

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

5.00PM – 9 DECEMBER 2004

**COMMITTEE ROOMS 2 & 3
BRIGHTON TOWN HALL**

MINUTES

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

PART ONE

ACTION

106. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

106A Declarations of Substitutes

106.1 Substitute Councillor For Councillor

There were none.

106B Declarations of Interest

106.2 There were none.

106C Exclusion of Press and Public

106.3 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. The Committee agreed that items 126 & 135 would be discussed together in open session as the issue was of interest to the public. They requested that the Solicitor advise them during the debate if they were touching on subjects that boarded on confidential issues. The report and its contents would remain confidential.

106.4 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of item 135.

107. MINUTES

107.1 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2004 be approved and signed by the Chair.

108. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

108.1 There were none.

109. CALLOVER

109.1 **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.

110. LETTER FROM GOLDSMID & STANFORD WARD COUNCILLORS

110.1 The Committee considered a letter from Goldsmid & Stanford Ward Councillor concerning a safe crossing at Fonthill Road and Old Shoreham Road. (see minute book for copy).

110.2 **RESOLVED** – That the letter from Goldsmid & Stanford Ward Councillors be noted.

111. LETTER FROM STANFORD WARD COUNCILLORS

111.1 The Committee considered a letter from Goldsmid Ward Councillor concerning traffic safety measures in Wolstenbury Road, Cissbury Road and Highdown Road. (see minute book)

111.2 **RESOLVED** – That the letter from Goldsmid & Stanford Ward Councillors be noted.

112. PETITION : SAFE CROSSING FOR PEDESTRIANS GOING INTO AND LEAVING HOVE PARK

112.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 290 people, presented at Council on 25 November by Councillor Giebler.

'We the undersigned residents request that an urgent decision is reached for a safe crossing for pedestrians going into and leaving Hove Park. The present traffic lights do not allow time to cross for the able bodied, let alone, parents with children, dogs, the elderly and disabled. This is a particularly busy crossroads being a shortcut from Goldstone Crescent into Fonthill Road to the centre of Hove and the Station. Old Shoreham Road is a major road into Brighton, which is very difficult and dangerous for pedestrians to cross.'

112.2 **RESOLVED** – That the Petition be noted.

113. PETITION : TRAFFIC SAFETY MEASURES FOR WOLSTONBURY ROAD, CISSBURY ROAD AND HIGHDOWN ROAD

113.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 130 people, presented at Council on 25 November by Councillor Meegan.

113.2 'Wolstonbury Road, Cissbury Road and Highdown Road are used as rat runs by drivers avoiding the traffic lights at the Old Shoreham Road / Dyke Road junction. This increases danger on the roads for the high number of children and older people in our area. We are asking for your support for the following petition to the Council.

Wolstonbury and Cissbury Roads to be closed to the Old Shoreham Road and traffic calming measure to be considered for Highdown Road.'

113.3 **RESOLVED** – That the Petition be noted.

114. PETITION : REINSTATEMENT OF THE ENTRANCE TO WITHDEAN RISE FROM 123 LONDON ROAD TO BRIGHTON ROAD

114.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 131 people, presented at Council on 25 November by Councillor Norman.

114.2 'We the residents of Withdean Rise petition the council to reinstate the entrance into the Withdean Rise from the A23 London to Brighton Road.'

114.3 **RESOLVED** – That the Petition be noted.

115. PETITION : OBJECTION TO CLOSURE OF THE NORTHERN EXIT OF THE APPROACH (BRIGHTON, EAST SUSSEX) AND REMOVAL OF CENTRAL TRAFFIC ISLAND

115.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 130 people, presented at Council on 25 November by Councillor Norman.

115.2 'We, the undersigned, object to the closure of the northern exit of The Approach (Brighton, East Sussex) and the removal of the central traffic island opposite The Approach.'

115.3 **RESOLVED** – That the Petition be noted.

116. PETITION : TO REMOVE HIGH CURB AND REINSTATE SLOPE BACK TO THE ORIGINAL ANGLE AT CURWEN PLACE

116.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 33 people, presented at Council on 25 November by Councillor Norman.

116.2 'Following the closure of the secondary vehicular access to Curwen Place, we the undersigned ask the City Council to remove the high curb, reinstate the slope back to the original angle and insert a simple bollard to effect the closure. This will enable residents to access the Puffin Crossing, Post Box and Bus Stops safely.'

116.3 **RESOLVED** – That the Petition be noted.

117. PETITION : TO PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE ACCESS BY EXTENDING EXISTING SLIP ROAD IN ELMS LEA AVENUE

117.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 146 people, presented at Council on 25 November by Councillor Mrs. Norman.

