

ENVIRONMENT CABINET MEMBER MEETING ADDENDUM

4.00PM, TUESDAY, 11 MAY 2010

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

ADDENDUM

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ENVIRONMENT CABINET MEMBER MEETING

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:		Petitions		
Date of Meeting:		11 May 2010		
Report of:		Director of Strategy & Governance		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Tanya Massey	Tel:	29-1227
E-mail:		tanya.massey@brighton-hove.gov.uk		
Key Decision:	No			
Wards Affected:	Various			

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 To receive the following petitions presented at Council, any petitions presented directly to the Environment Cabinet Member Meeting or any e-Petition submitted via the council's website.
- **119. (i)** To receive the following e-Petition submitted via the council's website and presented at Council on 18 March 2010 by Councillor Elgood and signed by 40 people:

We the undersigned petition the council to bring the on-street parking contract back in-house when the contract is up for renewal in two year's time.

119. (ii) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 18 March by Councillor Elgood and signed by 12 people:

We the undersigned residents of Waterloo Street call on the council to replace the broken street light with a historic copy. We are grateful to the council for the temporary replacement, but want to see it fully restored to match the other lamp posts

119. (iii) To receive the following e-Petition submitted via the council's website and signed by 9 people:

We the undersigned petition the council to provide more salt/grit bins throughout the city in time for the next severe weather spell.

119. (iv) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 18 March by Councillor Harmer-Strange and signed by 26 people:

We the undersigned residents collectively request that Brighton & Hove City Council look into the continuing problems of parking and access to homes and driveways in Hayes Close, Portslade. In addition, will the council also look into carrying out remedial repairs to the pavements/pathways in the close, due to it's unevenness which causes problems for wheelchair users and disabled people living in the close. **119. (v)** To receive the following petition presented at Council on 18 March by Councillor Bennett and signed by 110 people:

We urge Brighton & Hove City Council to reconsider the withdrawal of the 27A evening and Sunday service, and continue to subsidise it for the continuation of this necessary service.

119. (vi) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 18 March by Councillor Davey and signed by 497 people:

We, the undersigned local residents, traders and visitors, urge Brighton & Hove City Council to take urgent steps to make York Place safer to cross by installing a Zebra Crossing to link it directly with St Peters Church and the adjoining Bus Stop.

The current crossing arrangements are inadequate. Combined with the excessive railings this serves to isolate St Peters Church from London Road in general and York Place in particular. They also contribute to pedestrians making dangerous movements by leaping over the barriers and across busy roads to avoid the detour to the nearest crossing point.

We feel strongly that providing this crossing will help to make the area safer, more attractive to people and help to address the anti social behaviour problems that currently undermine efforts to improve the area.

119. (vii) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 18 March by Councillor Mitchell and signed by 29 people:

We, the undersigned, as residents of Camelford Street wish to draw your attention to the difficult and unsatisfactory situation that currently exists regarding the Council's refusal to issue parking waivers to workmen or tradespeople who are engaged in carrying out essential and legitimate work on our properties.

You will be aware that Camelford Street is in a Conservation area and is made up mainly of older properties some listed, some not, but many in excess of 200 years old. In order to maintain such old and valuable properties in good order essential renovation and repair work has to be undertaken on a regular basis, to a high standard and by reputable firms. There have been several occasion during the past years when well recommended and highly skills workmen have reluctantly turned down work in Camelford Street since it is impossible for them to obtain parking waivers which would enable them to park near the properties on which they would be working. To give an example: there are currently two properties in the Street where the roofs are in need of urgent and substantial overhaul. There is another property where both of the flank walls are in need of re-rendering. It has so far proved impossible to get a reputable firm of roofers to undertake the work because, as they quite rightly point out, they have more than sufficient work in areas where access in far easier and less disruptive. You can appreciate that no workman wants to be put to the inconvenience of being separated, sometimes by several blocks distance from their vans and equipment.

