



South Area Committee
(City Councillors representing Cherry Hinton,
Queen Edith's, Trumpington Wards)

8th May 2008

CPDC, Foster Road, Cambridge CB2 2JW

7.30pm – 8.44pm



Minutes & Actions

Present: **City Councillors**
Cherry Hinton: Robert Dryden, Stuart Newbold, Russ McPherson
Queen Edith's: Alan Baker, Amanda Taylor
Trumpington: Salah Al Bander, Andy Blackhurst, Sheila Stuart
County Councillors: Anne Kent, Geoffrey Heathcock

08/17 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting on 13th March 2008 were signed as a correct record.

08/18 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from County Councillor Carter.

08/19 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were declared.

08/20 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

08/21 Open Forum

Q1) Regarding the City Centre Management Item (page 3 of minutes 13.03.08) – what signs will be removed to meet the need to 'de-clutter'?

Councillor Blackhurst: Understood that this was referring to the opening of the Grand Arcade – the replacing of new for old signs in order to keep shopping information up to date.

Q2) Is there any news about the proposed waste site south of the Glebe Farm access road and does this committee think a waste site is a suitable building for the gateway to Cambridge?

Why are the County Council granting permission for houses to be built in Hauxton on a site that was initially stated to be too contaminated for a waste site?

Councillor Kent: Agreed that it was an unsuitable location for the waste site but confirmed that planning permission for the Hauxton homes was actually granted by South Cambs District Council – not the County Council.

The full proposal would be going to the County Council on Tuesday 13th May and it was likely that it would be the preferred option for the upcoming consultation.

Councillor Blackhurst: Local Ward Councillors agreed that the location is unsuitable.

08/22 Safer Neighbourhoods

Neighbourhood Inspector John Hutchinson introduced this item and gave an update on the priorities set at the last meeting:

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) and vehicle nuisance at Coldhams Business Park

- Through joint working this problem had been almost eradicated with only 1 crime reported in this period – compared to 10 previously.

Cycle theft in Trumpington Ward

- Cycle theft had dramatically reduced during this period
- An offender selling large numbers of stolen cycles through Ebay had been arrested and charged
- Work was being undertaken with the City Rangers to increase checks on illegal cycle activities
- A new property registration database had been introduced (www.immobilise.com) and the public were encouraged to register their cycles

ASB and crime in Teversham Drift, Cherry Hinton

- A successful police surgery had been held in the last 4 weeks
- The Anti-social Behaviour Team at the City Council were prioritising this area
- Work with Councillors, Neighbourhood Watch and local residents would continue
- The CCTV Team may use mobile cameras in this area to tackle ASB

The latest crime update was then discussed:

- Crime down across the neighbourhood
- Re-emergence of ASB on green spaces throughout the area
- Increase in ASB on Cheery Hinton High Street
- Young people congregating in Wulfstan Way

An update was given on each Ward:

Cherry Hinton

- Total crime and ASB decreased over this period
- Reductions in vehicle crime, violent crime and cycle theft
- ASB in High Street re-emerging
- Sharp increase in fly-tipping (34 incidents this period)

Queen Ediths

- Crime had remained stable with a decrease in ASB
- Wulfstan Way a hotspot for damage, theft, burglary and violent crime (domestic)
- 9 fly-tipping incidents

Trumpington

- Reduction in crime and ASB
- Theft from motor vehicles at the Wok and Grill restaurant continues
- North end of the Ward is a ASB hotspot
- 26 fly-tipping incidents

The police had also identified key individuals from the local neighbourhood (such as: Councillors, businesses, religious leaders, Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators, youth workers and teachers) and visited them monthly to asked for their views and advice.

Questions were then invited from the Committee and members of the public:

Q1) Suggested mobile CCTV cameras for Teversham Drift – have they been applied for?

A) A successful viability study has been undertaken by the CCTV Manager but unfortunately there are only a limited number of mobile cameras available.

Q2) The figures indicate a rise in violent crime at Addenbrooke's Hospital – could you provide an update?

A) The number of incidents has actually reduced but the Hospital has changed its recording procedures to fit in with national guidelines. The Police have however strengthened their relationship with Addenbrooke's and the Hospital is moving towards accredited security staff – which would give them the same powers as Police Community Safety Officers (PCSO).

Q3) Has a Community Beat Manager (CBM) been appointed for Cherry Hinton?

A) A new PCSO for Cherry Hinton has been appointed and starts on Monday. The vacancy for a CBM has also been filled and will start within 2 months.