117.2 'Following the closure of secondary vehicular access to Curwen Place, we the undersigned ask the City Council to provide an alternative access, by extending the existing slip road in Elms Lea Avenue.'

117.3 **RESOLVED** – That the Petition be noted.

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

118.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 200 people, presented at Council on 25 November by Councillor Burgess.

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

118.3 **RESOLVED** – That the Petition be noted.

119. PETITION : OBJECTION TO NEW BUS ROUTE TRAVELLING UP WOODLAND AVENUE AND ALONG KING GEORGE VI.

119.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 25 people, presented at Council on 25 November by Councillor Bennett.

119.2 'We, the residents of the Sandringham Drive and Elizabeth Avenue object to the new bus route travelling up Woodland Avenue and along King George VI. We proposed that the old bus route be re-instated.'

119.3 **RESOLVED** – That the Petition be noted.

120. PETITION : OBJECTIONS TO THE NEW PRACTICE OF WASTE COLLECTION WITHIN PORTSLADE

120.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 380 people, presented at Council on 25 November by Councillor Carden.

120.2 'We, the undersigned wish to lodge our objections to the new practice of waste collection within Portslade (in particular Valley Road). Bins are not being cleared to the required standard with the Council imposing draconian and ridiculous restrictions on households. Not all householders are in a position to move their rubbish kerbside as is now being stipulated and the inadequate 'Assisted Collections' does not go far enough to help members of this community.

Given the high cost of council tax within this borough we demand that all rubbish is removed on a weekly basis from each household, be it kerbside or not, in or overflowing the wheelie bin and would request that the previous arrangements be reinstated as a matter of urgency.

We believe the council is failing in its duty to Portslade Residents and are not prepared to accept the new practice.'

120.3 **RESOLVED** – That the Petition be noted.

121. PETITION : AGAINST HAVING WHEELIE BINS

121.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 153 people, presented at Council on 25 November by Councillor Mrs. Norman.

121.2 'All of the people who have signed this petition are against having wheelie bins; this covers quite a sizeable area.

Reason against wheelie bins.

Too many stairs (no out of the way storage)

Disabled, at least 4 people are blind this means that any wheelie bins left on the street are dangerous.

Danger to passing pedestrians and refuse collectors.

Unsuitably in a once desirable area. Not suitable for this environment.

No consultation between city clean and the property owners of the area.'

121.3 **RESOLVED** – That the Petition be noted.

122. PETITION :

122.1 The Committee received the following petition, signed by 567 people, presented at Council on 25 November by Councillor Bennett.

122.2 'We, the undersigned residents of Hove, ask the Council to put in place CCTV cameras for the Grenadier shopping area.'

122.3 **RESOLVED** – That the Petition be noted.

123. DEPUTATION TO COUNCIL : CLOSURE OF WITHDEAN RISE ENTRANCE TO/FROM A23 – LONDON ROAD

123.1 The Committee considered a Deputation presented by Mr. Michael Murray relating to closure of Withdean Rise entrance to/from A23 – London Road. (see minute book for copy)

123.2 **RESOLVED** – That the Petition be noted.

***124. CENTRAL BRIGHTON ON-STREET PARKING REVIEW**

124.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment regarding Central Brighton On-Street Parking Review (see minute book for copy)

124.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the draft central Brighton proposals be approved and permission to proceed to an informal public consultation be granted, the consultation results to be reported back to a later Environment Committee.

(2) That a separate report be undertaken to investigate all the permit issues within Central Brighton and the surrounding area prior

to the implementation of any Central Brighton proposals.

***125. CONNAUGHT ROAD PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE**

125.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment regarding the proposed closure of Connaught Road (see minute book for copy)

125.2 **RESOLVED** – That (1) the proposal to close the junction of Connaught Road with Church Road be approved.

(2) having taken account of all duly made representations and objections and one objection received after the closing date, approval be given to the making of The Brighton & Hove (Connaught Road) (Prohibition of Driving) Order 200*, as advertised, prohibiting motorised traffic, excluding emergency vehicles, from entering or leaving Connaught Road at its junction with Church Road.

***126. CLIFFS AND UNDERCLIFF WALK AT BLACK ROCK**

126.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment regarding the cliffs and undercliff walk at Black Rock (see minute book for copy).

126.2 An amendment proposed by Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Kemble to make it clear that the traffic order could be revoked in future and a further amendment regarding discussions with the Marina operators were accepted.

