpaths that had been rejected for closure previously. A map of the location of public footpaths would be published as part of the

review detailing those where closure or other alternative measures were being proposed.

Maps of Neighbourhood Areas

Since the previous meeting, maps had been produced of the respective neighbourhoods which would be used in future publicity arrangements. A copy of the map of Hampton and The Ortons neighbourhood management area had been displayed in the meeting room.

Hampton Development

A public meeting had been held on 1 December, 2009 regarding the development of Hampton. The issues raised at the meeting were as followings:

1. Roads and footpaths: changes to street names, use of rumble strips and introduction of reduced speed limits;
2. Parking: along Eagle Way and Vale Drive, the introduction of parking restrictions and the need for police action in respect of traffic congestion in the vicinity of schools arising from parents picking their children up from school;
3. Landscaping: the completion of landscaping works at Serpentine Lake and the opening of the north east end of the lake to enable a full circuit walk;
4. Open space and facilities: provision of more park facilities for older children and the need for a greater number of litter bins;
5. Vandalism and graffiti: measures to clean up graffiti and provide more youth activities;
6. Lighting: current problems in Eagle Way and Falcon Way; and
7. Other issues: the need for greater public notice of meetings and the use of schools for circulation of letters via children of forthcoming meetings.

It was agreed that the update be received and noted.

5. Area Specific Issues

Anti-Social Drinking in Church Drive Shopping Parade

The Neighbourhood Manager explained that Orton Waterville Parish Council had raised concerns about anti-social behaviour in Church Drive Shopping Parade which appeared to be caused by the excessive consumption of alcohol of certain individuals. A representative of the Parish Council explained that it had been disappointing when a Designated Public Protection Order (DPPO) had been introduced in Orton Longueville but not in Orton Waterville. It appeared that this had led to alcohol induced anti-social behaviour to be displaced into Orton Waterville.

A representative of the police explained that there had only been 8 recorded incidents of anti-social behaviour in the area since the beginning of the year and if there was a problem, telephone calls were not being made by the public to the police control room to enable the police to take prompt action and to provide the basis of a case for seeking the introduction of a DPPO. The police were undertaking work in the area to prevent the sale of alcohol to children and a DPPO could be considered if a greater volume of calls were logged about incidents in the area.

The procedure for a DPPO was explained and it included the following:

1. Review of the number of incidents over the previous 2 years;
2. Referral to the Community Safety Team;
3. A 28 day period of consultation;
4. Public notice of proposals; and
5. A formal decision by the City Council.

However, it needed to be understood that the DPPO did not represent a ban on drinking and required deployment of police resources to enforce it.

In response to comments about the involvement of young people in anti-social behaviour, a representative of the Young People's Service reported that resource allocations were prioritised according to need. Contact details for the Safer Peterborough Partnership which would consider any proposal for a DPPO would be published in the minutes of the meeting.

http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/community_information/saferpeterborough.aspx

Great Haddon Development

The Neighbourhood Manager reported that a planning application had been submitted by the developer for 5300 houses at Great Haddon. Details would be provided at public meetings which were planned to be held at Serpentine Green (a daytime meeting) and the Goldhay Centre TBC (an evening meeting) with additional public consultation due to be undertaken via post. Councillor Seaton referred to the scale of the proposed development and stressed the need to achieve effective public consultation. The Neighbourhood Management Team were happy to consider additional venues for public meetings if they were suggested and an extension of the copy deadline for the Hampton Gazette would be sought to enable details of the proposals for Great Haddon to be published.

It was agreed that all means of public consultation be investigated in providing full details of the proposed development at Great Haddon to the public.

6. Council Budget 2010/11

The Executive Director of Strategic Resources reported on the Council's budget setting process for 2010/11 and identified the following points:

1. The lack of funding available for local government in the current financial year and the likelihood that there would be less available in future years regardless of which political party formed the next government after the general election;
2. The government had held back £4 million of funding as part of the Council's settlement for 2010/2011;
3. Only 25p of every £1 of funding came from council tax; and
4. A 2.5% increase was proposed to balance the council's budget.

