

SEFTON EAST PARISHES AREA COMMITTEE

**MEETING HELD AT THE MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER
DRIVE, MELLING
ON THURSDAY 12TH NOVEMBER, 2009**

PRESENT: Councillor Blackburn (in the Chair)
Councillors Byrne, Colbert, Fenton, C Mainey and
Robertson
ALSO PRESENT: Local Advisory Group Members:
Parish Councillors Baldwin and Baker
Town Councillor Walker
6 Members of the Public
1 Member of Merseyside Police

43. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Connell, Howe and S Mainey and Parish Councillor McKeating

44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

45. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2009

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2009, be confirmed as a correct record.

**46. MELLING PARISH REPRESENTATION TO THE AREA
COMMITTEE**

The Committee welcomed Parish Councillor Ron Baker to the meeting, representing Melling Parish Council and as a new nomination in place of Alan Brown who had now resigned in his capacity as a representative to the Sefton East Parishes Area Committee.

RESOLVED

That Mr Brown be written to, in order to thank him for his services to the Area Committee.

47. POLICE ISSUES

Further to Minute No 34 of the meeting held on 10 September 2009, Sergeant Nelson outlined the crime statistics for the Sefton East Parishes area from 10 September 2009 to 11 November 2009; indicating that figures could not be broken down by ward as requested at the previous

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meeting, but were broken down into each area which made up Sefton East, namely Maghull, Melling, Aintree and Lydiate.

Burglary, it was reported, that there had been a 50% increase, a trend shared with neighbouring authorities in Ormskirk and Kirkby; that 39 incidents had been reported – 19 in Maghull; 10 in Melling; 7 in Aintree; and 3 in Lydiate; that 14 out of the 39 incidents reported were unsecured premises and 4 out of the 39 were attempted but unsuccessful forced entry; that these incidents could be attributed to cross border individuals; that Police were tackling the issue by increasing foot patrols, using unmarked cars to monitor traffic around the area; and that mounted police officers would continue to be deployed until the end of the month. Police had also launched operation “Handle” in order to tackle the issue of unsecured premises; indicating that Police had approached 120 homes and of those 53 had left doors unlocked; that anyone who had left their premises unsecured had been contacted and advised on how to improve this; and that Police had made good progress in apprehending some of the offenders.

Thefts from a motor vehicle remained unchanged from last month; in total, 39 incidents had been reported – 20 in Maghull; 10 in Melling; 5 in Aintree and 4 in Lydiate; that 36 of the 39 incidents were due to opportunist offenders stealing valuable items which were on display; 7 of the 39 incidents were due to unsecured vehicles; Police had sent letters to drivers to advise them of how to better secure their vehicle; and that Police had made one significant arrest in relation to this issue.

7 robberies had been reported; 3 in Maghull; 1 in Melling; 1 in Aintree and 2 in Lydiate. It was believed that these were linked and Police had made arrests and were awaiting forensic evidence.

12 incidents of anti social behaviour had been reported 5 in Magull, 2 in Melling, 2 in Aintree and 3 in Lydiate. Police had taken a number of measures to ensure the mitigation of anti social behaviour, particularly on mischief night, Halloween and Guy Fawkes night.

Councillors asked a variety of questions relating to people trying to get into cars on Oakhill Drive; dog fouling and PSCO powers in relation to this; police resources in the Sefton East Parishes area; anti social behaviour reports in the press; police operating operation ‘Handle’ at 11:50pm; parked cars on Rosslyn Avenue and Liverpool South Road. Officers were also thanked for dealing efficiently with a complaint regarding electricity misuse. Sergeant Nelson answered questions and where appropriate agreed to take details of incidents from Members.

48. OPEN FORUM

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

- (a) Mr P. Harper, resident, had been requested by Aintree residents to raise the matter of three litter bins which were previously sited outside the shops on Altway, Aintree Village (opposite the Library), which had been reduced to a single bin due to damage caused by vehicles mounting the pavement when making deliveries and rendering two bins beyond repair; the consequence of which had meant that the single bin would become full, causing litter to be dropped on the floor by some individuals or the contents of the bin falling from the top of the bin. The Committee were requested to reinstate the 2 missing bins as soon as possible.

RESOLVED:

That the necessary processes be instigated to reinstate the two missing bins and funded from the Molyneux Ward Budget.

- (b) Mr Harper also enquired as to whether the Area Committee could make a request of the Sayers shop or impose any condition on the management to site a bin outside or near to its premises and take responsibility to empty the bin.

RESOLVED:

That the Area Committee investigate the possibility of requesting the Sayers shop in Altway to site a bin outside or near their premises; and investigate the possibility of more bins being sponsored by fast food outlets.

