

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Report by: Head of Policy and Projects

To: South Area Committee 24 September 2009

Wards: Trumpington, Queen Edith's, Cherry Hinton

Environmental Improvements Programme

1 DECISIONS TO BE MADE

- **Lighting to Walkway from Bishop`s Court to Hauxton Road**
Decision: *To agree to omit the project from the Environmental Improvement project list.*

SOUTH AREA COMMITTEE - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS 2009/2010		
	£	£
Budget for 2009/2010 financial year	£87,613	
Add roll-over from 2008/2009 budget	£170,067	
TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2009/2010 FINANCIAL YEAR		£257,680
Minus Actual 09/10 Budget Spend to date		-£65,579
Committed Projects	Estimated Reserved Cost £	
Cherry Hinton hanging baskets (incl. load testing)	£7,620	
Cherry Hinton High Street verges (site investigations)	£2,500	
Church End parking area (remaining budget)	£6,000	
Hills Road verge reseeded	£5,500	
Hulatt Road mobility crossing	£3,000	
Minus Committed project budgets		-£24,620
BALANCE OF 09/10 BUDGET as at end Apr 2009		£167,482
Projects agreed by Ctte to be investigated, but no budget committed. Costs shown are estimated and will depend on detailed design and site investigation	Estimated Cost £	
Cherry Hinton High Street verges (implementation estimate)	£40,000	
Cherry Hinton High Street shop forecourts	£60,000	
Gladstone Way barriers	£3,000	
Walkway from Bishops Court to Hauxton Rd Lighting	£25,000	
Boundary Court bollards	£3,000	
Fishers Lane verges/parking	£25,000	
Estimated costs for projects under investigation	£156,000	
N.B. The estimated costs shown above are merely given as a rough guide until the projects can be designed and costed.		

3 APPROVED SCHEMES – PROGRESS

3.1 Cherry High Street verges (opposite Chelwood Road)

The possible provision of alternative parking to residents parking on grass verges has been discussed with County Highways and Housing and a concept scheme put forward. Planning permission to install drop kerbs for car access across the verge has been applied for and the outcome should be known w/c 14th September 2009. A verbal report can be brought to Committee.

3.2 Gladstone Way barrier

The pedestrian path between Gladstone Way and The Orchards is regularly and illegally used by motor scooters. This right of way cannot be blocked off or restricted, as it must allow access for wheelchairs and mobility buggies under the Disability Discriminations Act (DDA).

A public consultation has taken place into the possibility of creating an alternative access point between The Orchards to Cherry Hinton Recreation Ground, which may have alleviated the problem at Gladstone Way.

The consultation showed that more residents were opposed to the opening up of a link than supported it. Of those responses received, 20 supported the idea and 29 opposed it. Analysis of the consultation, as well as the consultation details, are appended to this report.

It is now proposed to return to a former idea of making the chicane between Gladstone Way and The Orchards more robust and less easy for motor scooters to access. A proposal will be brought to the meeting for discussion.

It should be noted that the use of this pedestrian path by motor vehicles is a police matter; any vehicles seen using it should be reported to the police.

3.5 Installation of bollards at Boundary Court, Rathmore Road to protect wall (Cllr Baker)

Residents of Boundary Court are to investigate and confirm to South Area Committee how, and by whom, the wall is being demolished.

3.7 Fishers Lane parking area (Cllr. McPherson/Cllr. Newbold)

A proposal to introduce a parking area to avoid car parking on grass verges. A survey is being undertaken and draft proposals drawn up for discussion with the Lead Project Councillors.

3.8 Sedley Taylor Road / Luard Road Traffic Calming (Cllr. Baker)

The scheme has been completed apart from the lighting to signage which will be finalised shortly.

3.8 Hulatt Road mobility crossing (Cllr. Sanders)

The scheme has been completed.

4 SCHEMES REQUIRING DECISIONS

4.1 Lighting to Walkway from Bishop`s Court to Hauxton Road

This is a request for street lighting along a privately owned, unadopted footpath used to access Trumpington P&R and Waitrose from Bishop`s Court.

It has now been established that a revenue fund for the electrical supply and maintenance of the lighting is not available.

Officers have therefore been investigating solar powered lighting and a short report has been issued to all Councillors which shows that solar lighting also requires revenue funding to maintain it.

As the path will be part of the Glebe Farm development and will be upgraded and lit as part of that, it is proposed that the project is omitted from the Environmental Improvement project list and pursued as part of the development.

Recommendation: *In view of the lack of revenue funding, to agree to omit the project from the Environmental Improvement project list.*

Decision: *To agree to omit the project from the Environmental Improvement project list.*

6 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 It is the role of this Area Committee to ensure that an appropriate level of consultation is carried out and where necessary to make decisions about what changes to make to a scheme following consultation.

