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THE "CALL IN" PERIOD FOR THIS SET OF MINUTES ENDS AT 12 NOON ON MONDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2010. MINUTE NOS. 65, 68, 69, 70, 71 AND 72 ARE NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL-IN"

## LINACRE AND DERBY AREA COMMITTEE

### MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BOOTLE ON MONDAY 11TH JANUARY, 2010

PRESENT: Councillor Friel (in the Chair)  
Councillors Kerrigan and Gustafson

Local Advisory Group Members:  
Ms. A. Myers, Mrs. B. Rouse, Mr. F. Roberts,  
Mr. J. Costello, Mr. D. Robinson and Mr. N. Woods

#### 62. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fairclough, Larkin and McGinnity.

#### 63. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were received:

Member	Minute No.	Interest	Action
Councillor Friel	65(e) - Open Forum	Personal - had already corresponded with the department concerned and expressed a view on the matter	Stayed in the room, took part in consideration of the item and did not vote
Mr. F. Roberts, Local Advisory Group Member	65 (b) - Open Forum	Personal - due to nature of employment	Stayed in the room, took part in consideration of the item.
Councillor Gustafson	68 - Provision of Alleygates	Personal - due to nature of employment	Stayed in the room, took part in consideration of the item, but did not vote

#### 64. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2 NOVEMBER 2009

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2009 be confirmed as a correct record.

## 65. OPEN FORUM

During the Open Forum the following questions and comments were received:

- (a) Mr. J. Alford (Assistant Director of Planning and Economic Regeneration) updated the Area Committee on the notification process for the Planning Application submitted by IES for the Alexander Dock. It was re-iterated to the Area Committee that decisions on planning matters were the responsibility of the Planning Committee. He confirmed that the application was to be formally considered by that Committee on 10 February 2010. Members thanked Mr. Alford for attending the meeting and for his assistance in providing residents with a further opportunity to pose questions.

NHS Sefton was asked to investigate whether there would be any health implications arising from the IES proposals. NHS Sefton would ask one of their public Health Specialists for a view on this and report to Mr. Alford for consideration by the Planning Committee.

Clarification was sought as to the difference between consultation and information in the context of the planning application. It was confirmed that the Council would need to be clear about what local people could actually influence, so as not to raise expectations of residents unduly.

The Assistant Director of Neighbourhoods (ADN) was asked to provide further clarification to the Area Committee on the level of local people's engagement in the planning process.

RESOLVED:

That NHS Sefton be requested to report any health implications which may arise from the proposal to Mr. Alford for consideration by the Planning Committee.

- (b) Mr. P. Acres (Chair of NHS Sefton) and Mr. Leigh Griffin (Chief Executive of NHS Sefton) were invited to speak by the Chair and were keen to ensure that the views of local people were captured on an area basis to help inform service delivery. Attendance at Area Committee was one mechanism that would help support this. They recognised the high levels of ill health in the area and wished to take a preventative approach to services wherever possible.

The Chair opened the meeting to the public at this point and a question was asked as to whether the PCT Board Meetings could be held in the evenings, as this would be more convenient for

members of the public. Mr Acres agreed to look into this.

- (c) Local Advisory Group Member Mr. Costello expressed concern about the apparent lack of consultation with local people over the Playbuilders programme of works to South Park

Local Advisory Group Member Mrs. Rouse expressed grave concerns that, in spite of re-assurances from officers, consultation had not taken place.

RESOLVED:

That the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods be asked to provide a written response to Mr. Costello, following discussion with colleagues in Leisure Services.

- (d) Mr. P. Maher submitted a question on the Council's policy in relation to the sale of assets such as Bootle Stadium and the Bedford Road Centre, given the current series of cuts in budget to the tune of 25 million pounds.

The Chair stated that decisions about the Strategic Budget Review were taken by the Council and not at the Area Committee level.

Local Advisory Group Member Mr. Wood expressed concern that despite budget cuts, 'millions of pounds' were being spent on the Moss Lane Development and a replacement for the Netherton Activity Centre.

RESOLVED: That

1. the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods provide a written response to Mr Wood on this question; and
  2. it be noted that the Area Committee was opposed to any reduction in community and leisure facilities in the South of the Borough as it felt strongly that there was already an existing inequality in service provision across the Borough.
- (e) Ms. J. Maher submitted a question asking for the Committee's support for the call by the Sefton CAB to abandon the 0845 telephone number, which charged residents making telephone enquiries to the Council.

