

**DOGSTHORPE, EAST AND PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE
 (AREA CENTRAL AND EAST 2)**

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 23 JANUARY 2011, 7.00 pm
 AT WELLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, DOGSTHORPE, PETERBOROUGH**

Members Present:

Chairman	Councillor Peach
Dogsthorpe	Councillors Ash, Miners and Saltmarsh
East	Councillor Todd
Park	Councillors Peach (as Chairman), Kreling and Shearman

Officers Present:

John Harrison	Executive Director, Strategic Resources, PCC
Jonathan Lewis	Assistant Director, Education and Resources, PCC
Steven Pilsworth	Head of Corporate Services
Simon Machen	Head of Planning, Transport and Engineering, PCC
Adrian Chapman	Head of Neighbourhood Services
Leonie McCarthy	Social Inclusion Manager
Cate Harding	Neighbourhood Manager
Caroline Rowan	Assistant Neighbourhood Manager
Gosia Lasota	Partnership Co-ordinator Central & East
Sukana Ladak	Community Based Youth Worker, PCC
James Harrison	Sustainable Travel Officer
Pep Cipriano	SaferPeterborough Communications Manager
Gemma George	Senior Governance Officer, PCC

Also in Attendance:

Councillor David Seaton	Cabinet Member for Resources
Councillor Mohammed Nadeem	Central Ward Councillor
Inspector Dominic Glazebrook	Cambridgeshire Constabulary
June Campbell	Positively Parnwell Development Co-ordinator
Bernadetta Omondi	The Kenyan Association of Peterborough
Gary Conder	Innova Development Trust
Christine Cunningham	Innova Development Trust

Others Present:

Thirty five members of the public attended, including road crossing patrollers and representatives from the Young People's Locality Forum, Olive Branch Community Garden, Old Dogsthorpe Residents Association, Victoria Park Resident's Association, Neighbourhood Champions, East Neighbourhood Panel and Cross Keys Homes.

ITEM	DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS	ACTION
1. Apologies for Absence	Apologies were received from Councillor Shabbir and Councillor Goldspink.	
2. Declarations of Interest	There were no declarations of interest.	
3. Minutes from	The minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2011 were	

the Previous Meeting	approved as a true and accurate record.	
4. Issues Arising from the Previous Meeting	<p>The Chairman advised that update sheets, detailing issues arising and responses, had been placed on each table and there was also a rolling Powerpoint presentation being shown.</p> <p>The Chairman further advised that members of the Transport Team were in attendance to answer any questions that residents may have in relation to the Local Transport Plan.</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned for ten minutes.</p>	
5. Open Session	<p>Attendees of the meeting were given the opportunity to ask questions and raise issues affecting the areas in which they lived. These included:</p> <p><u>Travellers situated in Saxby Gardens</u></p> <p>A number of local residents were in attendance in order to highlight their concerns with regards to the recent influx of unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller encampments into the area.</p> <p>Mrs Wilson, a resident of Saxby Gardens, addressed the Committee and requested a response as to what could be done to tackle the situation. Mrs Wilson also raised a number of further points to which responses were sought.</p> <p>The Head of Neighbourhood Services provided an overview of the situation in relation to the Travellers located in the area and responded to the queries raised by Mrs Wilson. The main points highlighted included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers were also frustrated by the rubbish left behind by Travellers as this had to be cleared up once they had moved on; • One caravan in the area housed a child with serious health related issues. This family could not therefore be moved on at the current time; • The law further stated that Travellers and their immediate family were permitted to stay together, however, there were ten caravans located in the area and this was excessive; • There had been issues with the caravans blocking the roads. These incidents could be reported to the Police; • Most of the caravans present were proposed to be moved on, however, there were no allocated transit sites currently located in Peterborough. Work was being undertaken with Peterborough City Council's Cabinet in order to rectify this situation, as a transit location was urgently required; • The caravans could not be moved onto the site located at Oxney Road as there was no appropriate space available on the site for further caravans. <p>Mrs Wilson along with other local residents further addressed the Committee and requested clarification as to why Travellers appeared to be exempt from the law, particularly in relation to</p>	

litter and parking issues. In response, Inspector Dominic Glazebrook advised that if Travellers were committing offences, then these should be reported to the Police. Inspector Glazebrook further stated that he would be happy to take the details of complaints from residents in order to look into them further.

