

Draft minutes – to be confirmed at meeting on 15 October

West/Central Area Committee

MINUTES

Date:	Thursday 20 August 2009
Time:	7:30pm – 11.10pm
Place:	Castle End Mission, St Peters Street, Cambridge

Committee Manager: Glenn Burgess **Telephone:** 01223 457169
email: glenn.burgess@cambridge.gov.uk or **write to:** Committee Services,
Room 11, The Guildhall,
Cambridge CB2 3QJ

Council Members Present

City Cllrs: Bick, Dixon, Kightley (Chair), Rosenstiel, Smith, Zmura
County Cllrs: Whitebread

09/38 APOLOGIES for ABSENCE

Apologies were received from the following:
City Councillors Cantrill, Hipkin and Reid
County Councillors Brooks-Gordon and Nethsingha

09/39 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2009 were approved and signed as a correct record.

09/40 MATTERS and ACTIONS ARISING from MINUTES

09/33 Open Forum – DDA requirements for crossing points

It was confirmed that the Head of Network Management had looked into the issue. As he was currently on annual leave it was agreed that he feedback at the next meeting.

09/41 DECLARATIONS of INTEREST

Councillor	Agenda item	Interest
Rosenstiel	12.1	Personal interest as family origins are Jewish

09/42 TIMINGS OF MEETINGS FOR 2009/10

After discussion it was agreed that the start time of future meetings would remain at 7.30pm.

09/43 POLICING AND SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD REPORT

The Community Safety Strategy Officer introduced the item.

The Police Constable presented a report on crime and policing for the three wards and made a recommendation of targeting the following for prioritisation in the forthcoming period:

- Bag and purse thefts in the City Centre
- Anti-Social behaviour by vehicles in the City Centre

Q) What are the citywide priorities?

A) The Police Constable confirmed that burglary and cycle theft remained the two main citywide priorities and the Strategy Officer highlighted certain aspects of the nighttime economy, including anti-social behaviour and alcohol, as multi agency priorities. A new priority concentrated on personal robbery was also being led by the youth service.

Q) Is it true that burglary at the universities has increased?

A) The Police Constable confirmed that this was being looked into and that all new students were briefed about security issues. However during the summer months, when students are not here, it did tend to be less of an issue.

Q) Can we have some clarity as to where the 20mph speed limits start?

A) It was confirmed that the 20mph zone starts just after the Clarendon street entrance and that signs were present at the four lamps roundabout, near to the Round Church and at the entrance of Magdalene Street.

Enforcement of Emmanuel Road and Bridge Street by speed guns was proving to be problematic but these issues would be discussed in detail at an upcoming meeting with the County Council.

Q) There is a continued problem with taxi drivers using some streets as rat runs. Is this being addressed?

A) Councillor Rosenstiel confirmed that the 20mph zones could be changing as the County Council had agreed for the zone to cover the whole of the city centre. Any taxis caught speeding risk having their transponders removed by the County Council.

Q) Congratulations to the Police for their encouragement of the public to take photos of anti-social behaviour. Has this policy been fed down to officers on the beat?

I am concerned about the findings in the recent Safer Custody Report where it was highlighted that prisoners at Parkside are not being given meals or access to medical treatment.

I am concerned that Cambridgeshire Police only treat the PACE codes as guidance. If they took them more seriously it would solve many of these problems and I would ask that the Area Committee set this as a priority.

A) The Police confirmed that statements had already been issued about the Safer Custody Report and that these types of issues would be looked at through senior management. It was felt that Area Committee's were more for local issues.

Councillor Whitebread agreed to forward these concerns to colleagues at the County Council that sit on the Police Committee.

Q) What is being done to encourage new students to cycle safely and sensibly?

A) The Police Constable confirmed that there would be a campaign to advise all new students on safety and security when the students returned after the summer break. Last years successful cycle campaign, ongoing work with local bike shops and second hand dealers, and training funded by the Cycle City Project was also highlighted.

Q) I have been hit by cycles on Christs Pieces - how are the police enforcing this? Better signage could also be helpful.