The Chair stated that he had declared an interest in this matter as he had already given his support to the campaign by the CAB, which he considered was part of a very worthwhile national campaign. The problem of cost was further compounded by those who relied on mobile phones.

For clarification it was pointed out that a decision had been taken by Council not to abandon this number. This had been referred to the appropriate Scrutiny Committee, which had upheld the decision.

RESOLVED:

That the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods provide a written response to Ms. Maher in relation to the 0845 telephone number.

- (f) Councillor Gustafson raised a question on behalf of a Mrs Brand about a Traffic Management Plan in relation to parking for herself and other residents near to her home in Aintree Road. She indicated that she had taken this matter up with Traffic Management Section and written to the Prison Governor but had received no replies.

RESOLVED:

That the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods pursue this matter to ensure that a response be given by the Council to this question.

- (g) Further to Minute No. 41 of 21 September 2009, the Chair reported on progress with the Bootle cemetery, namely that phase one was completed and phase two would go ahead shortly.

A Member stated that Bootle Cemetery had been neglected, in their view, unlike the other cemeteries, which had always been well maintained but that the work done so far, in particular the new gates, was welcome.

Confirmation was requested as to whether the Chapel was to be demolished and the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods confirmed that this had been proposed on both cost and Health and Safety grounds. Residents further indicated that Listed Building status was being sought.

RESOLVED: That

(1) the Committee supports the retention of the Chapel; and

(2) the Leisure Director be requested to confirm that all sources of funding to bring the Chapel back into use had been explored.

- (h) Further to Minute No. 48 of 2 November 2009, Mrs Hoang requested a progress update on the traffic/parking problems at Strand Road.

RESOLVED:

That the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods be requested to pursue the matter on behalf of Mrs. Hoang.

## **66. POLICE ISSUES**

Inspector Burnham reported as follows:

That a number of ASBOs had been issued to street drinkers.

The Anti Social Behaviour Task Force had made a good impact in the Peel Road, Poets' Park and Seaforth Area, where there were 114 fewer incidents than a year ago. This was in spite of the snow giving rise to more reporting of incidents.

The "Night Safe" operation over Christmas and New Year was successful in making residents feel safe and included Public House and Club visits.

Operation "Handle" had helped in reducing sneak thieves taking advantage of UPVC doors being left unlocked, using the PCSOs and the fact that police now had access to Alleygate keys was of help.

He also reported on the recent murder in Partington Road.

The Chair thanked the Inspector and Elected and Advisory Members raised the following points:

Concern was expressed about the reduced amount of police time in the Seaforth Area, which had lead to more anti-social behaviour and the Inspector responded that this was a temporary measure, while staff were involved on the operations described above.

Problems with contacting the Walton Prison Governor regarding the problems with parking in Wood Avenue were referred to; and also Anti Social Behaviour at the Hawthorne Road shops and an incident of racist abuse. Overall, however, it was stated that there was positive feedback from shop owners.

Problems at the Strand with beggars, most of whom appeared to come from outside the area, were referred to.

Problems with vehicles being driven in Poets' Park were referred to and Members asked that the gaps in fencing and the effectiveness of existing entrances be checked and action taken. Inspector Burnham was asked to investigate this matter. Councillor Kerrigan, as a Member of the Merseyside Police Authority, reported that there was to be a meeting of the Safer Stronger, Communities Partnership on 28 January 2010, where this issue could be discussed.

## **67. PRESENTATION BY HOUSING BENEFITS/ COMMUNITY TAX OFFICER TO PROMOTE TAKE UP OF BENEFITS**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at this point as Councillor Gustafson had left the room and the meeting was not quorate.

The Chair re-opened the meeting on the return of Councillor Gustafson and invited Mr. P. Jenner (Benefits Development Officer) to address the meeting and Mr. Jenner distributed a briefing note on the benefits system and then spoke on that. He outlined the types of benefits available and the steps that were taken to publicise these to the widest audience, to maximise take up. He hoped that Members and the public would take the message from this meeting and do their best to inform local people.

He asked for suggestions from the meeting and key points were that the awareness of the service could be raised by giving out information to community organisations in contact with the target audience, and also through training existing staff from within the Council and other agencies to pass on information to their clients. This was particularly relevant to Registered Social Landlords. Other suggestions included the following:

Presentations at large stores, such as ASDA.

