



**West/Central Area Committee  
(City Councillors representing Castle,  
Market and Newnham Wards)  
10 July 2008 7.30pm – 9.50pm  
Minutes & Actions**

**Present:** Councillors: Simon Kightley (Chair), John Hipkin, Tania Zmura (Castle Ward), Colin Rosenstiel, Mike Dixon (Market Ward), Sian Reid, Julie Smith (Newnham Ward)

County Councillor: David White (Castle Ward)

Additional information for public: City Council officers can also be emailed [firstname.lastname@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.lastname@cambridge.gov.uk)  
The Committee Manager for West/Central Area Committee is [glenn.burgess@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:glenn.burgess@cambridge.gov.uk)

Members of the City Council have individual email addresses which are listed on the City Council website: [www.cambridge.gov.uk/councillors/members.htm](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/councillors/members.htm)  
Members of the County Council can be emailed: [Firstname.lastname@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Firstname.lastname@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

**08/25 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR 2008/09 ACTION**

Councillor Kightley was elected as Chair and Councillor Cantrill as Vice Chair

**08/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from City Councillors Bick and Cantrill and County Councillor Reid

**08/27 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2008 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair

**08/28 MATTERS ARISING**

Open Forum: Jesus Green BBQs

Councillor Smith confirmed that in order to enforce this effectively a bye law would be needed and this would take time. However warning signs had been designed and approved and should be erected soon

Open Forum: Cycling

Councillor Reid confirmed that the City and County Council had recently been selected by Cycling England for a 'cycling demonstration town' award. Joint working continues and offers an opportunity to raise these issues

Members were reminded that a workshop had been planned for 21<sup>st</sup> July 5.30pm to update and prioritise the Committees Environmental Improvements Projects

Councillor Rosenstiel raised an issue regarding footpath lighting and it was agreed that this could be discussed further at the workshop

Councillor Kightley confirmed that he had written to the relevant Executive Councillor at the County regarding potholes and the general state of the highways but had yet to receive a reply

Councillor Rosenstiel informed those present that the 'Fix my Street' website ([www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com)) had recent technical problems but these had now been rectified

**08/29 OPEN FORUM**

**Q1) Barton Close Residents Association: What will the Council do to discourage developers from demolishing family homes in West Cambridge to build flats?**

Councillor Smith confirmed that although this had been highlighted a lot through the media the current financial climate may mean it is not such an issue in the future

Councillor Reid stated that although this issue is continually raised it is difficult to tackle. The Council had to follow current planning policy and it was not possible to put a clause in the Local Plan to prevent this type of development in Cambridge

There was however a lot of extra resources this year in the Conservation Department so this may help stop some areas being developed

Councillor Hipkin stated that this Council needed to do more to stop this. A Council in Solihull had successfully adopted supplementary planning guidance stating that a certain percentage of large properties had to be retained. Therefore it could be done and should be done here

Councillor Rosenstiel agreed that the extension of conservation areas could help the situation

Councillor Hipkin stated that while this could work the Conservation Department were under resourced and the proposed increase in funding would be welcomed

**Q2) Friends of Midsummer Common: Following the stakeholders and 'wash up' meetings, for which we were grateful, some matters remain unresolved:**

- a) will the police report be made available publicly?**
- b) who will make the decision ref 2009 and when?**
- c) If it does go ahead, will the Council please insist that toilet provision is substantially increased?**

Councillor Rosenstiel stated that as the Police were unfortunately not present at this meeting it may be best to give a full update at the next meeting

Councillor Smith stated that events on open spaces could be problematic and confirmed that this Area Committee would not be the decision making body regarding next years event

She also agreed that the post event meetings were really useful but it was unfortunate that the Police did not attend

Whilst it was hoped that the report would be made public, it was solely a police decision. The content would also obviously help inform a decision on next years event

Councillor Smith agreed that the toilets were an issue but did confirm that a number of the issues from last year's event had been successfully addressed. The continued sustainability of Midsummer Common for this type of event was also questioned

Further comments from members of the public were welcomed

Councillor Hipkin referred to a letter from the organisers of Strawberry Fair – it stated '*Strawberry Fair is recognised and celebrated across the UK as a shining example of community led arts and creativity.....*' But the letter then went on to say that the event was '*for the people of Cambridge, by the people of Cambridge*'

Clarity on these conflicting comments was requested

The organisers stated that these comments merely show the positive side of the event and highlighted that many other authorities across the UK worked with them to copy their approach to organising successful large-scale community events. The sole purpose of the event was to benefit the people of Cambridge with over 1200 volunteers working towards this end