A) It was confirmed that the police were working with the County Council to improve signage and lighting and that nearly 200 tickets had been issued last year for cycle offences.

The Strategy Officer confirmed that a meeting was taking place next week to look at all cycle issues. Comments raised at this Area Committee would be fed into this meeting and all councillors and members of the public were encouraged to feed back any more specific points.

Members approved the following as priorities for the next reporting period:

- Bag and purse thefts in the City Centre
- Anti-Social behaviour by vehicles in the City Centre

09/44

OPEN FORUM

ACTION BY

Q) Councillor Whitebread asked if a report could be brought to a future Area Committee meeting looking at the County Councils work with Stagecoach to improve air quality in the city centre.

A) The Chair agreed to work with the Committee Manager to arrange an item for a future meeting.

CHAIR

Q) Signage of the 20mph zones is really bad and needs improvement. Could the speed limit not be written on the road so that it is more easily visible?

A) It was suggested that if the County Council were looking to change the zones it could be a good time for this to be considered.

Q) We understand that Huntingdon Road is being considered for appraisal for conservation status by the City Council Environment Scrutiny Committee. We would be grateful if you could advise us of the process and likely timescale that this involves.

We are writing to you in the light of the ongoing campaign to save Grove Lodge, the mock Tudor 19th century house on Huntingdon Road belonging to Murray Edwards College www.savegrovelodge.co.uk.

As you are aware, the college plans to demolish this building for a car park in the near future but are currently reconsidering this decision as a result of our campaign.

(A) The Historic Environment Manager confirmed that Huntingdon Road was not currently being considered for Conservation Area status, and was not included in the 2009-10 Appraisal programme. There was a possibility that the Colleges (including Murray Edwards), but not the rest of Huntingdon Road, could be included in the forthcoming appraisal of West Cambridge.

However even if Grove Lodge were situated in a Conservation Area, and Conservation Area consent was therefore required for its demolition, the possibility of a viable future use would be a key factor in the decision. Council officers would shortly be meeting with the College to explore the possibilities for a viable use which might enable Grove Lodge to be retained.

Q) Trees on Lammas Land and Midsummer Common: the consultation promised a meeting in July but this never happened. Felling of 18 trees on Lammas Land is suggested but a site visit has not yet happened.

A) The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation confirmed that £25,000 had been set aside from Environmental Improvements and also earmarked for next year for tree works. A meeting to discuss general principals for tree works would take place after the summer with a provisional date of 1 October 6pm.

It was confirmed that no felling had been approved for Lammas Land and a walk around with tree officers and interested parties would take place on 3 September. Any outstanding tree issues would be taken to the Planning Committee in September.

Q) I am concerned that consultation periods over the summer months do not allow enough time for the public to respond.

A) The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation confirmed that the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy had been in the public domain for a long time but she did agree that consultation deadlines that ended in August and the summer months were not ideal.

09/45 REVIEW OF GAMBLING STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The Head of Environmental Health and Waste Strategy explained the background to the revised draft Statement of Principles as a part of the public consultation process and invited members and residents feedback on its content, prior to the drawing up of a final statement. He invited councillors and members of the public to submit any written comments by 28 September 2009. The Statement of Principles was available on the Council's website.

09/46 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAMME 2009/10

The Principal Landscape Architect gave an update on the following approved schemes as highlighted in the report:

- Manor Street/King Street cycle parking
- Round Church Street
- Lammas Land Pavilion
- Mount Pleasant mobility crossing
- Round Church Grounds
- Grantchester Road traffic calming features
- Gough Way to Cranmer Road fence
- Mobility crossings in Newnham
- Tree Planting on Midsummer Common, Jesus Green and New Square
- Riverside conflict reduction and environmental improvement scheme

It was confirmed that the meeting planned to discuss the Riverside scheme would also look at other joint projects such as tree planting and the Fitzroy/Burleigh Street Refurbishment.