Provision of information to schools and local organisations such as pensioners' clubs.

The use of Parish Councils to pass on information.

The Chair thanked Mr. Jenner for his informative presentation.

#### **68. PROVISION OF ALLEYGATES - VARIOUS LOCATIONS**

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director seeking approval to proceed with the undermentioned various Gating Orders following requests from Community Safety and local Police.

Area	Plan Number
Lytton Grove and Church Road	DC0503
Westminster Road/Hawthorne Road	DC0510
Viola Street/Bedford Road	DC0514
Hornby Road/Roby Street/Thornton Road/ Litherland Road	DC0515

The costs of processing the applications, including the costs of the gates would be funded by the applicants.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director, in conjunction with the Legal Director, be authorised to:

- (1) process Gating Order applications pursuant to S129A of the

Highways Act1980 by advertising the Council's intention to install gates, the effect of which would be to restrict access to the passageway as highlighted in the report and shown on plans numbered DC0503, DC0510, DC0514 and DC0515;

- (2) process Gating Order applications pursuant to S129A of the Highways Act1980 by advertising the Council's intention to install gates, the effect of which would be to restrict access to the passageway as highlighted in the report and shown on plans numbered DC0503, DC0510, DC0514 and DC0515; and
- (3) subject to there being no objections during the statutory advertising period, the Legal and Democratic Director be authorised to confirm the respective Order. Where an objection is raised, a report will be submitted to the Area Committee, unless the objection is raised by the Emergency Services in which case, the matter would be referred to a Public Inquiry.

**69. PROPOSED CYCLE FACILITIES - HORNBY ROAD / STUART ROAD NORTH**

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director seeking approval for the creation of a central reserve gap on Hornby Road, Bootle, to assist in the creation of a cycle route within Liverpool.

RESOLVED:

That the creation of a central reserve gap on Hornby Road, Bootle, to assist in the creation of a cycle route within Liverpool (as detailed in paragraph 2.0 shown in annex C of the report) be approved.

**70. PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER - ORIEL ROAD, BOOTLE**

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director on a proposed Traffic Regulation Order, the effect of which would amend the existing Prohibition of Driving Order on Oriel Road, Bootle. The Order would ensure that all vehicles except buses and cycles would be prohibited from entering Oriel Road from Millers Bridge.

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 the plans at 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 Order.

#### **71. PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACES**

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director seeking authorisation for the provision of dedicated disabled parking bays at the following locations:

- centrally located outside 24 Berkley Drive, Seaforth
- centrally located outside 93 Downing Road, Bootle
- centrally located outside 29 Middlesex Road, Bootle
- centrally located outside 93 Norton Street, Bootle.

The report indicated that all new Traffic Regulation Orders for Disabled Parking Permits allowed for the provision of a numbered permit which restricted the use of the bay to the applicant only.

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

It was suggested that ongoing roadworks might need to be completed before any works commenced and the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods agreed to check on this.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Traffic Regulation Orders as referred to above and as set out in the plans and 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.

#### **72. HILLSIDE CLOSE, BOOTLE OBJECTION TO PROPOSED REVOCATION OF TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER**

Further to Minute No. 27 of 17 August 2009, the Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director in relation to an objection to the proposed revocation of an existing Traffic Regulation Order on Hillside Close, Bootle.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Traffic Regulation Order be revoked; and
- (2) the objector be advised accordingly.



### **73. BUDGET MONITORING**

The Committee considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director which advised that the balance of its budget available to allocate during 2009/10 was £17,300.00; and on progress to date on those items approved at previous meetings.

The Chair commented on the layout of the budget areas in the financial part of the report and asked if the layout could be altered to make it more user-friendly. The Assistant Director Neighbourhoods agreed to check this.

RESOLVED:

That the balance of the Area Committee's budget of £17,300.00 available for allocation in 2009/10 and the progress to date on items previously agreed be noted.

### **74. PREVIOUS QUESTIONS RAISED IN THE OPEN FORUM**

The Committee considered correspondence relating to previous questions raised in the Open Forum.

RESOLVED:

That the correspondence be noted.

### **75. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED:

That in accordance with the agreed programme of meetings for the Area Committee, the next meeting be held on **Monday 22 March 2010 at the Town Hall, Bootle, commencing at 6.30 p.m.**

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