

# **BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

## **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**5.00PM – 21 OCTOBER 2004**

### **BRIGHTON TOWN HALL**

#### **MINUTES**

Present: Councillor Mitchell (Chair); Councillors Battle, Carden, Elgood, Fitch, Kemble (OS), Morgan, Norman, Paskins, Peltzer Dunn and Smith (Culture & Recreation OS)

#### **PART ONE**

#### **ACTION**

#### **75. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

##### **75A Declarations of Substitutes**

75.1 Substitute Councillor                      For Councillor

Paskins	Wrighton
Carden	Turton

##### **75B Declarations of Interest**

75B.2 Councillors' Kemble and Peltzer Dunn declared personal interests in item 101 'Seaside Pleasure Boat Bylaws' as members of 'Hove, Deep Sea Anglers' and Carden as a member of the Shoreham Port Authority.

75B.3 Councillor Smith declared a personal interest in item 100 as a Brighton & Hove Albion season ticket holder.

##### **75C Exclusion of Press and Public**

75.3 The Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in Section 100A(3) or 100 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.

75.4 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public not be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any items.

**76. MINUTES**

76.1 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2004 be approved and signed by the Chair.

**77. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

77.1 Chair informed the meeting that there had been no objections to the Traffic Regulation Orders in respect of the undercliff walk at the Marina. The order would not be made until a report had been submitted to the December Environment Committee.

**78. CALLOVER**

78.1 **RESOLVED** - That, with the exception of the items reserved (and marked with an asterisk), the recommendations and resolutions contained therein be approved and adopted without debate, excepting Notices of Motion, Deputations, Petitions and letters.

**79. LETTER FROM COUNCILLOR FORESTER**

79.1 The Committee considered a letter from Councillor Forester concerning Queens Park Toilets.

79.2 **RESOLVED** - That the letter be noted.

**80. LETTER FROM COUNCILLOR HYDE**

80.1 The Committee considered a letter from Councillor Hyde concerning Whiteway Lane.

80.2 **RESOLVED** - That the letter be noted.

**81. LETTER FROM COUNCILLOR HAMILTON**

81.1 The Committee considered a letter from Councillor Hamilton concerning 96 Bus Service.

81.2 **RESOLVED** - That the letter be noted.

**82. LETTER FROM COUNCILLOR McCaffery**

82.1 The Committee considered a letter from Councillor McCaffery concerning Stanford Parking.

82.2 **RESOLVED** - That the letter be noted.

**83. PETITION: TOILETS ON THE PLAYGROUND AT QUEEN'S PARK**

83.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 215 people, presented at Council on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 by Councillor Burgess.

'We the undersigned are grateful for the long awaited provision of toilets on the playground at Queen's Park.

Alas we feel the currently proposed location may cause problems by obstructing parents view of their children, as people sit on the grass bank overlooking the play area.

We believe the proposed building would be much better placed between the embankment slide and the north gate into the playground.'

83.2 **RESOLVED** - That the petition be noted.

**84. PETITION: PAVEMENTS IN ADELAIDE CRESCENT AND PALMEIRA SQUARE**

84.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 64 people, presented at Council on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 by Councillor Eglood.

'The pavements in Adelaide Crescent and Palmeira Square are hazardous for pedestrians, being broken and uneven. We urgently request that the council install kerb edge bollards to protect our pavements and cellar vaults from damage by vehicles mounting the pavements.'

84.2 **RESOLVED** - That the petition be noted.

**85. PETITION: NEW BALL GAMES' COURTS IN THE GROUNDS OF THE 67 CENTRE, HODSHROVE LANE**

85.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 11 people, presented at Council on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 by Councillor Tonks.

'We, the undersigned of Hodshrove Road, are presenting the petition to officially bring to your attention our protests concerning the new ball games' courts in the grounds of the 67 Centre, Hodshrove Lane.

All of our houses situated directly across the road from these courts, which, since they have been in use, have attracted an unprecedented and intolerable level of noise, anti-social behaviour and litter in the vicinity of our home, which has severely affected the quality of our

home life.

We call upon the authorities responsible for this development to take into account the impact it is having on us and formally acknowledge our contention that this development is totally unsuited to a residential environment in its present form and urgently needs to be revised and improved, to a standard that is acceptable to us as residents.

Further, we ask that the same authorities enter into consultation with us and undertake to accommodate our views in reaching an amicable long-term resolution to the problems raised by this development.'