7 IMPLICATIONS

(a) Financial Implications

The Environmental Improvements Programme is a rolling budget and is divided between the four Area Committees by percentage population.

A degree of flexibility can be implemented within the programme. It will be possible for Area Committees to 'save' some, or all, of their annual budget in order to accrue funds for larger projects.

(b) Equal Opportunities Implications

Covered as one of the assessment criteria

(c) Environmental Implications

The whole purpose of this programme is to bring about improvements in the environment

(d) Community Safety Implications

Covered as one of the assessment criteria

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following are the background papers that were used in the preparation of this report:

9 INSPECTION OF PAPERS

To inspect or query the background paperwork or report, please contact,

Dinah Foley Norman, Principal Landscape Architect

Telephone: 01223 - 457134

Email: Dinah.Foley-Norman@cambridge.gov.uk

OR for Sedley Taylor/Luard Road

John Isherwood, Engineering Projects Manager

Telephone: 01223 - 457392

Email: John.Isherwood@cambridge.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA - as agreed by Executive Councillor (Environment) on 18 March 2003 with amendments agreed 22 March 2005

The essential criteria for consideration of funding of Environmental Improvement works are:

- Schemes should have a direct, lasting and noticeable improvement to the appearance of a street or area.
- Schemes should be publicly visible and accessible.
- Schemes must have the owners consent if on private land – unless there are exceptional circumstances by which Area Committee may wish to act unilaterally and with full knowledge and responsibility for the implication of such action.
- Schemes must account for future maintenance costs.

Desirable criteria – potential schemes should be able to demonstrate some level of:

- Active involvement of local people.
- Benefit for a large number of people.
- 'Partnership' funding.
- Potential for inclusion of employment training opportunities.
- Ease and simplicity of implementation.
- Potential for meeting key policy objectives (e.g. improving community safety or contributing to equal opportunities).

Categories of scheme ineligible for funding:

- Where a readily available alternative source of funding is available.
- Revenue projects.
- Schemes that have already received Council funding (unless it can be clearly demonstrated that this would not be 'top up' funding).
- Works that the City or County Council are under an immediate obligation to carry out (e.g. repair of dangerous footways)
- Play areas (as there are other more appropriate sources of funding including S106 monies)

The following categories of work were agreed as being eligible for funding by the Area Committees:

- Works in areas of predominately council owned housing
- Works to construct lay-bys where a comprehensive scheme can be carried out which not only relieves parking problems but achieves environmental improvements.

Gladstone Way – The Orchards Consultation Analysis

Period in which residents could respond: 21st July – 28th August 2009.

Consultation Questionnaire Responses

Number of consultation documents delivered: 112

Number of consultation reply slips returned: 49 (44% of those sent out)

An opposition petition was also received with 22 additional signatures. The figures do not form part of this analysis.

The results of the consultation are as follows;

	Number of Households	Percentage of responses
<i>Support</i>	20	41%
<i>Oppose</i>	29	59%

Consultation Comments

Overall the analysis showed that those who support the proposal do not live immediately adjacent to the proposed access point, whilst those in opposition live in closer proximity.

Respondents in opposition raised the following issues:

1. Concerns about possible increase in crime: burglary, anti-social behaviour etc.
2. Opening up of the access will increase problems with youths in the park.
3. Will create an unnecessary thoroughfare and associated noise though a quite cul-de-sac.
4. Mopeds already cause problems in the area, increasing access will only exacerbate the problem.
5. Will result in parking problems for residents of The Orchards if there is a known public access point to the park.

Respondents in support raised the following issues:

1. Need to ensure bikes/mopeds cannot get access.
2. Will provide a safer route for those going to the school and shops, particularly those with children or the elderly.
3. Should have been done when the area was first developed.

If you require further information, please contact Cherry Hinton City Councillor Stuart Newbold on (01223) 457225 or stuart.newbold@cambridge.gov.uk.

Or Dinah Foley-Norman, Principal Landscape Architect
Tel: 01223 457134
E-mail: dinah.foley-norman@cambridge.gov.uk



**Environment
and Planning
Dept**

The Householder

21 July 2009

Our Ref EIP 020 083
Your Ref

Dear Sir/Madam,

PROPOSED PATH FROM THE ORCHARDS TO THE RECREATION GROUND

We are proposing to open up a pedestrian path from The Orchards to Cherry Hinton Recreation Ground and we want to know your views.

A plan is enclosed to show where the path is proposed together with a pre-paid reply slip. Please clearly mark the reply slip supporting or opposing the proposal and write any comments you may have and return it to us by Friday 28th August 2009.

The proposed path is in addition to the existing path between The Orchards and Gladstone Way.

