

MEETING: CABINET MEMBER - COMMUNITIES
DATE: Wednesday 26 May 2010
TIME: 11.00 am
VENUE: Town Hall, Southport (this meeting will be video conferenced to the Town Hall, Bootle)

Councillor

DECISION MAKER: P.Dowd
SUBSTITUTE: Moncur

SPOKESPERSONS: Doran C.Mainey

SUBSTITUTES: Cuthbertson Hands

COMMITTEE OFFICER: Olaf Hansen Committee Clerk
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The Cabinet is responsible for making what are known as Key Decisions, which will be notified on the Forward Plan. Items marked with an * on the agenda involve Key Decisions

A key decision, as defined in the Council's Constitution, is: -

- any Executive decision that is not in the Annual Revenue Budget and Capital Programme approved by the Council and which requires a gross budget expenditure, saving or virement of more than £100,000 or more than 2% of a Departmental budget, whichever is the greater
- any Executive decision where the outcome will have a significant impact on a significant number of people living or working in two or more Wards

If you have any special needs that may require arrangements to facilitate your attendance at this meeting, please contact the Committee Officer named above, who will endeavour to assist.

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AGENDA

Items marked with an * involve key decisions

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Subject/Author(s)</u>	<u>Wards Affected</u>
1.	Apologies for Absence	
2.	Declarations of Interest Members and Officers are requested to give notice of any personal or prejudicial interest and the nature of that interest, relating to any item on the agenda in accordance with the relevant Code of Conduct.	
3.	Minutes Minutes of the meeting held on 21 April, 2010	(Pages 5 - 6)
4.	Revision to the Local Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIAs) for Sefton (2010 / 2011) Report of the Head of Community Safety	All Wards; (Pages 7 - 12)
5.	Minutes of Area Committee Meetings	
A	St.Oswald and Netherton and Orrell held on 18 March, 2010	(Pages 13 - 20)
B	Formby held on 18 March, 2010	(Pages 21 - 28)
C	Southport held on 31 March, 2010	(Pages 29 - 48)

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THE "CALL IN" PERIOD FOR THIS SET OF MINUTES ENDS AT 12 NOON ON THURSDAY 29 APRIL, 2010.

CABINET MEMBER - COMMUNITIES

MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, SOUTHPORT ON WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL 2010

PRESENT: Councillor Porter

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Booth and Veidman

83. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

84. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

85. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 31 March 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

86. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION – UPDATE

Further to Minute No.73 of the meeting held on 24 February 2010, the Cabinet Member considered the report of the Sefton Equalities Partnership Director that provided an update on the work undertaken by the Public Engagement and Consultation Team.

RESOLVED:

That the information contained within the Public Engagement and Consultation – Update report be noted.

87. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 2010 PLACE SURVEY

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Sefton Equalities Partnership Director that provided an update on the forthcoming 2010 Place Survey for Sefton.

RESOLVED:

That the Arrangements for the 2010 Place Survey report be noted.

Agenda Item 3

CABINET MEMBER - COMMUNITIES- WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL 2010

88. EQUALITY FRAMEWORK FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT – PROGRESS

Further to Minute No.57 of the meeting held on 2 December 2009, the Cabinet Member considered the report of the Sefton Equalities Partnership Director that provided the Cabinet Member with an update on the Council's progress towards the Equality Framework for Local Government.

RESOLVED:

That the Equality Framework for Local Government – Progress report be noted.

89. REFRESH OF SINGLE EQUALITY SCHEME FOR SEFTON

Further to Minute No.28 of the meeting held on 9 September 2009, the Cabinet Member considered the report of the Sefton Equalities Partnership Director that informed of the need to refresh the current Single Equality Scheme for Sefton.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the plan to refresh the current Single Equality Scheme for Sefton and structure, as detailed within the report, be approved; and
- (2) the Sefton Equalities Partnership Director be requested to draft a progress report for the 16 June meeting of Cabinet Member – Communities.

90. MINUTES OF AREA COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Cabinet Member considered the Minutes of the below Area Committees:-

Sefton East Parishes held on 18 March, 2010
Linacre and Derby held on 22 March, 2010
Litherland and Ford held on 24 March, 2010

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the above Area Committees be noted.

Agenda Item 4

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member –Communities

DATE: 26th May 2010

SUBJECT: Revision to the Local Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA's) for Sefton (2010 / 2011)

WARDS AFFECTED: All Wards

REPORT OF: Dave Fenney, Head of Community Safety (0151 934 4466)

CONTACT OFFICER: Simon Carrigan, Community Safety (0151 934 4464)

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To agree the migration of the Community Safety Area Partnership's Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) plans to a 12-month National Intelligence Model (NIM) based model.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To agree Council endorse the revised process for the construction of the SIA

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the 7 local Strategic Intelligence Assessments (SIA's) be produced using the refined NIM model and that priorities, actions and progress be presented, updated and reported to both Cabinet Communities and each Area Committee to ensure full transparency of process and involvement of Members working within the wider emerging Neighbourhoods agenda.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: No

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Immediate

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: n/a

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Finance: There are no additional revenue or capital financial implications for Sefton

Legal: None

Risk Assessment: N/A

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Asset Management: None

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN / VIEWS

- Direct consultation with partners attending Community Safety Area Partnerships
- The commitment to the new system was approved by the Safer Stronger Communities Partnership meeting on 15th April 2010

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		✓	
2	Creating Safe Communities	✓		
3	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		✓	
5	Environmental Sustainability		✓	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	✓		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	✓		
8	Children and Young People	✓		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Background

1. The overall aim of the Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership (SSCP) is to add '*currency*' to the collective well-being of the local community, where well-being is defined in its widest sense.
- 1.2 .As a partnership, combining "responsible authorities", the SSCP achieve this by adapting, delivering and improving collective services and focussing on the critical issues that are most at risk of creating an imbalance in the quality of the social and situational environment. In short, the SSCP focus on the things that matter most to local communities; the drivers of social and situational inequality. (As defined by statute, "responsible authorities" for this task are Police, Police Authority, Fire & Rescue Service, Primary Care Trusts, the Local Authority and Probation)
- 1.3 Being effective at addressing local concerns has meant that the SSCP has needed to qualify its understanding of what matters most to the respective communities, by getting to know the communities from the inside out, and to not base understanding of what matters relying exclusively on the data collected by agencies and partners.
- 1.4 This continuing process means the SSCP becomes more attuned to the risks local communities face, and the starting point in this journey of understanding is defining those risks in the development of both Sefton wide and locally constructed Strategic Intelligence Assessments (SIA's).
- 1.5 Each year, the "responsible authorities", within the SSCP, as part of their legal responsibilities under the Police and Justice Act 2006, as a partnership, have to determine which crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse, environmental crime and now offending issues effect local communities the most. This process has to be evidence based and the priorities distil out of an analysis of the above information combined with qualitative information obtained from local communities themselves. These annually refreshed 'evidence based documents' are called Strategic Intelligence Assessments (SIA's)
- 1.6 The construction of the SIA is to some degree prescribed in statute and as a minimum has to contain the below 'ingredients'.
 - 1.6.1 An analysis of the levels of crime, disorder, environmental crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and offending behaviour;
 - 1.6.2 The changes in the level of crime, disorder, environmental crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse since the last Strategic Assessment;

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- 1.6.3 An analysis as to why the changes may have occurred;
- 1.6.4 An assessment of the effectiveness of the previous plan; and
- 1.6.5 The views of the community on matters that they state need to be addressed and prioritised by the partnership

- 1.6.6 Members of this committee have in the past always received and endorsed reports on the priorities that have distilled from the construction of this information in a way that allows each Area Committee Area in Sefton to have its own 'local SIA' so that issues unique to that community are not lost in a wider Sefton SIA. This approach allows 'local' delivery systems and local partners (Local Community Safety Area Partnerships) to work from an agreed and common 'script' so that progress can be monitored locally and partners held to account for their operational delivery

2 New developments in the construction of the Strategic Intelligence Assessments (SIA's)

- 2.1 For 2010-11 the SSCP has revised and improved its approach constructed an SIA and as the responsible and accountable body have agreed a twin track approach. As such the partnership have constructed an over arching SIA for the borough that highlights the critical issues and risks for Sefton, but have retained their commitment to produce seven local SIA's (based on Area Committee Areas) which allows local delivery partners (through the Community Safety Area Partnerships [CSAP's]) to put in place actions reflecting the unique concerns of the constituent communities within Sefton.