85.2 **RESOLVED** - That the petition be noted.

**86. PETITION: WHEELIE BINS – INAPPROPRIATE USE IN CARDEN AVENUE AND DENTON DRIVE**

86.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 126 people, presented at Council on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 by Councillor Pidgeon.

'I support that the use of Wheelie Bins are totally inappropriate for use in Carden Avenue & Denton Drive. Due to the amount of steps, banks etc.'

86.2 **RESOLVED** - That the petition be noted.

**87. PETITION: REVIEW OF PARKING RESTRICTIONS AROUND STANFORD AVENUE**

87.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 152 people, presented at Council on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 by Councillor Norman.

'Petition to Brighton & Hove Council (sic) to ask for a review of the parking restrictions around Stanford Schools.

Whilst we welcome measures to reduce the parking problems around the Porthall area we would ask you to reconsider the arrangements around Stanford Schools. The roads are now empty for most of the day, so the latest parking price hike is unnecessary as a traffic claming measure.

(1) There are 29 staff at Stanford Junior School who need a parking permit, but only two staff permits have been issued. This is affecting our children as auxiliary staff and lunchtime supervisors cannot afford to park to work here. As there is now ample space on the roads outside both schools we urge you to issue more passes.

(2) Due to the different finishing times at the school parents with

children at both sites cannot complete the pickup in 30 minutes so have to pay £1 for the new two hour band which seems excessive. We ask that you introduce one hour waiting bays or, at the very least, return to the original charging structure.'

87.2 **RESOLVED** - That the petition be noted.

**88. PETITION: REGARDING THE LACK OF PARKING FOR STAFF AT STANFORD JUNIOR SCHOOL**

88.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 80 people, presented at Council on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 by Councillor McCaffery.

'Residents are concerned at the lack of parking for staff at Stanford Junior School. The school has no parking facilities on the premises; it is not a 'business'; there are no houses opposite the school and ample parking space. Staff at the Little Fishes Nursery are also adversely affected. We, the undersigned, urge the Council to significantly increase the number of parking permits issued to these organisations of great importance to the community.'

88.2 **RESOLVED** - That the petition be noted.

**89. PETITION: JUNCTION AT FIVEWAYS**

89.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 1658 people, presented at Council on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 by Councillor Lepper.

'We believe that the Fiveways junction is dangerous and should be made safer for pedestrians by installing additional Pelican crossings on Hollingbury Road and Ditchling Road.'

89.2 **RESOLVED** - That the petition be noted.

**90. PETITION: PEDESTRIAN CROSSING IN LONGRIDGE AVENUE**

90.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 1086 people, presented at Council on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 by Councillor Mears.

'We, the people of Saltdean feel there is an urgent need for a pedestrian crossing in Longridge Avenue. Among the many people who use the Longridge Avenue there is an older persons housing scheme on the opposite side of the road to the doctors surgery. The parking situation makes crossing the road very dangerous for everybody. Longridge Avenue is on an incline and vehicles tend to travel quickly in both directions. We call on the local Councils to act now and provide a crossing urgently.'

90.2 **RESOLVED** - That the petition be noted.

**91. PETITION: TO REINSTATE THE NO. 7 BUS ROUTE ALONG UPPER ST. JAMES' STREET AND ST. GEORGE'S ROAD**

91.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 106

people, presented at Council on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 by Councillor Mitchell.

'We, the undersigned, call upon Brighton & Hove City Council to bring pressure to bear upon Roger French and the Brighton & Hove Bus and Coach Company Limited to reinstate the No. 7 bus route along Upper St. James's Street and St. George's Road.'

91.2 **RESOLVED** – That the petition be noted.

## **92. PETITION: BUS STOP AT THE BOTTOM OF GRAHAM CRESCENT**

92.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 27 people, presented at Council on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 by Councillor Turner.

'As bus users we the undersigned would be grateful if you would reconsider your decision regarding the bus stop at the bottom of Graham Crescent.

The people opposed to the stop very rarely use buses as they all have cars and are only interested in the loss of the parking spaces. However, there are times when even these residents use the bus and have to trudge up the hill.... Residents in the middle section of Graham Crescent have added difficulty of having to walk up or down an extremely steep hill to New England Rise.

Brighton and Hove Bus Co. did agree some time ago that a bus stop along Graham Crescent would be appropriate. Could this decision now be invoked to the benefit of all bus users.'

92.2 **RESOLVED** - That the petition be noted.