Q4) How can we encourage the public to form Neighbourhood Watch groups and how do the police support them?

A) PCSO's will help to set up and support them but groups are encouraged to self manage rather than rely on continual outside support. Members of the public are encouraged to contact officers for more information. Engagement with groups in the South Area is especially open and working well.

Neighbourhood Watch Week takes place in June and there is a big push nationally to get the public involved in local groups. The Police Neighbourhood Watch monthly newsletter has also been resurrected.

Councillor McPherson congratulated the Police on their continued support of the Cherry Hinton Neighbourhood Watch group.

Q5) Communication between Ward Councillors and the Police could be improved – it has to be a two way process. Police response times could also be improved.

A) All calls are currently answered within 10 seconds and a recent change in rotas will enable us to have 50% more officers in place on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Q6) Nightingale Avenue has been a hot spot for damage over the last 2 weeks and underage drinking continues to be a problem across the area. Do Trading Standards have the resources to help you tackle this?

A) We do work closely with Trading Standards and they regularly conduct spot checks on licensed premises. A Community Alcohol Project, with extra funding attached, has also been trialled in St Neots and this is something we are looking at getting involved in.

**Q7) What is the Police procedure for responding to burglar alarms?
I have called a number of times about our local Nursery School and been advised to go and investigate.**

A) We do not normally respond to audible alarms unless there are aggravating factors – however it is unacceptable to ask members of the public to investigate. We also advise that premises are connected to a central monitoring service.

Q8) Cars parking and blocking pavements on Hills Road bridge is still an issue

A) Noted

Q9) People jumping red lights opposite Homerton School is an increasing problem – how is this being addressed?

A) The jumping of red lights is an issue across the City but unfortunately we do not have the resources to monitor *all* traffic lights at *all* times. However we are aiming to pick a random problem area each month and monitor at peak times.

Work has been done in Queen Edith's Way to combat speeding motorists - over 30 tickets have been issued and most offenders have been local residents.

Q10) Speeding on Bateman Street is also an issue

A) Noted

Q11) How is the increased crime in Wulfstan Way being addressed?

A) Crime in this area is mostly associated with one or two regular offenders. The Police conducted a raid at a house this morning - recovering items and arresting a 21 year old.

Neighbourhood Inspector John Hutchinson suggested the following recommendations and asked for Committee comment and approval:

- *To tackle anti-social behaviour, damage and assaults associated with young people drinking underage in parks and open spaces*
- *To enhance the role of Neighbourhood Watch and other voluntary organisations across the neighbourhood*
- *To tackle anti-social behaviour in Rectory Terrace, High Street, Cheery Hinton*

After discussion members of the Area Committee agreed the recommendations, with the addition of *traffic issues on Hills Road.*

08/23 Applications for Planning Permission

Full details of the decisions, conditions of permissions and reasons for refusal may be inspected in the Environment and Planning Department, including those, which the committee delegated to the Head of Development Control to draw up.

These minutes should be read in conjunction with the reports on applications to the committee, where the conditions to the approved applications or reasons for refusal are set out in full and with the Amendment Sheet issued at the meeting. Any amendments to the recommendations are shown.

1	08/0257/REM
Site	3 Rayleigh Close, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB2 8AZ
Proposal	Reserved Matters application for the erection of 3 residential units
Recommendation	APPROVE subject to conditions
Applicant	Mr & Mrs Nicholson, 3 Rayleigh Close, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB2 8AZ
Public Speakers	None
Decision	APPROVED (unanimously) as agenda, subject to the addition of a further condition regarding cycle parking:

Prior to occupation of the dwellings hereby approved, cycle parking in accordance with the Council adopted standards, namely at least 4 spaces per dwelling for the 2, five-bedroom houses (as illustrated) and 5 cycle parking spaces for the 6 bedroom house shall be provided on site; the cycle parking initially provided shall be retained thereafter.

Reason: To ensure adequate cycle provision is provided and retained (Cambridge Local Plan policy 8/6)

2	08/0107/FUL
Site	150 Cherry Hinton Road Cambridge CB1 7AJ
Proposal	Redevelopment of 5 studio student apartments
	THIS ITEM WAS NOT HEARD AT THIS MEETING BUT WOULD BE CONSIDERED AT PLANNING COMMITTEE ON 21 MAY 2008.

The reason that this item is not being considered is because it stands just inside the East Area of the City, not the South. As representations have been received from residents living in both the East and South Areas of the City, the application is to be considered by Planning Committee.

The meeting finished at 8.44pm

CHAIR