- 2.2 This revision in the approach still maintains the SSCP's commitment to operationally deliver actions that address local communities priorities with its partners, an approach that has driven critical improvements in the reduction of crime and disorder issues over the last 12 months in each Area Committee

- 2.3 As members will be aware partners attend their local CSAP every month in each Area Committee Area and these meetings continue to be well attended by all invited agencies and organisations. The work of the CSAPs, reflecting the unique risks faced by different communities within Sefton, remains intelligence led, and sees work being undertaken on diverse crime and disorder issues such as young person related anti-social behaviour, litter, dog fouling, secondary fires and graffiti. It utilises the skills and knowledge of the different partners, both statutory and non-statutory, and continues to develop initiatives and ideas for Sefton residents, such as development of a Saturday Skip service and using Community Payback in a co-ordinated manner across the whole of the Borough. Elected Members from across the political divide are well

represented at all CSAP meetings, and work is done in collaboration with them on issues they raise that are reflected in the area's Strategic Intelligence Assessment. This work, its focus, the results and the feedback all add currency to the strategic SIA.

- 2.4 Since their inception, priorities for collaborative work in CSAPs have been identified and agreed by partners every three months, using the balanced combination of information provided by the area's SIA (data and perception). This dual approach helps to set priorities, grants knowledge of the negative impacts that affect Sefton communities and combines them with understanding to increase insight into the communities. This in turn helps partners plan and deliver interventions to reduce an area's crime and disorder harms.

3 Revision to existing SIA

- 3.1 However, with the level of resources remaining stationary (and in some cases decreasing) and the need for Partners to plan to dedicate resources as appropriate, it is suggested that the CSAP process is enhanced and its action planning process is linked to the standards set out in the Police National Intelligence Modelling (NIM) system.
- 3.2 The incorporation of the National Intelligence Model means that the local SIA will be predicted over the next 12-months using an overview of crime and disorder issues that have effecting the local community based on an analysis of the previous two years intelligence from Police and Partner Data Sets and Sefton's Perception Survey.
- 3.3 In essence by using data from previous years, the new SIA becomes a "predictor" for crime and disorder issues for the coming year. Having this 12-month forward view, for the first time, allows the CSAP process an opportunity to undertake predictive planning and not retrospective planning and co-ordinating of resources, that sees partners shift to a preventative rather than reactive approach. This revision has been presented to attendees at each Community Safety Area Partnership as a draft proposal so as to incorporate any emerging issues this may have on partners.
- 3.4 The revision to the SIA does not diminish the CSAP process which remains the most inclusive process for looking at community safety issues that affect communities in Sefton, and its focus remains unchanged – offering reassurance, solving issues, controlling disorder and criminality. Adoption of the NIM process, allows further flexibility for partners to put into place sound business planning, which provides effective strategies and better tactical choices, promotes more efficient tasking and deployment of resources leading to better value for money as the most important targets can be tackled first.

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- 3.5 If agreed, the NIM process will also go some way to addressing the issues of law enforcement, as outlined in Home Office guidance:

“...the successful management and reduction of crime and other law enforcement problems. ... identifying and limiting the activities of volume criminals and dangerous offenders, controlling disorder and tackling the many problems that adversely affect community safety and the quality of life...”

- 3.6 This same guidance goes on to reiterate what has been to date Sefton’s Safer, Strong Communities approach:

“...intelligence lies at the heart of business planning; where account is taken of local and governmental objectives, of required levels of performance and of value for money principles. The vital central ingredient in successful business planning is information and understanding of five issues: an accurate picture of the business, what is actually happening on the ground, the nature and extent of the problems, the trends and where the main threats lie...”

- 3.7 The revised approach will also secure the investment of the wider responsible authorities of the SSCP to deliver of its community safety contribution in line with the emerging neighbourhoods agenda, defining for Members the commitment of partner agencies to work collaboratively to address locally defined community safety risks in a way that allows local performance to be measured and reported.

Recommendation

- 1 That the 7 local Strategic Intelligence Assessments (SIA’s) be produced using the refined NIM model and that priorities, actions and progress be presented, updated and reported to both Cabinet Communities and each Area Committee to ensure full transparency of process and involvement of Members working within the emerging Neighbourhoods agenda.

THE "CALL IN" PERIOD FOR THIS SET OF MINUTES ENDS AT 12 NOON ON THURSDAY 1 APRIL 2010. MINUTE NOS. 75 TO 79 AND 81 TO 83 ARE NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL-IN".

ST. OSWALD AND NETHERTON AND ORRELL AREA COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD AT THE BOOTLE DAY CENTRE, LINACRE LANE,
BOOTLE
ON THURSDAY 18TH MARCH, 2010

PRESENT: Councillor Mahon (in the Chair)
Councillors Brennan, M Dowd and Maher
Local Advisory Group Member Mrs.M.Elson
Inspector Thompson – Merseyside Police
3 – members of the public

75. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bradshaw and P.Dowd.

76. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

77. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Area Committee held on 11 February 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

78. AREA MANAGER'S UPDATE

Ms. Christine Kelly, Policy and Performance Officer circulated an update in relation to previous matters raised during the last meeting;-

- (a) Minute 66 – A request to clear dog fouling on Copy Lane and Browns Lane had now been placed on the Community Payback Probation schedule to be carried out every seven weeks.

A request for a replacement metal litter bin outside Switch Car site, Dunningsbridge Road – A plastic bin had been installed due to a long waiting list for ordering of metal bins which would have taken several weeks.

A request for further information on the development of the 'Friends of Orrell Mount' Group - little progress had been made with this group due to the designated officer leaving their post, an information pack on how to establish a 'friends of' group was provided to the group members and officers from the Leisure

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Department had tried to contact representatives to progress this issue, but to date no reply.

- (b) Minute 73 – Further information requested on what the distance would be from the new road and the houses on the other side of Northern Perimeter Road. A response from Mr S.Birch, Strategic Transportation Planning Unit was provided to Councillor M.Dowd.

79. OPEN FORUM

During the Open Forum the following matters were raised:

- (1) Mr. A. McCourt sought advice regarding a neighbour who regularly parked a commercial van outside of his property house on the road overnight and asked if the Council could inform him if this was legal, and if there was anything he could do about it.

Miss.L.Roberts, Committee Administrator advised that an email response had been sent to Mr McCourt by the Team Leader, Traffic Management & Road Safety. The response indicated that the parking of commercial vehicles in residential areas may be prohibited, depending on the weight of the vehicle.

All vehicles over 7.5 tonnes were required to have an Operators licence ('O' licence) which required the owner to stipulate where the vehicle would be parked overnight. This is to stop large HGVs being operated from private properties. 'O' licences would only be issued if the vehicle was parked in a suitable depot or HGV car park overnight.

This, however, only applied to HGVs over 7.5 tonnes, and most large box vans weigh less than 3.5 tonnes. If it is this lighter type of vehicle which is being parked in Emerald Close, provided that it is taxed and insured, and is not parked on yellow lines, there is nothing Sefton Council can do to prevent it. If you feel that it is causing an obstruction, and is actually blocking other vehicles in, then Merseyside Police may be able to issue a Penalty Charge Notice for obstruction.

- (2) Ms.A.Roberts asked for advice and possible assistance to help bridge the gap between young and older people by establishment of a community based centre called the YouthOap Centre, to be opened five days a week. It was hoped that the centre would be made available to older people during the day offering advice on care, social and personal issues run by young people under the guidance of professionals who would be on hand to tend to queries. The centre would then be made available in the evenings to young people run by older people advising them on education, drugs, sexual health, abuse and other related matters.

Ms. Roberts indicated that she hoped to set up this centre in the nearby Hub Nub Centre, Linacre Lane. In response, Members advised that the Venus Resource Centre, Hawthorne Road was expected to move into the

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Hub-Nub Centre in the near future, so therefore would not be available to other organisations, so she would need to identify other possible sites.

Mr.Graham Parry, Sefton's Safer, Stronger Communities Partnership indicated that this was raised at a recent partnership meeting and joint theatre trips for both young and older people had been arranged to try and bridge this generation gap and break down the barriers. Mr.Parry agreed to contact Ms. Roberts to discuss the issue and the plans of the partnership group.

Ms.C.Kelly, Policy and Performance Officer further agreed to contact Ms. Roberts with advice, guidance and useful contacts.

