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THE "CALL IN" PERIOD FOR THIS SET OF MINUTES ENDS AT 12 NOON ON TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER, 2009.

LITHERLAND AND FORD AREA COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD AT THE CATHY ROBERTS MEMORIAL HALL, OSBORNE ROAD, LITHERLAND ON WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor Moncur (in the Chair)

Councillors D.Hardy, Brady, Cluskey, P.Hardy and Tweed
Local Advisory Group Members:
Mrs.J.Burnhill, Mr.J.Kelly, Mr.M.J.O'Brien and Mr.B.Walsh

37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Advisory Group Members Mrs.Cluskey and Mr.McNeight.

38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

39. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2009 be confirmed as a correct record.

40. OPEN FORUM

During the Open Forum the following question / comment was submitted:

- (a) Further to Minute No.28(b) of the meeting held on 2 September, Mr.G.McNeight expressed his concern at the reply he had received from Mr.D.Marrin, Traffic Services Manager regarding various parking and traffic issues around Marina Avenue, Sefton Street and Hawthorne Road Litherland.

RESOLVED:

That the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director be requested to respond to Mr.McNeight's comments.

41. POLICE ISSUES

No representative of Merseyside Police attended the meeting.

**42. PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF DROPPED KERBS - RICHARD
MARTIN ROAD, LITHERLAND**

Further to Minute No.28(a) of the meeting held on 2 September 2009, the Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director, which sought approval for the provision of two dropped kerbs to be located on the footway at Richard Martin Road, Litherland. The proposed dropped kerbs would enable disabled residents to travel safely into Litherland town centre. Attached as an annexe to the report was map that detailed the locations where the proposed dropped kerbs would be installed.

Members expressed their concern at the way this request / application had been handled: Residents had been given poor advice and instruction by Officers, which had caused confusion and delay; the protocols and procedures, established through the Neighbourhoods Team, had not been followed; Officers had wrongly advised residents to approach the Committee to fund footway improvements, the Committee stressed that its remit did not extend to supplementing highway improvement programmes; the report did not contain sufficient detail to enable the Committee to make an truly informed decision; and furthermore, there did not appear to be any clear identified criteria or coordinated strategy for installing dropped kerbs across the borough. A Councillor also commented that he had sought advice and clarification from the Legal Director on the types of projects/developments the Committee could fund, but he had not received an answer to his query.

Notwithstanding the aforementioned concerns Councillors agreed that Richard Martin Road, Litherland should have dropped kerbs and on this occasion the Committee would make a contribution of £1,000 towards their installation. However the Committee emphasised, in the strongest possible terms, this did not set a precedent for future budget allocations. All future budgetary requests must follow the due process and procedure, which was administered through the Neighbourhoods Team.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) an allocation of £1,000 be made from the Ford Ward budget for the installation of two dropped kerbs located at Richard Martin Road, Litherland;
- (2) the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director be requested to disseminate information to appropriate Officers regarding the Committee's budgetary arrangements;

LITHERLAND AND FORD AREA COMMITTEE- WEDNESDAY 30TH
SEPTEMBER, 2009

- (3) the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director be requested to advise Officers that the Committee's budget is not a supplement to work programme / departmental budgets;
- (4) the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director be requested to liaise with Finance and Information Services Director to ensure that information on the Council's internet pages accurately reflect the procedures for the Committee's budgetary administration;
- (5) the concerns of the Committee be forwarded to the Legal Director for inclusion on the agenda of the next Joint Meeting of Party Leaders and Area Committee Chairs, scheduled for 5 November, 2009.

43. BUDGET MONITORING

Further to Minute No.34 of the meeting held on 2 September 2009, the Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director that provided information on available resources for the Area Committee area and progress on those items approved at previous meetings.

Miss D.Edwards, Neighbourhood Team, informed the Committee that since the publication of the agenda, it had emerged that some streets required additional street name plates. Consequently Ford Ward would be requested to contribute an additional £280 and Litherland Ward would be requested to contribute an additional £385 to the initial request for £1,000 detailed within the report .

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the current financial position and progress to date on items previously agreed within the report be noted; and
- (2) an allocation of £1,280 be made for Street Signs from the Ford Ward allocation; and
- (3) an allocation of £1,385 be made for Street Signs from the Ford Ward allocation.

44. PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director that set the comments of the appropriate Officers on matters raised at previous meetings.

RESOLVED:

That the Progress Report be noted.

45. DATE OF NEXT MEETING 28 OCTOBER, 2009

RESOLVED:

That in accordance with the agreed programme of meetings for this Area Committee, the next meeting would be held on **Wednesday 28 October 2009, commencing at 18:30 at Goddard Hall, Stanley Road, Litherland.**