49. MAGHULL INTERCHANGE RAILWAY STATION

Further to Minute No 48 of the meeting held on 10 September 2009, Tony McDonagh, Principal Bus Services Officer and Steve Cook, Forward Planning Officer attended the meeting as representatives of Merseytravel to discuss the issue of buses stopping over at Maghull Interchange Railway Station and their impact on parking issues at the railway station.

Mr McDonagh reported that he and his colleagues had inspected the site and there was an issue with buses laying over due to aggregated time, however it would not be possible to change the bus schedule as this would adversely impact on service; nor would it be possible to change layover time; however it would be possible to investigate the layout of the station and enforcement procedures to ensure cars were not parking in the bus lanes.

Councillors asked a number of questions relating to child parking bays; the capacity of service; the proposals for Maghull North Railway station and its planning application; bus services to Maghull Leisure Centre; transport issues to Melling and the possible extension of the 326 bus service. Mr McDonagh and Mr Cook answered all questions, adding that due to the Maghull North Railway Station proposal, an overall review of the transport

service within Sefton East would be undertaken before installation of the station.

RESOLVED:

That Merseytravel investigate and suggest any improvement of the Maghull Railway Station designated parking.

**50. REVIEW OF PARKING RESTRICTIONS - MAGHULL STATION
AREA**

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director on the current situation following the waiting restrictions to combat all day parking in residential roads in the vicinity of Maghull Railway Station, highlighting comments from local residents on parking conditions, the success in the reduction of parking by commuters in the area and seeking approval for a recommendation as a way forward as commuters were parking in adjacent streets.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the contents of the report be noted;
- (2) further consultation with residents of Hurst Road, Daisy Mount and Spring Gardens be approved as detailed in the report; and
- (3) initial consultation with residents of Melling Lane, Heathfield Road, Ashleigh Road, Molyneux Road and Poverty Lane be approved.

**51. PROPOSED JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT - PRESCOT ROAD /
BANK LANE, MELLING**

Further to Minute No 36 of the meeting held 10 September 2009, the Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director regarding the proposed junction improvement at Prescott Road/Bank Lane; and indicating that a recent public consultation exercise on the matter had been undertaken in which 22 responses had been received of the 37 potential respondents, with a 59% return rate, 13 residents were in favour of the scheme and 9 were against; and seeking approval for progression of the proposed scheme as outlined in the report and upon plans as in Annex B.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the results of the consultation exercise be noted; and
- (2) the proposed roundabout at the junction of Prescott Road and Bank Lane, subject to financial approval by Cabinet Member – Technical Services, be approved for progression.

52. DOG FOULING AROUND HUDSON SCHOOL

The Committee considered the report of Councillor Howe regarding the receipt of a petition from residents of the Alt Estate, particularly Woodley Road, Moorland Road and Moorhey Road, endorsed by Councillor Howe.

The petition on dog fouling around Hudson School indicated that PSCOs, whilst having the delegated powers to penalise dog owners, were under utilising this power; requested Sefton Council or Maghull Town Council to agree a way forward to tackle the issue and outlined a number of suggested resolutions.

Rob Monks, Principal Environmental Health Officer from the Environmental Protection Department addressed the Committee and reported that complaint data from April 2009 to date indicated that 302 complaints had been received from Sefton residents regarding dog fouling with 15 from the Sefton East Parishes area; that based on this data, the 3 dog wardens at his disposal would be allocated to those areas with the highest incidents of reported dog fouling; that only 5 complaints had been received from the Alt Estate prior to the petition; that a meeting had been held to tackle the issue on Monday 8 November 2009 resulting in the implementation of stencils, distribution of leaflets, that the Alt Estate be cleared of current dog foul and PSCOs patrol the estate under 'Operation Collar' to ensure enforcement of any offence and by stopping any one with dogs to ensure they were carrying bags to clear away dog foul.

Councillors and members of the public asked a variety of questions relating to: data used by the Public Health Department; public complaints; contact details for the dog warden; the definition of offences relating to dog fouling and the powers of dog wardens; publicity of the environmental health department and naming and shaming offenders.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Legal Director in consultation with the Environmental Protection Director be requested to investigate whether any by-laws could be introduced to ensure that dog owners carry plastic bags on them and are visible when walking dogs; and
- (2) Councillors encourage members of the public to report any persistent offenders of dog fouling.