80. POLICE ISSUES

Inspector Thompson reported on a number of issues including:

- Work undertaken with local partners including One Vision Housing to tackle burglaries in the Netherton area which was proving successful and burglaries were now on the decrease
- Work undertaken in Orrell by Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) including security assessments of residential properties, informing neighbours in areas where burglaries had occurred, pointing out insecure doors to residents. Burglaries were also showing a decrease but may see an increase in good weather periods due to unsecured doors and windows.
- Operation Hatfield to alleviate incidents of anti-social behaviour and criminal damage running each weekend through the Summer
- Continual liaison with Liverpool Police to address anti-social behaviour on the playing fields to the rear of King Avenue, Bootle

Members raised concern regarding vandalism and anti-social behaviour on the Sefton estate, in response, Inspector Thompson indicated that Officers had attended this area and PSCO's had been designated to try and alleviate the issues.

Councillor Dowd indicated that the Pendle View car park had an outstanding planning application for development of housing on a large proportion of the car park reducing car park access to the local shops and asked if Inspector Thompson would be able to provide information regarding crime statistics and current issues in relation the area. Inspector Thompson agreed to contact Cllr Dowd with a report.

Mr Graham Parry, Strategy Support Officer, Safer, Stronger Communities Division indicated that in relation to anti-social behavior he had undertaken a site visit with One Vision Housing to ?? and was currently obtaining a quote to install bollards to stop drivers accessing the site.

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Mr. Parry indicated that part of his role within the Safer, Stronger, and Communities Partnership was to set priorities using various methods and liaising with local agencies in relation to ward areas. A group meets regularly in Bootle to discuss these priorities. He indicated that these meetings were not open to the public due to the restricted information discussed but if members of the public required information they could contact him or access the website for updates.

In relation to the Community Payback Scheme, Mr. Parry outlined schemes being undertaken in the St Oswald, Netherton and Orrell areas including Marian Square, Westminster Avenue and St Bennett's, Chapel Lane which had been cordoned off by Environmental Protection Department to allow cleansing of the area.

Ms.M.Elson, Advisory Group Member asked about the B & Q retail site which had been a former site cleared by the Community Payback Scheme and asked if a request could be made to clear the site on a regular basis. Mr.Parry indicated that requests could be made to clear former sites but there was no capacity at present to maintain all sites cleared.

Members asked if the former St. Augustine's School Field could be cleared as it was in a poor state. Ms.C.Kelly indicated that she was speaking to Liverpool City Council's Environmental Protection Department to clear this site as it was within their boundary.

RESOLVED:

That Inspector Thompson and Mr Parry be thanked for their updates.

81. HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2010/2011

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Technical Services advising of those locations which had been identified for inclusion in the Highways Maintenance Programme 2010/11.

The report indicated that following the format adopted in previous years, the 2010/11 Highways Maintenance and Street Lighting Renewals/Refurbishment Programme was being shared with Area Committees for comment, prior to it being referred to the Cabinet Member - Technical Services for formal approval on 7 April 2010; and that following a request by Members, the Highways Maintenance Programme also included an indicative list of locations, which currently justified consideration for inclusion in a three year rolling programme for specific highway treatments, namely Major Reconstructions, Carriageway Resurfacing, Micro-Asphalt Carriageway Surface Treatments and Footway Reconstruction/Relay.

In each category of treatment identified in the annex to the report, the initial thick black line denoted the extent to which the Programmes were likely to be completed during 2010/11, based upon anticipated budget

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allocations and preliminary cost estimates; and that the following areas within the Area Committee's boundaries were likely to be completed during 2010/11.

Footway Reconstruction Programme:

None

Footway Surface Treatment:

Durham Avenue
Durham Avenue West
Ripon Close
Lichfield Close
Quigley Avenue
Pennington Avenue
Durham Mews East & West
Brecon Avenue
Durham Way
Edinburgh Close
St Asaph Grove
Rochester Avenue
Salisbury Avenue
Chester Avenue
Hereford Drive

Carriageway Resurfacing:

Hermitage Grove
Edinburgh Close

Carriageway Surface Treatment:

None

Carriageway Surface Dressing:

None

Carriageway Reconstruction:

None

Carriageway Anti-skid Surface Treatment:

Data still being analysed

Street Lighting:

Almonds Turn

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The report concluded by requesting examination of the Programme and comments, if any, for submission to the Cabinet Member - Technical Services.

Members expressed concern about the following matters:

- Marina Crescent – Several complaints from residents had been received in relation to the condition of the road. Technical Services Department had undertaken a site visit and reported that it was felt the condition of the road did not warrant inclusion in the Highway Maintenance Programme at present.
- Manor Drive – despite its poor condition was not included on the schedule

Mr.A.Hogan indicated that due to the 'Winter Freeze' some roads throughout the Borough had needed emergency repairs, which had impacted on the budget provision. He reported that the Cabinet Member – Technical Services had indicated that he would like an overall improvement of all roads throughout Sefton.

Councillor Maher indicated that some of the roads identified within the programme were within the Housing Market Renewal areas and contacted should be made with the Housing market Renewal Department to ascertain their plans for the areas to ensure work on the highways would still be needed.

RESOLVED:

That the Highways Maintenance Programme for 2010/11 be noted.

82. BUDGET MONITORING

The Committee considered the report of the Neighbourhood & Investment Programmes Director which advised that the balance of its budget available to allocate during 2009/10 was £30,075.16 and that no requests for allocation had been received since the last meeting.

Ms.C.Kelly indicated that the requests for the contribution towards the cost of flooring repairs at the sports hall at Sefton Stars and Bootle Junior Football League had now been agreed.

Councillor Maher asked about the requests for street signage that were still outstanding. Ms.C.Kelly agreed to check on progress of these and report back.

Further to Minute No. 82 of 12 February 2009, Ms.Kelly indicated that a further request had been received for a contribution of £5,000 towards the Street Games Project. Members agreed to this request, subject to it being a 'one-off' payment.

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Ms.M.Elson, Advisory Group Member on behalf of the Old Roan Residents Association asked for a contribution towards the cost of gardening equipment and plants to help maintain the gardens.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the balance of the Area Committee's budget of £30,075.16 available for allocation during 2009/10 be noted;
- (2) the Asstant Director – Neighbourhoods be requested to investigate Members requests outstanding for street signage in various locations;
- (3) a contribution of £5,000 from the Area Committee's devolved budget to the Street Games Project as a 'one-off' contribution , be approved; and
- (4) Ms.M.Elson, Advisory Group Member be requested to submit her request for funding in writing via a Budget Request Allocation Form.

83. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with the agreed programme of meetings for this Area Committee, the next meeting be held on **Thursday, 27 May 2010 at the Netherton Activity Centre, Glovers Lane, Netherton commencing at 6.30 p.m.**

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THE "CALL IN" PERIOD FOR THIS SET OF MINUTES ENDS AT 12 NOON ON WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL 2010. MINUTE NOS 77 AND 79 TO 83 ARE NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL-IN".

FORMBY AREA COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD AT THE FORMBY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, PARK ROAD, FORMBY ON THURSDAY 18TH MARCH, 2010

PRESENT: Councillor Ibbs (in the Chair);
Councillors Cuthbertson, Griffiths and Storey;
Parish Councillors Cawley and Starkey; and
Local Advisory Group Members Mr. P. Thornton and Mrs. B. Yorke.

ALSO PRESENT: 7 members of the public.

73. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Platt, Parish Councillor Jenkins and Inspector Jim McLoughlin, Merseyside Police.

74. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Declaration of Interest was received:

Member	Minute No.	Interest	Action
Councillor Storey	77 (d) – Open Forum question regarding damage caused to trees in Deansgate Lane.	Personal - His daughter lives in Deansgate Lane.	Took part in consideration of the item.

75. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

76. UPDATE ON ACTION FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Ms Sue Ashe, Resource Co-ordinator – Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes, provided a progress report on action taken in respect of the previous meeting.

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- Minute No. 62 (v) – Request for Environment Agency to attend a future meeting of the Area Committee to give a presentation on flood protection / pumping equipment at the Altmouth Pumping Station.

The Environment Agency had not yet responded to this request, but it was noted that they would be giving a presentation at the next meeting of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services) on 'Flood Risk Management for the Lower Alt with Crossens Pumped Drainage', on 13 April 2010 at 6.30 p.m. in St Stephen's Church Hall, St. Stephen's Road, Hightown. Dr Brennan, who had raised the matter at Formby Area Committee's Open Forum on 26 November 2009 (Minute No. 48 (a) refers), had been invited to this meeting.

The Committee welcomed this development, but indicated that their invitation for the Environment Agency to speak at a future meeting of Formby Area Committee, on flood risk management in the Lower Alt area, should still be progressed.

RESOLVED:

That the Assistant Director – Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes be requested to progress this Committee's invitation to the Environment Agency to speak on flood management in the Lower Alt area, at a future meeting.