The Principal Landscape Architect introduced the following approved schemes requiring decision as highlighted in the report:

Oxford Road and Windsor Road

The cost had now been confirmed as £10,500 (not the estimated £30,000 as stated in the report)

Decision: APPROVED (unanimously) to authorise the implementation of a 20 mph speed limit for Oxford Road and Windsor Road and the installation of an additional speed hump in Oxford Road at a cost of £10,500.

Canterbury Street Area 20mph Restriction

The cost had now been confirmed as £8,500 (not the estimated £20,000 as stated in the report)

Decision: APPROVED (unanimously) to authorise the implementation of a 20 mph speed limit for the Canterbury Street area and allocation of £8,500.

Fitzroy/Burleigh Street Refurbishment

Decision: APPROVED (unanimously) to go out to consultation on refurbishment proposals with local residents, local residents' associations and interest groups, local traders and landowners

Holy Trinity War Memorial

Councillor Bick asked for an assurance that any money spent would provide a long-term solution and that the maintenance would not need ongoing funding.

The Historic Environment Manager stated that it was hard to predict the long term safeguarding of the project, but that the benefits of the repair and the continued use of the memorial were great. A management plan would need to be in place in order to get the grant and this would help.

Decision: APPROVED (unanimously) to adopt the scheme as an environmental improvement and to authorise a contribution of up to £9,000 towards the restoration of the War Memorial.

09/47 UPDATE ON BLUE BIN RECYCLING

The Head of Environmental Health and Waste Strategy introduced the item and apologised that, due to IT problems, the powerpoint presentation would not take place. A full copy of the presentation would be available on the council's website or from Committee Services on 01223 457169.

The following points were made:

- figures for dry recycling within the city stood at 17% and the council wanted to increase this.
- a full consultation had taken place with a report being brought to the Environment Scrutiny Committee in January 2009.
- the public stated that they wanted to recycle more and that it would be helpful to have bins with lids.
- the current black and blue bins would be replaced by a single blue bin.
- the new bins would be delivered in October and include information for residents regarding collection and type of material that can be recycled.
- tetrapac and cardboard could now be recycled.
- the bins would be emptied fortnightly.
- there would be a selection of sizes for people to choose from.
- the council were currently going through a procurement process to determine which facility to use for their recycling.
- further information was available on the council's website or through the Customer Service Centre.
- a full article would be in the Cambridge Matters magazine which would be delivered to all residents on 1 September.
- members of the public were encouraged to come up with ways in which people could reuse their old bins i.e flowerpots
- the scheme will start from 16 November

09/48 APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

These minutes and the appendix 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.

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

1	
Site	37a Castle Street, Cambridge
Proposal	Change of use of the ground floor of the annexe at 37a Castle Street from a garage/kitchen use to use as a Mikvah (Jewish Ritual Bath) and engineering operation to create a Mikvah.
Applicant	Rabbi Reuven Leigh, 37A Castle Street Cambridge CB3 0AH
Application No	09/0550/FUL
Recommendation	APPROVE subject to conditions

Public Speakers	Mr Matthews (on behalf of the objector)
Decision	REFUSED (by 3 votes to 2) against officer recommendation. Reasons to be agreed with the Chair.
	The proposed change of use would result in the introduction of a non-residential use into a predominately residential area. The noise and disturbance generated by the use of the mikvah and the lack of convenient off street parking would be likely to have an adverse impact on the residential amenities of the occupiers of adjacent houses. In so doing the development fails to respond positively to the context of the site and will have an adverse effect on the character of the area. The development is therefore contrary to policy 3/4 of the Cambridge Local Plan 2006 and to guidance provided by PPS1 – Delivering Sustainable Development.

2	
Site	5 Sherlock Road, Cambridge
Proposal	Two storey rear extension, roof extension and alterations to driveway/front garden
Applicant	Mr David Summerfield And Emma Court, 5 Sherlock Road Cambridge CB3 0HR
Application No	09/0541/FUL
Recommendation	APPROVE subject to conditions
Public Speakers	Professor Thompson (written statement) David Summerfield (Applicant)
Decision	DECISION: DEFERRED (by 4 votes to 2) for site visit by Committee Members. Application to be brought back to the next W/C Area Committee.