53. A TOURISM VISION FOR SEFTON 2020

Further to Minute No 22 of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services) meeting held on 15 September 2009, the Committee considered the report of the Head of Tourism on the progress made in relation to the tourism strategy as outlined in "A Tourism Vision for Sefton 2020"; indicating the Tourism Department's proposals for implementation across Sefton; and indicating

that the Committee note a shift of focus from traditional tourism centres, such as Southport, to initiatives affecting the wider visitor economy.

Councillors asked a variety of questions relating to: Aintree Racecourse and the surrounding area; communication between the Tourism Department and parish Councils; financial contributions of business to the Sefton area; the potential of developments on waterways within the borough and the Frank Hornby Trust.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the contents of the report be noted; and
- (2) the Head of Tourism respond directly to Ward Councillors regarding their concerns raised.

54. OVERVIEW YOUTH PROVISION REPORT

Further to Minute No 40 of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services), the Committee considered the report of the Strategic Director of Children's Services on the overview of youth provision in Sefton; that indicated targeted provision available for young people in the Sefton by area, excluding private sector providers; that there were a number of targeted provisions delivered by Merseyside Police, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service and the Local Authority, which were supporting vulnerable or socially excluded young people; and that the report had been referred to the Committee for information and discussion.

John Philips, Area Manager, Children's Services presented the report; Councillors shared information indicating inaccuracies or omissions from the report and asked a variety of questions relating to: Maghull Coffee Bar; Aintree Youth Centre; funding streams for youth activities and provision; and the delivery of youth engagement activity across Sefton, particularly the emphasis of the national curriculum in after school youth activity.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the contents of the report be noted; and
- (2) the Strategic Director of Children's Services be requested to produce a report for the Area Committee outlining the roles and responsibilities of elected members in the operation of Aintree Youth Centre.

55. PROPOSED SPEED RESTRICTION REDUCTIONS - PRESCOT ROAD, MAGHULL LANE, CUNSCOUGH LANE AND M58 MOTORWAY ROUNDABOUT, MELLING

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director on the proposed speed restrictions at Prescott Road, Maghull Lane, Cuncough Lane and the M58 Motorway

roundabout, Melling and seeking approval to reduce the speed limit on these routes.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the proposals to reduce the speed limits on A506/B5197 Prescott Road / Cunsough Lane, Maghull Lane and at the roundabout of junction 1, Maghull Lane / M58 motorway as outlined in this report be approved; and
- (2) the necessary legal procedures, including that of public consultation and advertising of the Council's intention to implement the Orders be approved, so that the measures can be implemented early in the New Year.

**56. PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN REFUGES – LIVERPOOL ROAD
NORTH, DODDS LANE AND DAMFIELD LANE, MAGHULL**

Further to Minute No 25 of the Cabinet Member Technical Services meeting held on 15 July 2009, the Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director on the proposed Pedestrian Refuges for Liverpool Road North, Dodds Lane and Damfield Lane, Maghull; seeking approval of progression of pedestrian refuges on the above mentioned roads; and indicating that in order to comply with Department for Transport advice, signalised pedestrian crossing facilities should be provided at locations where PV^2 is exceeded (P =number of pedestrians crossing and V = the volume of traffic).

With the exception of the Crosby by-pass, the remaining 53 sites surveyed did not meet the threshold in order to justify the installation of a signalised pedestrian refuge, however the Technical Services department proposed to use the allocation included within the 2009/10 Capital Programme to suggest eight non-signalised refuges, based on the priority of the location using the above formula.

Councillors asked a variety of questions relating to: the potential for the installation of a refuge on Northway (A59); a mini round about on Damfield Lane; speed humps in Melling and the eyeline of pedestrians of traffic on Dodds Lane into Liverpool Road North. Steve Johnson, Team Leader, Transportation and Development, answered questions, and agreed to address the issues raised.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the design and implementation of the pedestrian refuges on Liverpool Road North, Dodds Lane and Damfield Lane, Maghull, subject to a positive public consultation, be progressed;
- (2) issues with pedestrians' line of sight with regard to traffic from Liverpool Road North from the refuge at Dodds Lane be investigated; and

- (3) issues relating to pedestrian and cycle crossings along the A59 throughout the Sefton East Parishes area be investigated.

**57. TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS - CENTRAL SQUARE,
MAGHULL**

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director on the proposed introduction of Traffic Regulation Orders the effect of which would ensure the full enforcement of the 2 hour limit on waiting at Central Square, Maghull; indicating that two options were being investigated to achieve this aim; that the first option was to introduce a new Traffic Regulation Order which would designate Maghull Central Square as an Off-Street Car Park, but would be dependent on the exact status of the Central Square as a highway and if the existing signing and lining would be sufficient to allow such an order to be enforced; that the second option would retain the existing Order but amend the current lines and signs to allow full enforcement to take place (this option was being costed as a significant number of the signs and lines would have to be renewed to make this option feasible); that the Committee be requested note the options being pursued; and that further update reports would be submitted to a future meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted and that further update reports would be submitted.