77. OPEN FORUM

The following matters were raised during the Open Forum:

- (a) A question had been submitted by Mrs M. Gallen regarding the lack of hygiene at Formby Swimming Pool caused mainly by a failure to enforce the removal of outdoor shoes in the shower and locker areas.

It was noted that the pool does not belong to Sefton Council.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) a letter be sent from the Committee to Mr. Ascroft, Chief Executive Officer, Formby Swimming Pool, regarding Mrs. Gallen's concerns about the apparent lack of hygiene at Formby Swimming Pool;
- (2) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to provide a written response to Mrs Gallen setting out any proposals to rectify the situation; and
- (3) a copy of the written response indicated in (2) above, be

sent to the Committee Administrator for publication on the agenda for the next meeting.

- (b) Mr. K. Gallen had submitted a question requesting that the Council give consideration to installing a pelican crossing on Liverpool Road, close to the junction with Birkey Lane and Coronation Avenue. He indicated that Liverpool Road was an extremely long, busy road, running from the Lighthouse Pub to Cross House roundabout, the only safe place to cross being at one end of the road at the Alt Road shops and therefore a second crossing point half way down the road would seem appropriate.

RESOLVED:

That the Traffic Services Manager be requested to respond to Mr. Gallen in writing regarding his request for the installation of a pelican crossing on Liverpool Road.

- (c) Mrs. J. Stirling had submitted a question on behalf of the Woodland Monitoring Group (WVG) for which she was secretary, requesting that it be allowed to expand its membership to include Sefton residents living outside the Formby area, '...with a keen interest in nature conservation on the coast and Formby pinewoods'. The WVG's current Terms of Reference specified that only Formby residents could be accepted as members.

Mrs. Stirling, who was present at the meeting, indicated that the Group had experienced difficulties recruiting new Formby members to monitor the area but had received expressions of interest in the Group from former residents now living in other parts of the Borough.

RESOLVED:

That the Assistant Director, Democratic Services, be requested to submit a report on the future of the Woodland Monitoring Group.

- (d) Mr. D. Adams had submitted a question on behalf of the Deansgate Lane Residents' Association about the damage caused to the cherry blossom trees in Deansgate Lane by double decker school buses crashing against their branches. The school bus service was run by Merseybus, contracted by the Council.

Mr Adams asked that the following options be considered, namely:

- (i) that the double decker buses be exchanged for single decker buses; or
- (ii) that the school buses to be re-routed to avoid Deansgate Lane altogether.

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Option (ii) was preferred on the grounds that not only were the cherry trees damaged by the buses, but also because Deansgate Lane was built along a peat seam and heavy traffic caused damage to the properties along it; and also no-one presently using the school bus service actually lived in Deansgate Lane.

RESOLVED:

That the Assistant Director, Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes be requested to liaise with appropriate departments about the possibility of re-routing the existing school bus service along an alternative, less detrimental route than Deansgate Lane.

78. POLICE ISSUES

The Committee Administrator indicated that Inspector McLoughlin had tendered his apologies due to another pre-arranged commitment and unfortunately, none of the other neighbourhood Police Officers were able to attend the meeting. However, Inspector McLoughlin had suggested that any questions raised could be forwarded to him for action.

Inspector McLoughlin had submitted the area's crime statistics for January and February 2010, together with statistics for the same period in 2008 and 2009 for comparison.

	Jan 2008	Jan 2009	Jan 2010	Feb 2008	Feb 2009	Feb 2010
All crime	41	51	49	62	93	61
Violent crime	7	6	12	4	6	8
Robbery	0	1	0	0	0	4
Burglary dwelling	3	5	0	10	2	2
Theft of motor vehicle	1	0	1	3	2	0
Theft from motor vehicle	1	8	4	8	3	6
Criminal damage	9	11	10	12	19	7

As requested at the last meeting, Inspector McLoughlin had also provided a breakdown of the violent crime statistics - categorised to give a clearer understanding of the nature of such offences.

	Category of violent crime	No.of offences	Description
(i)	Sec 47 Assault (Assault occasioning actual bodily harm ABH)	3	Such injuries are those that are visible such as cuts, bruising, etc.
(ii)	Sec 4 Public Order (Threatening Behaviour)	1	This offence is one where the victim is put in fear of physical violence or intimidated and causes that person to

			believe that physical violence will be used against him or her without the end product.
(iii)	Breach Restraining Order	1	An order made by the court. (Example, Domestic Incident)
(iv)	Sexual Offence	1	
(v)	Sec 39 Common Assault	1	An assault which results in injuries less severe than that of a Sec 47 assault. (e.g. being pushed and no visible injury caused)
(vi)	Sec 5 Public Order Act – Insulting, abusive words and behaviour likely to cause harassment alarm or distress	1	On this occasion abusive language was used against the victim in a public place.

The Committee welcomed the provision of the statistics, particularly the breakdown of violent crime incidents, but expressed concern that neither Inspector McLoughlin nor any of his colleagues were present to respond to questions about the statistics and to raise issues in general.

A member of the public, who had attended the meeting specifically to ask questions about crime in the area, also expressed his disappointment at the non attendance of the police.

RESOLVED:

That a letter be sent to Chief Superintendent Pilling, Area Commander indicating the Committee's concern at the non attendance of the neighbourhood police at the meeting.

79. PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER - JUNCTION OF LARKHILL LANE AND WICKS LANE, FORMBY

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director on proposed Traffic Regulation Orders, the effect of which would introduce "At Any Time" parking restrictions at the junction of Larkhill Lane and Wicks Lane, Formby.

It was proposed to introduce individual Orders for the roads incorporating all the existing restrictions.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Traffic Regulation Orders as shown on the plan and Annexes A and B and as detailed in the report, be approved; and

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- (2) the Traffic Services Manager be authorised to undertake the necessary legal procedures, including those of public consultation and advertising the Council's intention to implement the Orders.

80. JUBILEE ROAD, FORMBY - PROVISION OF BOLLARDS

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director, seeking approval for the introduction of eight concrete bollards in Jubilee Road, Formby to the frontage of St Luke's RC Primary School, to prevent vehicles from driving up onto the footway.

The report indicated that the cost of the bollards and their installation (approximately £1,000), could be met from the School's own Travel Plan Capital Grant.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the installation of eight concrete bollards in Jubilee Road, Formby, to the frontage of St Luke's RC Primary School, as identified in Annexe A to the report, be approved; and
- (2) the cost of the installation of the bollards be met from St. Luke's own School Travel Plan Capital Grant.

81. HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2010/2011

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Technical Services advising of those locations which had been identified for inclusion in the Highways Maintenance Programme 2010/11.

The report indicated that following the format adopted in previous years, the 2010/11 Highways Maintenance and Street Lighting Renewals/Refurbishment Programme was being shared with Area Committees for comment, prior to it being referred to the Cabinet Member - Technical Services for formal approval on 7 April 2010; that unlike previous submissions to the Area Committee, a single years programme of works was being presented at this time; but that unfortunately the damaging effects of the recent severe weather conditions would continue to manifest itself over the next few months leading to further and more significant levels of deterioration in many roads across the Borough. It was not possible to predict future deterioration levels across the whole network with any degree of confidence at this time; consequently it was considered premature to attempt to identify schemes for inclusion in the financial year 2011/12 and beyond.

The annexes to the report identified the following areas within the Area Committee's boundaries that were likely to be completed during 2010/11:

Footway Surface Treatment:

- Woodland Close

Carriageway Resurfacing:

- Larkhill Lane (from Dunes Lane to house no. 3)

Carriageway Surface Treatment:

- Derwent Lane

Carriageway Surface Dressing:

- Duke Street – from Cross Green to Liverpool Road
- Ravenmeols Lane – from Liverpool Road to the level crossing
- Kings Road

Carriageway Reconstruction:

- Halsall Lane

RESOLVED:

That the Highways Maintenance Programme for 2010/11 be noted.

82. REQUEST FOR FORMBY POSTAL ADDRESS

The Committee considered the report of the Legal Director referring to a request from a Formby resident to include the name 'Formby' in the address for properties within the defined postcode area of Liverpool L37, as indicated in Annex A to the report.

The report indicated that Royal Mail, amongst others, required the support of Sefton Council as principal authority for the area, prior to undertaking the necessary consultation in relation to the request.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) Cabinet be requested to support the application to include the name 'Formby' in the address for properties within the defined postcode area of Liverpool L37, as indicated in Annex A to the report.

83. BUDGET MONITORING

Further to Minute No. 71 of 11 February 2010, the Committee considered the report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director indicating that the balance of the budget available for allocation during 2009/10, including sums set aside for the provision of litterbins and street signs, was £4,956.92.