Councillor Ash commented that he sympathised with the local residents, however, the Council's hands were tied with regards to the law. A different solution was required.

Councillor Miners commented that he too sympathised with the local residents and understood their frustrations. He further queried why civil law was used when dealing with Travellers and not criminal law. In response, the Head of Neighbourhood Services advised that the Council used civil law as this tended to be a faster process. The Council had also enlisted the services of a Barrister in order to assess the Council's current processes and procedures.

Following further comments with regards to relocating the caravans, it was identified that finding a transit site within Peterborough was a priority. A local resident queried whether the site could be situated on the East of England showground and in response the Head of Neighbourhood Services stated that the showground was not in ownership of the Council. There were however a number of possible sites that were owned by the Council but one of the issues faced was finding a site not situated where community tensions may increase.

Mr Kevin Bell, a local resident addressed the Committee and stated that he understood that there had to be a certain duty of care for the Travellers, however, when were the people of Welland going to also be looked after? A long term strategy to avoid such a situation occurring again needed to be looked into and a meeting to further discuss proposals should be held. In response, the Social Inclusion Manager stated that Travellers could arrive at any time and if residents had information with regards to vulnerable sites, they could contact her directly.

Local residents once again commented that the issue with Travellers parking on the roads and blocking other vehicles was not being addressed properly. Inspector Glazebrook reiterated his further advice and stated that if anyone did witness this behaviour, it should be reported to the Police.

The Chairman addressed the Committee and stated that a formal recommendation could be made by the Committee to the Council in order to identify the importance of the issue and to ensure its progression. The Committee therefore recommended that:

“The Dogsthorpe, East and Park Neighbourhood Committee requests that the Council urgently identifies possible sites to be used as Traveller transit sites in the city”.

The Chairman further addressed the Committee and stated

	<p>that a subsequent meeting between the relevant individuals would be organised by the Head of Neighbourhood Services to further discuss the issue.</p>	AC
	<p><u>Litter along All Saints Road</u></p> <p>A local resident raised the issue of increasing amounts of litter appearing along All Saints Road. Currently, there was a bin located at one end of the road but not at the other. In addition, there had also been an issue with dog fouling in the area and larger items, such as beds, being discarded. In response, the Head of Neighbourhood Services advised that Enterprise Peterborough was now responsible for the street cleaning service. A meeting was due to take place between the Council and Enterprise and the situation with regards to the increase in litter and dog fouling in the area would be conveyed. A request for an additional bin would also be made.</p> <p>With regards to larger items being discarded, it was advised that a more proactive approach was being taken, with stronger enforcement. The idea of implementing community skips was also being discussed. It was further advised that there had been no evidence produced which had indicated that there had been an increase in the amount of larger items being discarded since the bulky waste collections had been removed.</p>	CH
	<p><u>Verge Parking</u></p> <p>Councillor Kreling highlighted that there had been complaints received with regards to verge parking along Lynton Road, Clare Road and Norton Road. It was therefore suggested that these roads be added to the verge implementation scheme.</p>	CH
	<p><u>Toilet Block Birchtree Avenue</u></p> <p>Councillor Ash commented that perhaps disabled people could be issued with a key so they were still able to utilise the toilet facilities. It was advised that an update on this issue would be given at the next meeting.</p>	CH
	<p><u>Sycamore Park</u></p> <p>A local resident commented that there had been an increase in litter and dog fouling at Sycamore Park. It was advised that this would be looked into.</p>	CH
	<p><u>Century Square</u></p> <p>Councillor Shearman commented that the residents of Century Square had expressed concerns over the height of the fences around the games court. The Head of Neighbourhood Services advised that the height of the fence did need to be raised and this would be looked into.</p>	CH
	<p><u>Litter in Park Ward</u></p> <p>Councillor Shearman advised that there had been an increase</p>	

