

## CENTRAL & NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE (AREA CENTRAL & EAST 1)

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4 MARCH 2013 AT 8PM AT THE GLADSTONE PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Members Present:** 

Central Ward Councillors Nadeem (Chairman), Jamil and Khan

**Officers Present:** 

Cate Harding Neighbourhood Manager, PCC Louise Tyers Compliance Manager, PCC Mick Robb Enterprise Peterborough

#### **Others Present:**

20 members of the public attended the meting including representatives of Cambridgeshire Constabulary and MANERP.

Item	Discussion and Actions	Action
Cumulative Impact     Assessment	The Chairman advised that information on the Cumulative Impact Assessment were on the tables, including how to make representations. A petition was also available if anybody wished to sign it and the deadline for any comments was midnight tonight.	
2. Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sharp and Swift.	
3. Declarations of Interest	None	
Minutes from the previous meeting	The minutes from the meeting held on 10 December 2012 were agreed as an accurate record.	
5. Issues arising from previous Meeting	The Neighbourhood Manager advised that updates and details of completed actions had been provided in the handouts on the tables. Key points raised were:	
	New Primary School at Gladstone Park Community Centre	
	<ul> <li>Councillor Khan asked for clarification as to when the new school was proposed to be open. The last meeting stated September 2014 but the Council's budget book stated September 2015.</li> <li>Cate Harding advised that she had hoped to have had an update from officers tonight but that had not been possible. She could confirm that the funding for the school was now</li> </ul>	
	secured and it was still proposed to open in September 2014.  She had not been told anything that indicated it would be 2015 but she would provide an update as soon as possible.	

- Councillor Khan stated that if the school was to open in September 2014, he was concerned that there had still not been any consultation on the proposals. People had not seen any proposed plans and the planning application had not been submitted. He was concerned that the plans for the school would be railroaded through without any consultation.
- Cate advised that she believed that the planning application was likely to be submitted in April but consultation was a priority. There had been negotiations around governance which were due to be completed shortly. There was no timescale on the consultation at this time but plans would be displayed in the Centre as soon as they were available. There was a member briefing scheduled for tomorrow.

# 6. Updates on Matters of Interest Relevant to the Committee

### **Enterprise Peterborough**

Mick Robb from Enterprise Peterborough was present to answer any questions about services. Comments and responses to questions included:

- How were the new food waste bins working in the area? Mick advised that they had been well received. In January, across the city, 480 tonnes of food waste had been collected which saved the Council money in landfill tax. Also, in warmer weather the black bins would not smell as much.
- Replacement biodegradable bags were quite expensive in the shops was there a way that shops could be incentivised to offer them at a reduced rate? Mick advised that householders were given a three or six month supply of the bags when they received the bins. Enterprise Peterborough were looking at ways that people could purchase replacement bags as they accepted that the one available in supermarkets were not cheap.
- Could Enterprise Peterborough bulk buy a large supply of bags and let households buy them from you directly? Mick confirmed that that was one of the options being considered, however it was not absolutely necessary to use the bags and the caddies could be lined with newspaper. The advice however was to use the bags.
- The bins were easy to lose, were replacement bins available?
   It was accepted that due to their size the bins were very easy to lose but they could be replaced by ringing 747474.
- Not all households in Central Ward had all three of the bins. Mick advised that the brown bins were now available in Central Ward and residents could request one if they wanted one. This was in line with the Council's policy. It was also a policy that households with larger families were able to have a larger black bin and extra green bins.
- Councillor Khan stated that when the rest of the city got three bins, Central Ward only got two on the proviso of weekly collections. Who renegotiated the change to fortnightly collections? Mick advised that the policy was always for alternate collections. When food waste was planned it was agreed to bring Central Ward in line with the rest of the city as food waste would be collected weekly.
- There was no space in some properties for four bins. Some

families did not use food waste bins as they were too small. Black bins were therefore overflowing and then not emptied. Mick advised that households could have more than one food caddy. He accepted that more work needed to be done with some of the residents and he would work with ward councillors around communications.