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Details of the allocations made by each ward against the general provision in the current year were set out in section 2 of the report.

Since publishing the report, a further application for Area Committee funding had been submitted by the Formby Partnership, towards the cost of staging the second Formby Live Music Festival to be held on Saturday and Sunday 17 and 18 July 2010. The Chair of the Formby Partnership, Mr. Brady, together with Ms Wordley, the Chair of the Music Live Festival, were in attendance and gave a brief presentation to the Committee, indicating that the Partnership wished to build upon the success of last year's festival with a view to widening its appeal to embrace the wider Formby community. As such, on Saturday 17 July there would be street entertainment in the village which would also involve local traders, with live acts performing in a number of local bars and restaurants during the night time. On Sunday 18 July there would be a free, open air concert in the grounds of Formby Pool.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the balance of £4,956.92 of the budget available for further allocation for the rest of the year be noted; and
- (2) an allocation of £300 to the Formby Village Partnership towards the cost of staging the second Formby Live Music Festival on 17/18 July 2010, be approved.

84. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Councillor Ibbs reminded the Committee that this would be her last meeting as Chair. She thanked all the Members of the Committee for their help and support during her time as Chair and also extended best wishes to Councillor Cuthbertson (Vice Chair), who would assume the position of Chair for the 2010/2011 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Councillor Ibbs be thanked for her hard work and commitment during her time as Chair of the Committee during 2009/10;
- (2) best wishes be extended to Councillor Cuthbertson in her forthcoming role as Chair to the Committee in 2010/2011; and
- (3) the date of the next meeting of Formby Area Committee, to be held at **7.00 p.m. on Thursday 27 May 2010, at the Professional Development Centre, Park Road, Formby**, be noted.

THE "CALL IN" PERIOD FOR THIS SET OF MINUTES ENDS AT 12 NOON ON MONDAY, 10 MAY 2010. MINUTE NOS. 146 TO 158 AND 161 TO 164 ARE NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL-IN"

SOUTHPORT AREA COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, SOUTHPORT ON WEDNESDAY, 31 MARCH 2010

PRESENT: Councillor M. Fearn (in the Chair)
Councillors Booth, Byrom, Dodd, Lord Fearn,
Glover, Hands, T. Jones, McGuire, Pearson, Porter,
Preston, D. Rimmer, Shaw, Sumner, Tattersall,
Sir Ron Watson and Weavers.

Local Advisory Group Members:
Mr. J. Fairhurst, Mr. I. Goley, Mrs. M. Pointon and
Mr. S. Sugden

ALSO PRESENT: Inspector T. Jones, Merseyside Police and
73 members of the public in attendance.

143. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bigley, Brodie-Browne and B. Rimmer.

144. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declaration of interest was received:

Member	Minute No.	Interest	Action
Councillor Sumner	147(3) (Budget Monitoring)	Personal - Member of Friends of Meols Cop Station	Stayed in the room.

145. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That, subject to the replacement of the word "spinal" with the word "minor" in the preamble to Minute No. 129 (Presentation - NHS Sefton), the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

146. PRESENTATION - MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

The Committee received a presentation from Allan Harris, District Manager (Sefton) on the work undertaken within the community by the Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service.

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Mr. Harris indicated that the Service would shortly be undertaking a recruitment drive; that the town's new fire station would, hopefully, be opening by the end of 2012; that 6,000 home fire safety checks had been undertaken in the last year; that the Service was working with other groups to identify vulnerable residents; and that the Service was working with young people in the 18 to 25 years age group to reduce road traffic accidents.

RESOLVED:

That Mr. Harris be thanked for his informative presentation.

147. BUDGET MONITORING

Further to Minute No. 130 of 3 February 2010, the Committee considered the report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director indicating that the balance of the budget available for allocation during 2009/10, including sums set aside for the provision of litterbins, was as follows:-

Ward	Available Funds £
Ainsdale	8,250.58
Birkdale	13,558.73
Cambridge	3,205.83
Dukes	11,635.28
Kew	1,931.29
Meols	10,677.25
Norwood	18,529.84
Town-wide	2,812.50
Total	70,601.30

It was pointed out that sums should be credited to the Birkdale Ward allocation of £2,000 in respect of the increase in the street name plates budget and £110 for a "No Ball Games" sign in Abbey Gardens, which was no longer required.

Details of the allocations made by each ward against the general provision in the current year were set out in the report.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the remaining balance of £70,601.30 of the budget available for further allocation for the rest of the year be noted;
- (2) the following allocations be approved:

Scheme	Ward	Amount £
Edging of Tree Pits in Birkdale Village	Birkdale	3,000
Replacement of Fences at Primrose Close	Meols	4,500
Provision of litterbin on the corner of Grosvenor Road and Trafalgar Road near to Smedley Hydro	Birkdale	210
Provision of robust litterbin outside 68 Sandon Road, Hillside	Birkdale	380
Merseyside Police Big Bonza BBQ - joint venture between Police/Sefton Youth Service	Meols	100
Provision of a metal shelter to be placed alongside the Crossens Bowling Club bowling green	Meols	1,000
Provision of a litterbin outside 185 Sussex Road, Southport	Norwood	210
Entertainment club for sheltered accommodation flats at Poulton Court C.A.M. Club	Norwood	300
Normandy Veterans Association, Southport Branch - "Laying Up" of the organisation's standard	Town-wide Meols	500 500; and

(3) the following allocations, notified to the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director since the preparation of his report, be approved:

Scheme	Ward	Amount £
63rd Guide Pack - Start Up Costs	Birkdale	200
45th Southport Ranger Unit - start up costs for Ranger Unit and camping trip.	Birkdale	200
Provision of metal litter bin (including £50 for concrete base, if required) on Hazel Grove (to be placed at end of Meols Cop bridge by railings at side of church grounds)	Norwood	430
Planting Works by Friends of Meols Cop Station	Norwood	200

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Community Garden - Pagoda	Ainsdale	999
Community Garden - Trestles	Ainsdale	999
Police Scheme to encourage children to walk to school	Birkdale	200
	Ainsdale	300
	Dukes	200

148. HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Technical Services advising of those locations which had been identified for inclusion in the Highways Maintenance Programme 2010/11.

The report indicated that following the format adopted in previous years, the 2010/11 Highways Maintenance and Street Lighting Renewals/Refurbishment Programme was being shared with Area Committees for comment, prior to it being referred to the Cabinet Member - Technical Services for formal approval on 7 April 2010; that unlike previous submissions to the Area Committee, a single years programme of works was being presented at this time; but that unfortunately the damaging effects of the recent severe weather conditions would continue to manifest itself over the next few months leading to further and more significant levels of deterioration in many roads across the Borough. It was not possible to predict future deterioration levels across the whole network with any degree of confidence at this time; consequently it was considered premature to attempt to identify schemes for inclusion in the financial year 2011/12 and beyond.

The annexes to the report identified the following areas within the Area Committee's boundaries that were likely to be completed during 2010/11:

Footway Reconstruction Programme

Whitehaven Close, Ainsdale - Patterdale/Thursby Close included

Footway Surface Treatment

Avondale Road - Saunders Street to Alexandra Road
Cambridge Road - Manor Road to Preston New Road
Arnside Road - Church Street to Manchester Road
Alexandra Road - Albert Road to Avondale Road
Brook Street - Rufford Road to end
Brighton Road - Kew Road to Liverpool Road
Church Street
Canning Road - Cobden Road to Bispham Road
Wennington Road - Cobden Road to Bispham Road
Balfour Road - Forest Road to Scarisbrick New Road
Lulworth Road - Waterloo Road to Aughton Road

Rotten Row

Carriageway Resurfacing

A565 Lord Street - Roundabout at Leicester Street
Henley Drive
A565 Albert Road - Saunders Street to Leicester Street
A565 Liverpool Avenue - Green Walk to Segars Lane
Roselea Drive
Woodville Road
Portland Street - Railway crossing to Sefton Street

Carriageway Surface Treatment

Park Avenue - 150m approach to Park Crescent
Park Road West - Fairways to Albert Road
Knowsley Road - Saunders Street to Park Road West
Court Road - Leyland Road to Alexandra Road
Fir Street
Railway Street

Carriageway Surface Dressing

Cockle Dick's Lane - all including Churchill Avenue
Rotten Row
Banks Road

Carriageway Reconstruction

Town Lane - Cheltenham Way to Hythe Close
Duke Street - Cemetery Road to Duke Avenue
Preston New Road - Approach to Rathmore Crescent