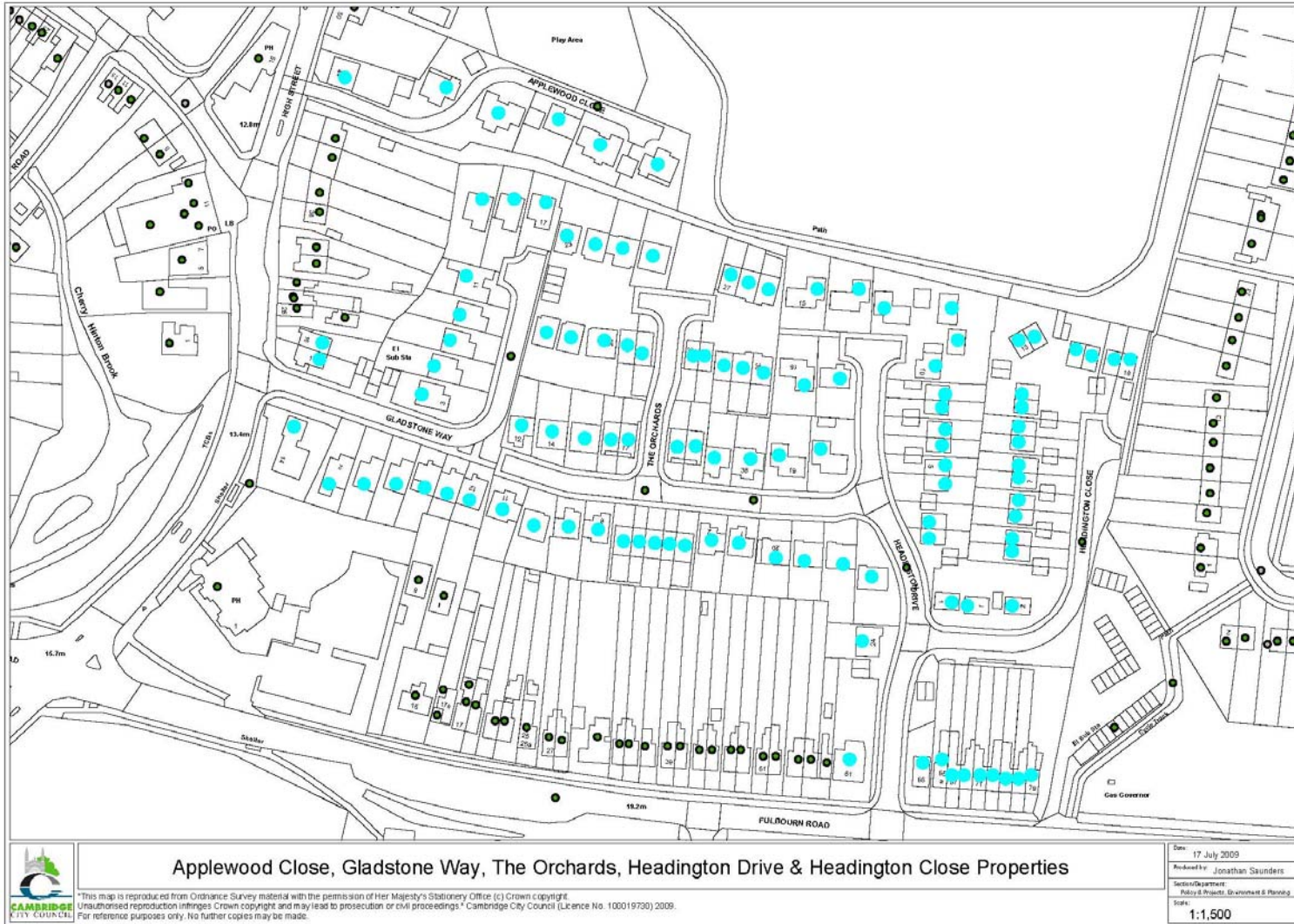
Many thanks for your time in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Dinah Foley-Norman
Principal Landscape Architect

Enc.

CONSULTATION COVERAGE PLAN



PROPOSALS PLAN



DO NOT SCALE
 Figured dimensions must be taken in preference to scaled dimensions. Contractors, sub-contractors and suppliers must verify all dimensions on site before commencing any work or making any shop drawings. Discrepancies to be brought to the contract administrator's / landscape architect's attention.

Revise	Date	By	Details

	Job Ref / DWG No. EIP 020-083-01	Revision
	Scale Not to scale	By: Date JV July 09

ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT
URBAN DESIGN TEAM
 Simon Payne, Director of Environment and Planning
 CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
 The Guildhall, Cambridge CB2 3QU
 Tel: 01223 - 457200 or 457201

Project: **Path from The Orchards to the Recreation Ground, Cherry Hinton**
 Drawing: **Proposed Route**