- Who made the decision to go fortnightly as ward councillors were not consulted? Mick advised that when the contract went out to tender all bidders had to submit plans for recycling, including food waste and the process behind it. Change would have been discussed as it would have been a big change for the area.
- Following the introduction of food waste collections has Enterprise Peterborough observed any problems with black bins? Yes, there was still an excess of refuse bags put out. It was working but it was a slow process. People may not also understand the services available, for example bulky waste collection.
- Councillor Khan stated that use of mechanical equipment for street cleansing had failed in the ward due to parking issues. Workmen then left the areas they could not get to due to parking. There were a number of alternatives including bringing in a blower to blow out the waste from underneath cars or if given a timetable of when the streets were to be cleaned ward councillors could talk to residents to get them to move their cars or alternatively allow parking on yellow lines during cleaning. Mick advised that this had been used in other local authority areas and he agreed that it needed to be looked at.
- The timing of street cleansing should be looked at as often the workmen come early in the morning before people had gone to work. Later in the day should be clearer.
- The food waste collection service was excellent, however some residents had been putting the small kitchen caddy into the larger bin directly, perhaps a leaflet reminding people how to use them could be circulated.
- Street cleansing in Lincoln Road and the surrounding areas had deteriorated dramatically. It needed to be remembered that there was a higher concentration of take aways and licensed premises in the area. The streets were particularly bad at the weekends. Mick accepted what was said and advised that there used to be a sweep of Lincoln Road on Saturdays.
- A member of the public had rung Enterprise Peterborough to report broken glass outside of her property. Two men came and cleaned up outside her house only. It was not very economic to clean only part of a street rather than the whole area. Mick advised that this was not acceptable and part of the contract was monitoring but sometimes these were missed and they were dependent on the public making them aware of such instances.
- Mick advised that meetings with councillors would be useful to work together around issues such as littering and fly tipping. There had previously been a fund for educating people on how to use the services properly and it would be good to get to a point where we could educate people.
- Councillor Jamil stated that Enterprise must have been aware of what they were taking on when the contract started. Mick

- advised that budgets were tight and everyone who bid for the contract would have known what was expected. The service was also monitored by key performance indicators.
- Brian Gascoyne stated that he had been advised by a number of people that the website for reporting fly tipping was not working. Mick was not aware of any problems and would welcome the details.
- The local community had accepted the changes to services well and Enterprise Peterborough was a profit making company, why could Enterprise Peterborough not look to use their profits to improve services?

### 7. Open Session

Attendees of the meeting were given the opportunity to ask questions and raise issues affecting the areas in which they lived. These included:

- Part of the Committee's £25,000 capital allocation had been prioritised for bins in Central Ward, what had happened? Cate advised that there had been no spend on bins because due to negotiations with Enterprise Peterborough new bins had been implemented as part of their ongoing works.
- What had the allocation for bins now been spent on? Cate advised that four projects had been put forward and due to three of the projects being able to be provided through other ways that only left the landscaping scheme. The ward members had felt that the priority was to remove the unneeded chicanes in the ward so the full £25,000 would be spent on that.
- What was happening about finding a new cemetery as the Muslim site at Eastfield was reducing. We had previously been told that Castor was a possible site but the Secretary of State had said it was not needed. The Chairman stated that he did not have full details but would be meeting with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council and would report back.
- What was being done for young people in the area, what about government funding? The Chairman advised that the Astroturf was under consultation and would be done when the new school was built. He was not aware of government funding for youth work. Cate would look into it and report back.
- Every year the young people asked for a cricket pitch in the area for all of the summer. Cate advised that discussions were being held about the lack of cricket pitches across the city but there was a difficulty in identifying suitable sites. Vivacity were looking at using mobile cricket wickets in open spaces.
- Brian Gascoyne stated that the Toys R Us and Maskew Avenue roundabouts were both dangerous and too high and reducing the height of the roundabouts would improve safety. Cate advised that she would take on board the comments as she was aware of future improvements for Bourges Boulevard.