Carriageway Anti-Skid Surface Treatment

Data still being analysed

Street Lighting Improvements

Cast Iron Replacement Phase I

Southbank Road, Shakespeare Street, St. James Street, Talbot Street,
Cross Street, Bentham Street, Marlborough Road, Marlborough Gardens,
Halsall Buildings

Cast Iron Replacement Phase II

Chester Avenue, Chester Road, Vernon Road, Bengarth Road,
Hawkshead Street, Windsor Road, Hartwood Road, Marsden Road, St.
Luke's Grove, Myrtle Grove, Olive Grove, Cypress Street, Mill Lane
Crescent, Mill Lane Culs De Sac, Devonshire Road, Bibby Road

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Cast Iron Replacement Phase III

Brighton Road, Barrett Road, Clifford Road, Lyndhurst Road, Longford Road, Shaftesbury Road

Stanton/Stavelly Replacement Phase III

Skipton Avenue, Whitby Avenue, Ilkley Avenue, Beverley Close, Harrogate Way, Fell View, Baytree Close, Shenley Way, Woodlea Close, Tarvin Close, The Pastures, Bridge Wills Lane

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Highways Maintenance Programme for 2010/11 be noted; and
- (2) the Head of Technical Services be requested to take account of the comments on the Programme now made by Members, together with any further comments subsequently conveyed to him.

149. UPDATE ON THE FORMER SOUTHPORT SANDWINNING SITE, MARINE DRIVE, SOUTHPORT

Further to Minute No. 50 of 2 September 2009, the Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director updating on the current situation regarding the former sandwinning compound at Marine Drive, Southport.

The report indicated that the removal of sand from the compound had been taking place on an infrequent basis; that the total amount of sand removed thus far equated to approximately 80,000 tonnes; that the material removed thus far accounted for over 70% of that on the site originally; that only a small amount of material had been removed from the site since August last year; and that work should be commencing on the restoration of the 'Haul Road' in the near future. This would involve the reduction in its height by up to 0.3m along an 80m length of the road from the site compound and the removal of the concrete markers at the boundary between the salt marsh and the beach; and that the established growth on the southern side and the north side where the existing 'fisherman's track' lies would be left untouched.

The report also indicated that an area of the compound, extending to 50 metres from Marine Drive was currently under consideration for retention; that the RSPB, who leased the surrounding land comprising the Marshside Nature Reserve were keen to establish additional facilities and the former compound was an ideal location; and that this process would require the submission of a planning application for a change of use of the land.

The report concluded that the Director considered that the lack of progress was a little frustrating but not surprising given the current economic

climate; and that the operator had shown his continued commitment to site restoration by commencing work on the 'Haul Road'.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) the Planning and Economic Development Director be requested to submit a further progress report in six months time.

150. VISITOR ECONOMY STRATEGY

The Committee considered the report of the Leisure and Tourism Director seeking feedback on the draft Visitor Economy Strategy (VES) for Southport as part of a wider consultative process.

The report indicated that the Council had been leading the regeneration of Southport since 1997 through its support for a variety of partnership led programmes of activity; that the principle of establishing Southport as England's Classic Resort had been in place since 2003; that it represented a Vision for the town's future as a sustainable visitor destination underpinned by a strong, vibrant and successful visitor economy; and that the Council resolved to adopt the Southport Investment Strategy (SIS) as the third chapter of this regeneration process in 2008 and that one of the main cross cutting themes within the seven themes that made up the SIS was the Visitor Economy Theme.

The report also indicated that the VES was an integral part of the Tourism Service's strategy to unlock future external funding opportunities; that the VES had been developed in consultation with a wide range of community, private and public sector stakeholders over the last five months and provided a long term 'market facing' plan that would be used to support and influence the ongoing regeneration of Southport's visitor economy. As a result, this strategy would be used as the basis for implementing key development opportunities that included the resort's retail, leisure and cultural offers. The strategy would also be used to inform Southport's marketing efforts and to influence wider policy areas such as transport, spatial planning, crime and anti social behaviour and the provision of specialist business support.

The report concluded that the VES process set out a clear path from which the existing public/private sector partnerships operating in Southport (Southport Partnership, Southport Tourism Business Network, Southport Business Enterprise and the Chamber of Commerce) would engage to form a wider 'brand partnership' that would be charged with overseeing the implementation of the priorities contained within the VES.

A copy of the VES was attached as an annex to the report.

RESOLVED:

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That the report be noted and the Leisure and Tourism Director be requested to take account of the comments now made by Members.

151. WESLEY STREET SOUTHPORT - PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

Further to Minute No. 115 of 6 January, 2010, the Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director that updated on a number of traffic issues regarding Wesley Street, Southport; and seeking the introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order, the effect of which would prevent access for all vehicles to Wesley Street between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m.

The report concluded that as the proposal did not deliver any significant road safety improvements it could not be funded from the Traffic Management Revenue Budget. Consequently, funding would be made available from the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Department.

It was proposed to introduce an individual Order for the road incorporating all the existing restrictions.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Traffic Regulation Order as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report, be approved;
- (2) the Traffic Services Manager be authorised to undertake the necessary legal procedures, including those of public consultation and advertising the Council's intention to implement the Order; and
- (3) funding of £2,000 for the making of the Order and amendments to the signage be made available from the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Department.

152. LONDON STREET AND HOGHTON STREET SOUTHPORT - PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director on proposed Traffic Regulation Orders for Houghton Street and London Street, Southport, the effect of which would impose "At Any Time" loading ban restrictions on London Street and Houghton Street.

It was proposed to introduce individual Orders for the roads incorporating all the existing restrictions.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Traffic Regulation Orders as shown on Annexes A and B and as detailed in the report, be approved; and

- (2) the Traffic Services Manager be authorised to undertake the necessary legal procedures, including those of public consultation and advertising the Council's intention to implement the Orders.

153. MARSHSIDE ROAD, CROSSENS - REQUEST FOR A VEHICLE-ACTIVATED TRAFFIC CALMING SIGN

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director seeking approval for the provision of a vehicle-activated traffic calming sign on Marshside Road, Crossens; and seeking a contribution from the Area Committee's devolved budget to fund the sign.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the provision of the vehicle-activated traffic calming sign on Marshside Road, Crossens, at a total of £5,601 be approved; and
- (2) funding of £1,867 as a contribution towards the cost of the sign, be allocated from the Cambridge Ward Budget.

154. ROOKERY ROAD AND HESKETH DRIVE - PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director on proposed Traffic Regulation Orders, the effect of which would introduce 15 metres of "At Any Time" restrictions on Hesketh Drive and 10 metres of "At Any Time" restrictions on Rookery Road, for junction protection purposes.

It was proposed to introduce individual Orders for the roads incorporating all the existing restrictions.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Traffic Regulation Orders as shown on Annexes A and B and as detailed in the report, be approved; and
- (2) the Traffic Services Manager be authorised to undertake the necessary legal procedures, including those of public consultation and advertising the Council's intention to implement the Orders.

155. ASHDOWN CLOSE AND SCARISBRICK NEW ROAD, SOUTHPORT - PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO EXISTING TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director on proposed Traffic Regulation Orders, the effect of which would restrict waiting "At Any Time" on a section of Scarisbrick New Road and part of Ashdown Close, Southport.

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It was proposed to introduce individual Orders for the roads incorporating all the existing restrictions.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the results of the consultation exercise undertaken with residents of Ashdown Close be noted;
- (2) the Traffic Regulation Orders as shown on Annexes A and B and as detailed in the report, be approved; and
- (3) the Traffic Services Manager be authorised to undertake the necessary legal procedures, including those of public consultation and advertising the Council's intention to implement the Orders.

156. TOWN LANE, KEW - PROPOSED 40 MPH SPEED LIMIT

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director advising of the proposal to reduce the existing 60 mph speed limit on Town Lane, Kew to 40 mph, in order to improve road safety for the new access link road for buses (extension of Wight Moss Way) into the Southport Commerce Park.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the reduction of the existing 60 mph speed limit on Town Lane to 40 mph as detailed on the plan in Annex B and the schedule in Annex C, be approved; and
- (2) the Traffic Services Manager be authorised to undertake the necessary legal procedures, including those of public consultation and advertising the Council's intention to implement the Order.

157. TRAFALGAR ROAD BIRKDALE - PROPOSED EXTENSION TO EXISTING TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

Further to Minute No. 35 of 1 July 2009, the Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director on a proposed Traffic Regulation Order, the effect of which would extend the existing "At Any Time" parking restrictions on Trafalgar Road, Birkdale at its junction with Grosvenor Road.