## **93. PETITION: RE-ROUTING OF THE NO. 81 BUS**

93.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 190 people, presented at Council on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 by Councillor Bennett.

'We, the undersigned, petition the relevant officials of Brighton & Hove City Council and the Brighton & Hove Bus and Coach Company that we are not in favour of the No. 81 being re-routed up Woodland Avenue and King George VI Drive.'

93.2 Chair read a letter of support from Councillor Bennett in her absence.

93.3 **RESOLVED** - That the petition be noted.

## **94. PETITION: TO RECONSIDER THE AXING OF THE NO. 96 SCHOOL BUS**

**SERVICE**

94.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 112 people, presented at Council on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 by Councillor Bennett.

'We ask the council to reconsider its decision to axe the number 96 school bus service. As residents living near the school we have serious concerns about the impact the extra traffic caused by parents driving their children to school will have, on both our local environment and on everyone's road safety.'

94.2 **RESOLVED** - That the petition be noted.



**95. PETITION: TO REINSTATE BUS SERVICE TO BLATCHINGTON MILL SCHOOL**

95.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 119 people, presented at Council on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 by Councillor Bennett.

'We the undersigned wish to petition the council to reinstate the Bus service to Blatchington Mill School. The withdrawal goes against the councils transport policy by discouraging the use of public transport and encouraging the use of the car.'

95.2 **RESOLVED** - That the petition be noted.

**96. DEPUTATION TO COUNCIL – SAVE OUR BUS 96!**

96.1 The Committee considered a Deputation presented by Graham Wright a 15 year old student at Blatchington Mill School relating the No. 96 School Bus (for copy see minute book).

96.2 Committee noted that the current situation had been resolved. The bus 96 would continue to run for the remainder of the academic year.

96.3 **RESOLVED** - That the petition be noted.

**\*97. ST. JAMES' STREET & QUEEN'S PARK RESIDENTS PARKING SCHEME (EXTENDED AREA C)**

97.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment regarding St. James' Street and Queen's Park Residents Parking Scheme (extended area C) (for copy see minute book)

97.2 With the agreement of the Committee, the Chair referred to a petition signed by 212 persons that objected to the proposed introduction of parking restrictions. The petition had been presented directly to the Chair and had bypassed the conventional route. It was noted that Queens Park Road and the Parkhurst Estate would be included within the areas to be monitored during the first 6 months of the scheme.

97.3 **RESOLVED** – (1) That having taken account of the duly made representations and objections, the making of the following orders as advertised be approved;

(a) the Brighton & Hove Kemp Town & Queens Park Controlled Parking Zone (Area C) Traffic Regulation Order 2004.

(b) the Seafront (Madeira Drive, Marine Parade, Grand Junction Road, King's Road and Kingsway) (Waiting & Loading Restrictions & On-

street Parking Places) Consolidation Order 2001 Amendment Order 2004.

(2) That the advertising of an amendment order to the orders authorised above, proposing the minor changes outlined in section 4 of this report.

(3) That the monitoring of areas beyond the scheme boundary (particularly the St Luke's and Craven Vale area to the north of the scheme) during the scheme's first six months of operation to determine the extent to which displacement of vehicles has taken place be approved.

#### **\*98. COMMUNAL CONTAINERS TRIAL POSTAL QUESTIONNAIRE REPORT**

98.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment concerning the methodology and findings to date of the public consultation and statistical data gathering from the postal questionnaire on the communal containers trial (for copy see minute book).

98.2 **RESOLVED** – That the report be noted.

#### **\*99. REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY REVIEW ON THE CONSULTATION PROCESS FOR COMMUNAL BINS**

99.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning the Overview and Scrutiny Organisation Committee (OSOC) review of the process of consultation on the communal bin trial, and the response to those findings (for copy see minute book).

99.2 Members noted a typographical error in respect of the recommendations made by the Scrutiny Panel. Recommendation 6 (page 60) '*Records of all communication (including responses), to councillors on major ward issues to be kept until the process is complete*', had been omitted from the recommendation listed in the appendix (page 105/6) and should have appeared before the recommendation, '*That Ward Members are provided with copies of any leaflets/questionnaires that are to be sent to residents prior to their distribution.*' Instead, the Appendix had repeated recommendation 9 twice, as recommendations 8 & 9.

99.3 Members agreed that this recommendation be included and approved.

99.5 **RESOLVED** – That the responses made to the Scrutiny Review on the consultation process for communal bins, be approved.