126.3 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the current position with respect to the Secretary of State's decision be noted;

(2) That, having noted that no representations or objections were received by the Council during the objection period and having taken account of a number received after the closure of the objection period, the making of the Brighton & Hove (Undercliff Walk, Brighton) (Partial Closure) Order 2004 as advertised be approved;

(3) That a waiver of contract standing orders, in order to appoint High-Point Rendel as the Council's consultant for the 'Black Rock' stabilisation scheme, subject to planning permission being granted by the Secretary of State, be approved.

(4) To note that the traffic order could be revoked in the future, should circumstances change and therefore contrary to the general perception, the making of the traffic order will not have the

practical effect of closing the undercliff walk permanently, as it can be opened at any time in the future.

(5) That further discussions be held with the Marina operators for an additional access route to the undercliff walk, directly east of the Asda store.

127. REVIEW OF THE SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN

127.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment regarding the review of the Shoreline Management Plan (see minute book for copy)

127.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the policies set out in the draft Shoreline Management Plan for the future defence of the City's coastline, be noted.

(2) That a period of public consultation lasting three months on the draft Shoreline Management Plan be approved.

***128. SCHOOL GROUNDS BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN**

128.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment regarding School Grounds Biodiversity Action Plan (see minute book for copy)

128.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) That subject to securing external funding the draft School Grounds Biodiversity Action Plan be approved for implementation.

(2) That the Environment Committee recommend to the Local Strategic Partnership the draft School Grounds Biodiversity Action Plan, for comment.

(3) That the Environment Committee recommend to the Children, Families & Schools Sub-Committee the draft School Grounds Biodiversity Action Plan, for comment.

129. WEST SUSSEX WASTE LOCAL PLAN REVISED DEPOSIT DRAFT 2004

129.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment regarding the West Sussex Waste Local Plan Revised Deposit Draft 2004 (see minute book for copy)

129.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Committee object to the changed approach in the West Sussex Waste Local Plan Revised Deposit Draft as this may lead to West Sussex significantly failing to achieve net self sufficiency on waste, and therefore having a consequent impact on the use of waste facilities in Brighton and Hove;

(2) That the deletion of the allocation at Brighton Road,

Shoreham (Site G) be welcomed, but the concerns about the impact of traffic on the highway be reiterated should this site come forward at a later stage;

(3) That the response to the West Sussex Waste Local Plan Revised Deposit Draft 2004 set out in Appendix 1 of the report, be approved.

***130. TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME IN HOTSPOTS**

130.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment regarding the tackling of anti-social behaviour and environmental crime in hotspots (see minute book for copy)

130.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the progress towards achieving the target of reducing begging by 60% by March 2005, be noted

(2) That the work to tackle anti social behaviour and environmental crime in hotspots, be noted.

***131. THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SPORTS STRATEGY FOR BRIGHTON & HOVE**

131.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment regarding the development of a sports strategy for Brighton & Hove (see minute book for copy)

131.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the City's emerging draft Sports Strategy (Appendix 2), the draft Action Plan (Appendix 4) and the implementation timetable for a full strategy document (paragraph 3.10 of the report) be noted.

(2) That the development of the draft Sports Strategy, by setting up a sports symposium event to identify key priorities for sport in the city and subsequently carrying out a public consultation exercise be approved;

(3) That the Environment Committee recommends the draft Sports Strategy and Action Plan to Culture & Tourism Sub-Committee and Children, Families & Schools Sub-Committee for their comment and consideration ahead of the Sports Symposium.

(4) That Policy & Resources Committee be recommended to approve, on the adoption of the Sports Strategy, the establishment of a sport forum to help manage further consultation and implementation of the strategy action plan;

(5) That it be noted that the Council's Sports Development team will service and support the Sports Symposium / Forum.

***132. QUARTER TWO PERFORMANCE REPORT**

132.1 The Committee considered the report of the Director of Environment regarding the quarter two performance report (see minute book for copy)

132.2 **RESOLVED** – That (1) the Performance Indicator results achieved during the second quarter 2004/05 as detailed in the abridged Q2 Best Value Performance Report 2004/05 (appended) be noted.

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

133. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO COUNCIL

133.2 **RESOLVED** – That item 131,'The Development of a Sports Strategy for Brighton & Hove' go forward to Council.

PART TWO

134. SUMMARY OF PART TWO ITEMS

135. CLIFFS AND UNDERCLIFF WALK AT BLACK ROCK – EXEMPT CATEGORY

135.1 The Committee considered a further report of the Director of Environment regarding the cliffs and undercliff walk at Black Rock.

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

136. ITEMS TO REMAIN EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE TO THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

136.1 **RESOLVED** - That item 135 remain exempt from disclosure to the press and public.

The meeting concluded at 6.45pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2005