It was proposed to introduce an individual Order for the road incorporating all the existing restrictions.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Traffic Regulation Order as shown on Annex A and as detailed in the report, be approved; and

- (2) the Traffic Services Manager be authorised to undertake the necessary legal procedures, including those of public consultation and advertising the Council's intention to implement the Order.

158. FAIRHAVEN ROAD, SOUTHPORT - OBJECTIONS TO PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

Further to Minute No. 137 of 3 February 2010, the Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director advising of 2 objections received from businesses to the amendment of an existing Traffic Regulation Order, on Fairhaven Road, Crossens.

The report indicated that both objectors cited loss of business as being the main basis of their complaints: the Post Office Sub-postmaster was concerned that the loss of parking could possibly close down the business whilst the owner of the Delicatessen stated that parking was very limited for staff and customers. Whilst the proposal would result in the loss of approximately 6 parking spaces, there would still be a significant amount of on-street parking available further along Fairhaven Road. The report suggested that the restrictions should still be introduced to enhance road safety at the roundabout both in terms of visibility for vehicles approaching the roundabout, but also to ensure vehicles leaving the roundabout had a clear exit onto Fairhaven Road and were not obstructed by parked and/or manoeuvring vehicles.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the objections received from two business operators be noted;
- (2) the proposed Traffic Regulation Order be referred to the Cabinet Member - Technical Services for further consideration; and
- (3) the objectors be advised accordingly.

159. KINGS GARDENS, SOUTHPORT

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Development Director seeking confirmation for the use of Section 106 (S106) resources to provide the funding match required by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for Kings Gardens, Southport improvement scheme.

The report indicated that at a briefing to Area Committee Members on 3 March 2010, Members offered strong support for the use of S106 receipts to match fund HLF grant to improve Kings Gardens; that the Party Leaders had also indicated support subject to the Area Committee's endorsement; and that as HLF had asked for a response to its proposals by 5 March, feedback had already been given.

The report also detailed the business case demonstrating the need to improve Kings Gardens, including tackling the quality of the seafront environment as a key aim of the Southport Visitor Economy which was

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necessary to fully realise the anticipated regeneration benefits of the Southport Marine Park development opportunity. The report indicated that with regard to funding, HLF had indicated its willingness to improve the terms of its funding assistance in an effort to secure the improvement scheme and that this would be the largest single grant awarded by HLF in the north west to parks. The report requested the Area Committee to approve the commitment of future S106 receipts from future developments in Southport to provide the capital match required to draw down the HLF support for Kings Gardens.

The report concluded that within the Southport Area Committee boundary, there were 41 extant planning permissions with S106 agreements in place which, if implemented, would provide further funding for greenspace and tree planting amounting to £1.05m; that of these permissions, eleven were expected to produce payments in the total sum of £478,000 in the near future relating to schemes in Kew (£405,000), Norwood (£30,000), Cambridge (£25,000) and Dukes (£18,000); that it was reasonable to expect that in the period between now and 2012/13, further permissions with S106 commitments would be agreed; and that until such time that sufficient S106 resources had been received, the Cabinet would be requested to underwrite the capital cost of the project in the Capital Programme.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the allocation of future S106 resources to provide the funding match required by HLF for the improvement of Kings Gardens, be approved;
- (2) the Cabinet be requested to include the Kings Gardens Scheme in the Capital Programme with the Council's contribution funded as indicated in the report, underwritten until sufficient S106 resources are generated; and
- (3) Officers be authorised to prepare the stage 2 submission to HLF on the basis of the revised terms advised by HLF.

160. POLICE ISSUES

Inspector Tony Jones introduced himself as the replacement officer for Inspector Neil Moss.

It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Inspector Moss for his past work in the town.

Members of the public/Councillors raised the following issues:

- whether the northern part of Sefton had a dedicated officer to deal with the destruction of natural habitats (Inspector Jones agreed to check this)

- whether further publicity should be sought for the Police's "Operation Handle" which had been operating in the High Park area with little adverse comment (Inspector Jones explained that this was a Force-wide initiative to highlight the issue of home security)
- congratulations to Inspector Fairbrother for his work in the town centre utilising the Dog Unit
- Inspector Jones read out a report compiled by Sergeant Ian Allum concerning a robbery which had taken place on 13 March 2010 in the vicinity of the Skateboard Park, near Marine Drive
- Inspector Jones agreed to investigate a question submitted by Mr. D. Jackson concerning cars being driven over the footway by the pedestrian crossing outside Nos. 35 to 41 Hoghton Street
- problems with motorcyclists using footpaths (Inspector Jones stated that this was an awkward issue to deal with. The Police had architectural liaison officers who are consulted by local authorities with a view to "designing-out" vehicular access to footpaths and the Police helicopter had been used to deter motorcyclists)
- people urinating on Meols Park playing fields because there were no facilities in the changing accommodation
- the lack of officers "on the beat" in the town centre between 4.00 a.m. and 6.00 a.m.
- a fatal accident involving a pedestrian and a cyclist on Lord Street some time ago and who had the right of way on a footpath which was used by both cyclists and pedestrians (Inspector Jones agreed to investigate these matters)
- what proportion of fines imposed by the Courts were actually collected (Inspector Jones stated that this information could be obtained via a Freedom of Information Act request)
- whether pedestrians walking on footpaths through the dunes could feel safe if they were used by cyclists (Inspector Jones indicated that such footpaths would be policed like any other area).

161. OPEN FORUM

During the Open Forum the following questions/comments/petitions were submitted:

- (a) Local Advisory Group Member Mr. S. Sugden referred to obstructive and prolonged commuter vehicle parking in the vicinity of 1-11 Cromer Road, Southport. Mr. Sugden indicated that the Council had undertaken traffic surveys in the area; that the matter had been raised at a Traffic Management Liaison Group meeting; and that numerous incidents

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had been raised by residents relating to safety issues including the speed of commuter traffic coming off Waterloo Road, abuse by commuters to residents, prolonged vehicle parking for up to 4 days and parking on the pavement causing obstruction, all of which had been reported to the Council and/or the Police but with no obvious action taken.

Mr. Sugden continued that Southport, Birkdale, Ainsdale, Freshfield and Formby train stations all had public parking facilities whereas Hillside did not; that the lack of public parking facilities was causing the problem in his area; and that some local residents had engaged the Council, at their own expense, to provide 'H' brackets outside their properties, but these had proven to be ineffective and a waste of money.

Mr. Sugden concluded by requesting the Committee to consider the imposition of restricted parking for vehicles, similar to that outside Hillside Station, along the stretch of 1-11 Cromer Road, to preclude parking for a period of 1 or 2 hours during the working day Monday to Friday with no return for 2 hours; and to consider funding the scheme from the Dukes Ward allocation of the devolved budget on a 50-50 basis, i.e. half the cost of the scheme being met by local residents.

The Traffic Services Manager indicated that he had responded by letter to Mr. Sugden. The letter indicated that he could only reiterate that site visits undertaken had not revealed any obstructions to residents caused by parked vehicles on Cromer Road; that at the current time he was only normally progressing and centrally funding Traffic Regulation Orders which delivered a road safety benefit; and that it was his view that the only reason for restrictions at this location would be to improve the environment for residents by removing parked vehicles from outside their homes.

Mr. Marrin concluded that he would be extremely concerned about setting a precedent by allowing residents who could afford it, to pay for TROs when there were no obvious benefits apart from removing parked vehicles from outside an individuals property and that he could see no justification for such action.

Mr. Sugden indicated that he was not satisfied with Mr. Marrin's response. It was agreed that one further survey of the area should be undertaken.

(b) Mr. A. Hayes asked whether there were any plans for Meols Cop High School to be relocated to Meols Park as part of the Building Schools for the Future Programme in Sefton.

RESOLVED:

That the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families be requested to respond in writing to Mr. Hayes.

(c) Mr. D. J. Ramsden asked, considering the lack of facilities at Meols Park that were used each weekend by up to 140 adults and 100 plus

children, if the Council was satisfied with the appalling conditions that had prevailed at the Park since the 1950s.

The Leisure and Tourism Director had forwarded a written response to Mr. Ramsden.

RESOLVED:

That the Leisure and Tourism Director be requested to submit a report to the next meeting about the possibility of providing interim improvement measures to the facilities at Meols Park.

(d) Ms. M. Martin asked what evidence the Council used to base its decision to dig up half of Rotten Row and replace it with grass.

The Leisure and Tourism Director had forwarded a written response to Ms. Martin.