58. WADDICAR LANE DEVELOPMENTS, MELLING

Further to Minute No 34 of the meeting held 10 September 2008, the Committee considered the report of Councillor Robertson which requested an update from the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environmental Services regarding the Satinwood Crescent development by Morris Homes and Persimmon Homes.

A report from the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environmental Services outlining an update on the situation was tabled indicating that the outstanding sewer connection required was completed in April 2009; that as a result of the connection being made, a site meeting was arranged between Sefton Council and the developers and a list of remedial works had been agreed, however, remedial works which were required at the pumping station in The Village development remained outstanding and had resulted in United Utilities not adopting the new sewers; that there was an ongoing dispute between the developers regarding who was responsible for the payment of fees in relation to this matter; and that further meetings would be arranged between all concerned to finally have the adoption of the highways progressed.

Discussions ensued regarding the matter and Councillors and members of the public outlined a variety of concerns regarding the issue.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods arrange a site meeting with appropriate officers, relevant members of the public and Ward Councillors and thereafter report back to a future Committee meeting; and
- (2) the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director be requested to submit an update report regarding the issue of Waddicarr Lane Developments to each Area Committee.

59. BUDGET MONITORING

Further to Minute No 37 of the meeting held 10 September 2009, the Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director that indicated the balance available for the allocation for 2009/10 budget was as follows.

	Balance b/f £	2009/10 Budget £	2009/10 Litterbins £	2009/10 Street Signs £	2009/10 Available £	2009/10 Commitments £	Balance Available £
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SEPAC-wide by Ward							
Molyneux	1,047.00	1,767.00	-	-	2,814.00	-	2,814.00
Park	589.00	1,767.00	-	-	2,356.00	-	2,356.00
Sudell	2,211.00	1,766.00	-	-	3,977.00	-	1,277.00

Parish/Town Councils							
Aintree	-	3,860.00	-	-	3,860.00	3,860.00	-
Lydiate	3,610.00	3,610.00	-	-	7,220.00	-	7,220.00
Maghull	-	12,035.00	-	-	12,035.00	-	12,035.00
Melling	-	1,520.00	-	-	1,520.00	-	1,520.00
Sefton	175.00	175.00	-	-	350.00	-	350.00

Litterbins by Ward							
Molyneux	49.00	-	557.00	-	606.00	380.00	226.00
Park	779.00	-	557.00	-	1,336.00	1,140.00	196.00
Sudell	749.00	-	557.00	-	1,306.00	-	1,306.00

Street Signs by Ward							
Molyneux	-	-	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
Park	-	-	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
Sudell	-	-	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	1,000.00

Total	9,209.00	26,500.00	1,671.00	3,000.00	40,380.00	8,080.00	32,300.00
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RESOLVED: That

- (1) the balance of the budget available for each Parish/Town Council from the general budget and to each Ward from SEPAC-wide budget allocations for the rest of the year be noted;
- (2) the balances of the litter bin budget for each Ward be noted;
- (3) an allocation of £760 be made for the replacement of 2 litterbins at Altway shops, (opposite the library) from the Molyneux Ward budget;
- (4) an allocation of £380 be made for the placement of a litterbin at the top of Hunt Road from the Sudell Ward budget;
- (5) an allocation of £50 be made for a base of a litterbin to be re-sited from Prescott Road, Melling to outside Natwest Bank, Old Roan shops;
- (6) an allocation of £200 be made for a post mounted bin at Prescott Road from the Molyneux Ward budget;
- (7) an allocation be made for a no through road sign for Knutsford Walk, Lydiate, from the Park Ward budget;
- (8) an allocation of £80 be made for additional street signs from the Molyneux Ward budget;
- (9) an allocation be made for a bin from the Park Ward budget to be placed on the junction of Meadway and the trans-pennine trail footpath and to be emptied everyday; and
- (10) a contribution of £2,000, derived from three equal proportions of each Sefton East Ward budget, to provide Christmas Lights in Maghull Central Square be approved.

60. CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO PREVIOUS AGENDA ITEMS

The Committee considered correspondence relating to items raised from the previous meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the correspondence be noted.

61. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

In accordance with the agreed Schedule of Meetings for this Area Committee, the next meeting will be held on Thursday 21 January 2009 at Maghull Town Hall, Hall Lane, Maghull commencing at 18:30.