3	
Site	18 - 18A St Peters Street Cambridge CB3 0BD
Proposal	Refurbishment of existing college accommodation (8 bedrooms as existing) and workshop buildings to form 4 college bedrooms and 1-bedroom apartment with artists' studios in the former Langdon Building. Erection of new College accommodation to rear of site providing 3 bedrooms
Applicant	John Harris, St Johns College Cambridge CB2 1TP
Application No	09/0389/FUL
Recommendation	APPROVE and subject to conditions
Public Speakers	Mr Catchpole (Objector) Jenni Neilson (Applicants Agent)

Decision

DECISION: REFUSED (unanimously) against officer Recommendation. Reasons to be agreed with the Chair.

1. The proposed three storey student accommodation building, which is to be located in the rear garden would, by virtue of its height, scale and mass, flat roof and the material of its construction, be out of character with the visual amenities of the Conservation Area and would have an adverse affect on the listed building to which it is to be attached. In particular the new building would fail to have a positive relationship with other buildings, would not have a positive impact on its setting and would not respond well to the site context or satisfactorily draw inspiration from the key characteristics for the surrounding area. The development is therefore contrary to policies ENV6 and ENV 7 of the East of England Plan 2008 and policies 3/4, 3/7, 3/12, 3/14, 4/10 and 4/11 of the Cambridge Local Plan 2006 and to guidance provided by PPS1 Delivering Sustainable Development and PPG15 Planning and the Historic Environment.

2. The proposed three storey student accommodation building, which is to be located in the rear garden would, by virtue of its height and interrelationship with existing buildings in Honey Hill Mews, be likely to result in a loss of outlook to the residents of Honey Hill Mews to such an extent as to be detrimental to the level of residential amenity that those occupiers should reasonable expect to enjoy. In so doing the development fails to respond well to the site context or to respect the constraints of the site. The development is therefore contrary to policy ENV 7 of the East of England Plan 2008 and policies 3/4, 3/12 and 3/14 of the Cambridge Local Plan 2006 and to guidance provided by PPS1 Delivering Sustainable Development.

**4
Site
Proposal**

18 - 18A St Peters Street Cambridge CB3 0BD
Refurbishment of existing college accommodation (8 bedrooms as existing) and workshop buildings to form 4 college bedrooms and 1-bedroom apartment with artists' studios in the former Langdon Building. Erection of new College accommodation to rear of site providing 3 bedrooms

Applicant	John Harris, St Johns College Cambridge CB2 1TP
Application No	09/0390/LBC
Recommendation	APPROVE and subject to conditions
Public Speakers	Mr Catchpole (Objector) Jenni Neilson (Applicants Agent)
Decision	<u>DECISION: REFUSED (unanimously)</u> against officer recommendation. Reasons to be agreed with the Chair. The following draft reason has been prepared: The proposed three storey student accommodation building, which is to be located in the rear garden would, by virtue of its height, scale and mass, flat roof and the material of its construction, have an adverse affect on the listed building to which it is to be attached and in so doing would cause harm to the buildings special interest. In particular the new building would fail to have a positive relationship with the listed building and would not have a positive impact on the setting of the listed building. The development would also not respond well to the site context or satisfactorily draw inspiration from the key characteristics for the surrounding area to the detriment of the visual amenities of the Conservation Area. The development is therefore contrary to policies ENV6 and ENV 7 of the East of England Plan 2008 and policies 4/10 and 4/11 of the Cambridge Local Plan 2006 and to guidance provided by PPG15 Planning and the Historic Environment.

09/49 Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting was confirmed for 15 October 2009 (venue tbc).

Meeting finished at 11.10pm.

Chair

Additional information for public:

City Council officers can also be emailed firstname.lastname@cambridge.gov.uk

Information (including contact details) of the Members of the City Council can be found from this page:

<http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/ccm/navigation/about-the-council/councillors/>

Members of the County Council can be emailed:

Firstname.lastname@cambridgeshire.gov.uk