(e) Local Advisory Group Member Mrs. M. Pointon asked when the artistes for the Summer Pops in Princes Park would be announced this year. She also asked if the Head of Tourism could reassure the public that there would be better security on the gates for patrons awaiting admission into the park. She added that on the Friday evening of the event last year, it was a fiasco with many people pushed and shoved and tempers raised caused by people arriving at the last minute and trying to push their way to the front of the queue.

The Head of Tourism had responded that the programme for this year's Summer Classics had just been announced and consisted of "The Magic of Soul and Motown" on the Friday and "The Northern Chamber Orchestra Sinfonia" on the Saturday. With regard to the Friday evening, he added that the normal operational planning process naturally picks up problems and issues from the previous year's event, but he was not aware of anything from last year that could be regarded as a fiasco.

(f) Mr. M. Nelson referred to the proposed cycle track in the Birkdale Nature Reserve. He asked whether any consultation had taken place with disability support groups or individuals with disabilities and, if so, what was the duration and scope of the consultation.

The Traffic Services Manager indicated that no such specific consultation had taken place, nor were there any plans to undertake such consultation.

(g) Ms. L. Hilton asked, since there was no provision in the assessment report for the maintenance of the cycle highway in the Birkdale Nature Reserve, how was it going to be funded and what would happen at the end of its ten year lifespan.

The Traffic Services Manager explained that the contractor had indicated a lifespan of approximately 50 years. The work would be funded from the Rights of Way budget.

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(h) Ms. M. Atty indicated that the Committee would be aware of the proposal by the Council to change the footpath through the Nature Reserve between Ainsdale and Birkdale to a cycle track. She stated that the current footpath was a well-used and well-loved local amenity. She asked for figures for the number of people currently using the path, the number of new users who may use the proposed cycle track and the number of current users likely to cease using the track if the development takes place. She commented that, if more people stop using the track than start using it, there would be a net loss to the health and wellbeing of the community.

The Traffic Services Manager understood from surveys conducted by colleagues that approximately 250 people a day use the footpath in the summer months.

(i) Mr. T. Atty stated that one of the justifications for this development is that the Ainsdale/Birkdale Nature Reserve cycle track will bring economic benefit. He asked how a 1700 metre cycle track would create sustainable jobs and bring visitors into the area.

The Traffic Services Manager indicated that the Council encouraged cycling throughout the borough from a tourism and leisure perspective. The Council had developed a number of cycle paths and had provided cycle hire facilities.

(j) Miss H. Gregg, a nine year old Kew resident, referred to the number of parked cars on Ovington Drive from Monday to Friday and felt that the drivers of these vehicles were putting children's lives at risk. She asked for consideration to be given to single yellow line parking restrictions on Ovington Drive.

It was agreed that the Traffic Services Manager be requested to forward a written response to Miss Gregg.

(k) Mr. D. Jackson referred to the Council's website which states, in respect of road name signs, "The current policy is to maintain one nameplate at each end of every road", presumably to reduce cost. He stated that road name signs had recently been erected at the following locations:

Two at Preston New Road, although there was already one there, so there are now three;

Four at Eastbank Street Square. One was definitely in Eastbank Street, not the Square. They all stated Eastbank Square, when the correct name was Eastbank Street Square, so he felt that they would have to be replaced;

A total of four signs, two on each side of the monument, all stated London Square. Prior to the Lord Street upgrade works, there was a name plate

by the south colonnade which used the name Monument Square. There were also a number of publications referring to the location as Monument Square, including this Area Committee's Minutes. One of those publications refers to London Square being renamed, after the erection of the monument in 1923. He asked why the policy had not been followed; how much each extra nameplate cost; whether the change would be paid from Ward funds or from central Technical Service funds; and if it could be confirmed whether London Square was renamed.

It was agreed that Capita Symonds be requested to forward a written response to Mr. Jackson.

(l) Mr. T. Durrance stated that the Ribble Buildings at the south end of Lord Street were in desperate need of restoration. He asked if the Council would put pressure on the owners - or the receivers - to carry out maintenance to ensure that the property meets the requirements applicable to health and safety laws. He also asked for an assurance that the Council was doing everything in its power to address this issue.

It was agreed that the Planning and Economic Development Director be requested to forward a written response to Mr. Durrance.

(m) Mrs. A. Cobham referred to the recent high winds which had blown the refuse and recycling bins all over the roads and pavements and asked why the Council insisted that the bins have to be outside the property on the kerb edge, leaving them vulnerable to wind and vandalism. She also asked who was responsible and liable for any damage or injury caused by a Sefton refuse receptacle which was ordered to be left out in the street by the Council.

(n) Ms. A. Owen, the Cycling and Footpath Access Officer of "Path-n-Pedal", referred to the proposed cycle and pedestrian shared path from Birkdale Common to Ainsdale. She stated that many of the 150 plus members of her group, both cyclists and walkers alike who support the scheme, would like an assurance from the Councillors that it would go ahead. She added that the unreasonable objection to the scheme from a small number of existing users, although not unexpected, had raised concern amongst her group that it could be halted. She asked if the Councillors could give their assurance that this valuable addition to the town's cycle infrastructure would proceed as planned, thereby allowing cyclists and pedestrians alike, both now and in the future, to enjoy the significant amenity value which the scheme would provide.

(o) Mr. P. King understood that, when it was announced that the Park and Ride Service at Kew was to be temporarily "mothballed", Councillor Sumner, in his role as a Merseytravel Member, approached the Technical Services Cabinet Member and suggested that, with funding for further signage from Merseytravel, the Park and Ride could remain open. Mr. King understood that this would be at a cost of over £300,000 per year to the taxpayer and he asked if Councillor Sumner could confirm this.

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(p) Ms. C. Regan stated that, at the last meeting of the full Council, the Chair had said that she was not pleased that the Conservative Group did not back the Liberal Democrat Group proposal to move Southport Central Library to the Market; a decision which eventually saved the taxpayer a substantial sum of money. She asked if this was still the Chair's view.

(q) Mr. S. Taylor referred to some local political parties de-selecting Councillors because of age and wondered whether Members of the Committee thought that there should be recognised retirement as in all other walks of life. He asked if Councillors could accept an age of 75, the same as for judges, which could then allow younger and newer ideas to be brought into the Council Chamber.

(r) Mr. P. Thomason referred to the proposed cycle track through Birkdale Nature Reserve and asked what consultation had been undertaken to elicit ideas for alternative and potentially preferred routes from the local community.

(s) Ms. L. Thomason referred to the proposed cycle track through Birkdale Nature Reserve and asked why the current footpath was being replaced with a cycle track, instead of using the option that the National Trust employs of providing cycle bays so that cyclists can leave their bikes safely and enjoy the area on foot.

(t) Mr. D. Heaven referred to the proposed structured pathway linking Hillside and Ainsdale and asked what measures would be introduced to control the amount of dog faeces that were currently deposited daily, thereby making the surface unusable for wheelchairs.

(u) Ms. W. Heaven referred to the proposed structured pathway linking Hillside and Ainsdale and asked why should the opportunity be denied to give access to all, including wheelchairs, prams, bicycles, those of limited walking ability etc. to this beautiful area. She also stated that it was known that making structured pathways helped to conserve the flora and fauna of such areas.

In view of the expiry of the time allotted for the Open Forum, it was agreed that the appropriate Officer/Member be requested to forward a written response in respect of questions (m) to (u) above.

In relation to the large number of questions regarding to the proposed new cycle track between Birkdale and Ainsdale and the use of Southport Footpaths 13 and 15 (part) for cycling, (which was considered by the Committee at its meeting on 6 January 2010), particularly the allegations of inadequate consultation, it was agreed to request the Planning and Economic Development Director to prepare a report on the issues raised, for consideration at a special meeting of this Committee, to be held on a date to be arranged.

162. CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO MATTERS RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF THE AREA COMMITTEE

The Committee considered correspondence relating to the above.

RESOLVED:

That the correspondence be noted.

163. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED:

That the Planning and Economic Development Director be requested to submit reports on:

- parking issues in Hawkshead Street, Southport, between Kestrel Court and Zetland Street; and
- parking issues in York Road, Southport between Weld Road and Bickerton Road;

where parking of vehicles on both sides of the road in both locations can cause problems for through traffic.

164. VOTE OF THANKS

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Mrs. Fearn be thanked for the manner in which she has chaired meetings of the Committee and she be wished every success for her forthcoming year of office as Mayor of the borough.

165. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the next meeting be held on **Wednesday, 26 May, 2010 at the Town Hall, Southport, commencing at 6.30 p.m.** and not on 12 May 2010 as originally scheduled.

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