Councillor Rosenstiel highlighted an issue around licensing which would be followed up internally and also commented that his daughter had attended. She felt that the atmosphere had turned unpleasant after around 8pm with an increase in alcohol and drug related issues

**Q3) Item 7 of the agenda (Marlow Road and Eltisley Avenue junction yellow lining) - Many residents were not involved in County Councillor Reid's survey and we feel the loss of parking could be an issue. It was stated that a full consultation would be conducted and we want this to happen – also £1000 for 20 metres of yellow lines seems very expensive**

Councillor Kightley confirmed that any decision made under Item 7 would only approve the funding in principle. The County Council would be required to undertake a full consultation and the final decision would then be made by the Area Joint Transport Committee (AJTC)

Councillor Rosenstiel confirmed that the majority of the £1000 estimate would be required for the advertising of the Traffic Order

## **08/30 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Councillor Hipkin | Declared a personal and prejudicial interest in relation to Planning Application 08/0609/FUL (9 Oxford Road, Cambridge) as he lived in the same Road and very close to the site. Cllr Hipkin was not present for the discussion of the application and did not vote |
| Councillor Smith  | Declared a personal interest in relation to Planning Application 08/0280/FUL (1 Halifax Road, Cambridge) as a member of the University and someone that occasionally housed local students for a nominal fee                                                        |

08/31 **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAMME**

Proposed new scheme: Marlow Road/Eltisley Avenue  
junction yellow lining

The Chair explained that an Officer of the Council was not available to present this report

Councillor Reid gave some general background on the issue and confirmed that the pavement 'bulge' had been put in place as part of a previous Environmental Improvement Project. An onsite tree had caused issues for pavement use and this was the best way to tackle it

However, continued parking on this 'bulge' was now causing access issues for large vehicles (namely waste collection) in Marlowe Road

A member of the public questioned whether the 'bulge' could simply be removed and this would mean that yellow lines were no longer required

Councillor Smith stated that this would take a long time and the County were unlikely to approve it

Councillor Rosenstiel stated that parking on junctions should not happen and most had yellow lines already

The Committee **Agreed (by 7 votes to 0)** to allow officers to detail the yellow line proposal in consultation with County Highways and to agree costs of £1000 + 10% contingency

**08/32 APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION**

- 1 APPLICATION NO:** 08/0609/FUL  
**SITE:** 9 Oxford Road, Cambridge CB4 3PH  
**PROPOSAL:** Erection of three-bed semi-detached house  
**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:** APPROVE subject to the satisfactory completion of s106 agreement by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2008 and subject to conditions  
**APPLICANT:** Ms Caroline Stenner, 9 Oxford Road, Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB4 3PH  
**PUBLIC SPEAKERS:** Rut Gallmeier (resident)

**DECISION: APPROVED** (by 5 votes to 1) as Agenda subject to the completion of a section 106 Agreement by 31 August 2008 or the refusal of consent in accordance with the second recommendation

- 2 APPLICATION NO:** 08/0280/FUL  
**SITE:** 1 Halifax Road, Cambridge CB4 3QB  
**PROPOSAL:** Erection of 4 one bed duplex flats and 11 bed-sitting rooms for Graduate accommodation with 2 parking spaces and associated external works (following demolition of existing shop, offices and outbuildings/workshops).  
**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:** APPROVE subject to conditions  
**APPLICANT:** Fitzwilliam College, Mr Christopher Pratt MA ACIS Fitzwilliam College, Storey's Way, Cambridge CB3 0DG  
**PUBLIC SPEAKERS:** Ron Kay/John Pegler (residents)

**DECISION: APPROVED** (by 4 votes to 3) as Agenda subject to the following additional condition and informative:

Condition 14: Prior to the commencement of development full details of the methodology to be employed to minimise the impact of the development on the existing tree in the rear garden of the adjacent Huntingdon Road property shall be submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details

Reason: To minimise the impact of the development on an existing tree that is of amenity value to the streetscene. (Cambridge Local Plan policy 4/4)

Informative: In submitting samples of materials for the discharge of condition 2 the applicant is recommended to consider the use of bricks salvaged from the site or second hand bricks to match the existing brickwork

**08/15 DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2008-09**

The dates for Meetings in 2008-09 were confirmed as:

2008 – 18 September, 30 October

2009 – 8 January, 5 March, 30 April

The meeting ended at 9.50pm

Chair