	<p>in the amount of litter dropped in Park Ward. Multi lingual signs would be too expensive to implement, therefore graphic signs should be used. The Head of Neighbourhood Services advised that graphic signs should be used and this would be looked into.</p>	CH
<p>6. Updates on Matters of Interest Relevant to the Committee</p>	<p>a) Parnwell Local Delivery Group</p> <p>June Campbell, Positively Parnwell Development Co-ordinator, and Bernadetta Omondi, from the Kenyan Association of Peterborough, gave a presentation to the Committee which detailed the work of Positively Parnwell. Key points highlighted included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim of The Parnwell Local Delivery Group; • The Group's current membership; • The objectives of the Group including analysing the data collected through the recently undertaken 'Planning for Real' consultation and putting this data into the PCC's Neighbourhood Community Action Plan for Parnwell; • 545 suggestions had been made in total and action plans had been created at a workshop session held in June 2011; • The action plans had been made in conjunction with the Council and aligned to the city's Single Delivery Plan; • The successes of the Group were outlined including repairs to pavements being made after being highlighted by the Group; • The future projects were outlined and it was highlighted that the Group currently had a paid Community Development Worker who supported it. <p>b) The Victoria Park Residents Association</p> <p>Councillor John Shearman addressed the Committee as a resident of Alma Road and gave an overview of the Victoria Park Resident's Association and the work they undertook. Key points highlighted included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Association had been formed due to a large amount of disquiet in the area; • The Association had been in operation for a year; • The Association's many activities included wheelchair walks, which had led to the dropping of a number of kerbs; • There had been a large amount of enthusiasm at first, but this had dwindled slightly. The Association was now in the process of re-grouping; • Work was undertaken alongside the Police and other partner organisations and in cooperation with Operation CAN-do; • If funding was obtained, then a family day in Victoria Park would be held, with the painting of murals on the walls. 	

	<p>c) Innova Development Trust - John Mansfield Centre</p> <p>Gary Conder, Project Manager for the Innova Development Trust, gave a verbal update on the progress made at the John Mansfield Centre. Key points highlighted included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The builders had begun on the site in November 2011; • The IT suites for the City College had now been completed; • There would be ground floor office space for hire and the Neighbourhood Police Office was due to be in place by 2nd July 2012; • The old drama studios would be rooms for community hire and possibly licensed for weddings; • The room rates would be reasonable and competitive; • People were welcome to attend the facility for a tour and Ward Councillors would be approached on this issue. <p>Bernadetta Omondi queried whether facilities would still be available for community groups to use, as had been promised by the Council. This point would be reviewed by Innova and an update given via the Neighbourhood Manager at the next meeting.</p> <p>d) Peterborough Neighbourhood Champions</p> <p>Kevin Bell, Chairman of the Peterborough Neighbourhood Champions, addressed the Committee and gave a verbal overview of the work undertaken. Key issues highlighted included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Neighbourhood Champions were all local people who wished to help improve the area in which they lived; • They offered support to victims of anti-social behaviour and hate crime; • They worked closely with other organisations, both statutory and voluntary. <p>It was advised that there were leaflets available which detailed the work of the Champions further, and if anyone knew of anyone who would be interested in joining, they could contact Kevin Bell directly.</p>	CH
7. Next Meeting	<p>The Chairman addressed the Committee and advised that the next meeting was due to take place at the old Hereward School on 28 March 2012.</p> <p>The next meeting would be combined with the Neighbourhood Panels for the East North and East South areas (Dogsthorpe, North, East & Park wards) Ward Forums would commence from 6.00pm.</p>	

ACTIONS

ITEM	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE	BY WHEN
5. Open Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To organise a meeting with the relevant parties to further discuss the issues in relation to Gypsy/Travellers in the area; • To convey residents concerns with regards to litter and dog fouling to Enterprise Peterborough, and to request an additional bin for All Saints Road; • To add Lynton Road, Clare Road and Norton Road to the verge implementation scheme; • To explore the possibility of providing disabled people with a key to enable them to utilise the toilet facilities at Birchtree Avenue; • To look into the concerns raised with regards to littering and dog fouling in Sycamore Park; • To explore the possibility of making the fence around the sports court at Century Square higher; • To explore the possibility of implementing graphic litter signs in Park Ward. 	<p>Adrian Chapman</p> <p>Cate Harding</p> <p>Cate Harding</p> <p>Cate Harding</p> <p>Cate Harding</p> <p>Cate Harding</p> <p>Cate Harding</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>Next Meeting</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>
6. Updates on Matters of Interest Relevant to the Committee	<p>c) Innova Development Trust - John Mansfield Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To liaise with Innova to identify whether facilities were still to be made available for community groups to use and to provide an update on this point. 	<p>Cate Harding</p>	<p>Next Meeting</p>