Major capital projects requiring funding in the area of the Neighbourhood Council included Orton Longueville School, Hampton Hargate Primary School, the Joint Service Centre and Hampton College extension. In addition, capital funding of £25,000 had been allocated to each Neighbourhood Council which would require robust Community Action Plans to be developed as a pre-requisite for the release of the capital funding. In addition, there was potentially £5 million of service funding available within existing budgets across the 7 Neighbourhood Council areas.

In response to a comment from a member of the public about the effectiveness of the community leadership fund in supporting local projects, it was identified that the current allocation to the fund of £250,000 remained in the budget for the next 5 financial years although options would need to be considered over whether the community leadership fund should be retained in its present form or combined with funding for Neighbourhood Councils.

Councillor Seaton, speaking in his capacity as the Cabinet Member for Resources, identified that:

1. The proposed council tax increase of 2.5% would only generate additional revenue of £1.5 million in comparison with the £4 million clawed back by central government;
2. The Council would continue to seek ways of using its resources more effectively and had been recognised recently by the Local Government Chronicle as having the best efficiency initiative in the UK; and
3. The Council was eager to seek the views of the public regarding service and budget priorities for the forthcoming financial year.

The Chair identified that further information about the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan could be supplied to Members of the public on request. Additional information was available on the Council's website and would also be published in the Evening Telegraph.

In response to questions from members of the public, it was identified that the Highways Agency was responsible for trunk roads and was funded separately from the Council. It was also confirmed that every effort was being made to make progress with the proposed Hampton Primary School extension with solutions being sought to overcome the problems inherent in it being designated as a site of special scientific interest with a large colony of great crested newts.

It was agreed that the report on the budget setting process be received and noted.

7. Standards Briefing

Mr David Whiles of the Council's Standards Committee gave a presentation on the work of the Committee and explained the Members' code of conduct. Overall, there had been few complaints received about the conduct of City Councillors and none at all received about Parish Councillors. Further information could be obtained from the Council's website or the website of the Standards Board for England.

It was agreed that the presentation be received and noted.

8. Community Action Planning

The Neighbourhood Manager led a consultation exercise involving all members of the public who were present at the meeting to identify service priorities for inclusion within the Community Action Plan for the Neighbourhood. It was identified that there would be further public engagement including public surveys and a road show prior to the finalisation of the Community Action Plan in March 2010.

It was agreed that the priorities identified at the meeting be included within the development of the Community Action Plan.

9. Open Session

The Chair invited members of the public to raise any matters affecting their communities. The main issues identified during this part of the meeting were as follows:

Availability of Minutes

In response to a comment from a member of the public, it was identified that copies of the draft minutes could be supplied on request to members of the public in advance of the next meeting on completion of the orange comments forms that were available at the meeting.

Standing Invitations to Meetings

A member of the public referred to a suggestion made at the previous meeting that representatives of Neighbourhood Watch should receive a standing invitation to meetings. The Neighbourhood Manager said that this suggestion had been followed up and a standing invitation would be issued to all future meetings. The Neighbourhood Manager continued by explaining the procedure for appointing a community representative for each ward and invited nominations from members of the public.

It was agreed that standing invitations be extended to:

1. The Chamber of Commerce;
2. The Chair of the Hampton Vale and Hampton Hargate Parish Steering Group;
3. The Orton Southgate Residents Association;
4. Neighbourhood Watch; and
5. One community representative per ward comprising the area of the Neighbourhood Council.

Publicity for Meetings

In response to a question from a member of the public, the Communications Officer outlined the range of initiatives being investigated to promote Neighbourhood Council meetings more effectively. It was explained that every household received a copy of "Your Peterborough" magazine which contained details of the dates, times and venues for future meetings.

Young People's Facilities

In response to a comment made about the need for facilities for Young People, the Neighbourhood Manager confirmed that an item on this issue would be included in the agenda for the next meeting.

10. Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting be held at the Herlington Centre, Orton Malborne, Peterborough on Tuesday, 30 March, 2010 at 7.00pm.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and for the comments they had made during the meeting.

CHAIRMAN
7.05– 9.00PM