**\*100. STANMER PARK CONSULTATION**

100.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment (for copy see minute book). The Chair invited Jamie Hooper (representing the Friends of Stanmer Park) to address the meeting. Mr Hooper spoke on behalf of the Friends of Stanmer Park detailing their concerns with the proposals made in the report.

100.2 An amendment proposed by Councillor Kemble and seconded by Councillor Smith that the committee instruct officers to work up two detailed designs for the parking reorganisation and traffic management proposals, one along the lines proposed in the report and the other as outlined by Mr Hooper for the Friends of Falmer and report back to the Environment Committee with full details of the financial implications, was lost.

100.3 An amendment proposed by Councillor Elgood and seconded by Councillor Fitch that the Committee authorise a scheme to be worked up with further consultation with the Friends of Stanmer Park and other stakeholders and that the outcome of such be reported to the Environment Committee for consideration was accepted.

100.4 **RESOLVED** – That the results of consultations be noted and that officers be authorised to: (1) work up detailed designs for parking and traffic management proposals with further consultation with the Friends of Stanmer Park and other stakeholders and that the outcome of such be reported to a future meeting of the Environment Committee for consideration. (2) on the basis of these detailed designs, prepare a financial plan for the proposals.

*In accordance with Procedural Rules 28.4 Councillors Kemble, Norman, Peltzer Dunn and Smith asked that their names be recorded as having voted for the Conservative amendment.*

**\*101. SEASIDE PLEASURE BOAT BYLAWS**

101.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment concerning proposed changes to the Byelaws for controlling the use of Seaside Pleasure Boats and Boats in the sea off the city's foreshore and to seek Member approval. (for copy see minute book). Amendments were proposed by Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Kemble. These were agreed as follows.

(A) The creation of an extended beach for windsurfing at Hove Lagoon.

(B) The original Beach A to be extended by 160 yards east to give a windsurfing area approximately 350 yards wide. This beach would be from groynes H32 to H27.

(C) The access channel (with an 8-knot speed limit) within the original Beach A to be reduced by 200 yards to approximately 120 yards wide. This beach would be between groynes H 33 to H32.

(D) An extension of beach C (where kite surfers launch) by 130 yards making it approximately 275 yards wide. This beach would be between groynes H 20 to H18.

(E) An extension by 50 yards of beach G in order to allow the Brighton Sailing Club to safely reach open water. This beach would be between groyne B4 to 50 yards east of groyne B5.

(F) An investigation into the feasibility of financing and constructing a launching ramp at Hove Lagoon in order to encourage water sports.

(G) That there be a further informal consultation period and that officers report back to a future meeting of the Environment Committee.

101.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the proposals in the report to revoke and replace the existing boating bylaws be supported subject to the amendments approved and set out in the minutes above.

(2) That a further report be considered at a future meeting of the Environment Committee following further consultation.

**\*102. REGULATION 7 DIRECTION – NEW CONTROLS OVER ESTATE AGENTS' 'FOR SALE' BOARDS IN HISTORIC AREAS**

102.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment concerning the new regulation 7 direction, which brings under planning control the fixing of temporary estate agent boards on to the front of historic buildings in specified squares and terraces and to agree interim policy guidance (for copy see minute book).

102.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) That it be noted that the content of the direction of the Secretary of State that the provisions of Class 3A of Schedule 3, Part 1 of the Advertisement Regulations shall cease to apply, for a period of 5 years, in respect of specified properties in the Kemp Town, Clifton Hill and Brunswick Town Conservation areas and will take effect on 22 October 2004.

(2) That the planning advice note be approved

(3) That the preparation of further planning guidance for the display of advert boards within conservation areas generally in conjunction with amenity / community groups and the local Estate Agent's Association be approved, and that the draft guidance be brought back to a future Environment Committee for approval.

**103. Q1 BEST VALUE REPORT**

103.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment (for copy see minute book).

103.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Performance Indicator results achieved during the first quarter 2004/05 as detailed in the abridged Q1 Best Value Performance Report 2004/05 (appended) be noted.

(2) That it be noted that the 2003/04 year end results have been audited.

**10.4 ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO COUNCIL**

104.1 The Conservative Group requested that item 100 'Stanmer Park Consultation' be referred to Council

**PART TWO****105. ITEMS TO REMAIN EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE TO THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

105.1 **RESOLVED** – That no items remain exempt from disclosure to the press and public.

The meeting concluded at 7.15 pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2004