There have been many instances of workmen rushing to complete a job and possibly taking unsatisfactory short cuts in order to return to their vans before they are issued with a parking ticket. On at least one occasion recently an emergency electrician called on an insurance claim and refused point blank to undertake the work on the grounds that he was not prepared to risk a parking fine, which he himself would have to pay. Other companies have added extra costs to their final invoices to compensate for the extra time taken and the inconvenience of not being able to park near the property they are working on.

When, in the past, waivers were allowed essential work, it caused very little disruption and most residents were happy with the situation. Parking was managed respectfully and with due regard to the narrowness of the street.

We would be grateful if you would take our serious concerns into consideration and undertake a review of the situation as soon as possible.

119. (viii) To receive a petition presented directly to the Environment Cabinet Member Meeting by Councillor Oxley concerning the effect of parking charges on Churches in the Poets' Corner area of Hove.

DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting for the hearing of deputations from members of the public. Each deputation may be heard for a maximum of five minutes following which the Cabinet Member may speak in response. The deputation will be thanked for attending and its subject matter noted.

- (a) Deputation concerning parking Zone A and the proposal to extend this to Tivoli Crescent - to complete the 'missing link – Mr Mark Dyson (Spokesperson)
 - In 2007, the residents of Tivoli Crescent voted to be excluded from the proposed Zone 'A' parking scheme, and the Council granted them their wish. Unfortunately, residents did not appreciate the full implications of this, which only became apparent with the introduction of Zone A in October last year.
 - As the parking zone lies at both ends of Tivoli Crescent, the road is completely overflowing, at all times of the day with commuter parking. This results in significant nuisance, inconvenience and health and safety risks to the residents.
 - A survey of residents in Tivoli Crescent was carried out in December of last year, 2 - 3 months after the introduction of the new Zone A. The survey asked residents if they still wanted to be excluded from Zone A - or alternatively, for the scheme to be extended to include Tivoli Crescent.
 - A response was elicited from 89% of the dwellings in Tivoli Crescent with a massive <u>93% of these households now wishing to be included in the scheme.</u>
 - Tivoli Crescent residents have learnt to their cost that their original desire to be excluded from the scheme has proved to be disastrous and by an overwhelming majority, now wish to be included in Zone A as soon as is practically possible.
 - Including Tivoli Crescent in Zone A logically completes the road network of Zone A - by filling in the missing link between Woodside Avenue and The Drove, and should have minimal effect on the other excluded streets, given the road layout.
 - Unrestricted roads further out from Tivoli Crescent would also have the opportunity to comment on this proposal to include Tivoli Crescent when the traffic order is advertised

Tivoli Crescent Residents Association April 2010

(b) Deputation concerning occupants of 137-147 Preston Road – Ms Hengameh Dadkhah (Spokesperson)

On behalf of residents in Dyke Road Drive, I am asking the Environment Cabinet Member to act urgently and help to evict the travellers who have moved to the property 137-147 Preston Road, Brighton around mid March 2010. Houses/flats in Dyke Road Drive back to this property.

This site consist of Anston House unoccupied building no 137-139 Preston Road and 141-143 and 145-147 which are the site with fences around it and no building. The travellers have moved into the site with their caravans, cars and other transports. It started with one or two cars in front of the Anston House and gradually more and more travellers are arriving. They are also now parking their caravans right at the back of the properties in Dyke Road Drive.

We believe that the owner of the property is aware of the situation and not quite sure whether they are taking any legal action to evict them or have actually invited them to stay. There is lock at the gate and it seems that the travellers have a key to get in and out of the site.

This site is not suitable for travellers for the following reasons:

1-There is no sanitation provision

We believe that the travellers are using open sanitation and putting our health at risk. With summer round the corner, the smell, fly and other insects being attracted to the open sanitation will put our health at risk and also the health of residents of Brighton and Hove.

2-Burning woods and other materials creating environmental pollution and hazard

Travellers are burning woods and other materials creating smoke. At times we can not even open our windows towards Preston Park any more. We are not sure of the nature of the materials they are burning, whether the materials are of hazardous nature and would cause short or long term health problems.

3-Creation of rubbish

Travellers are creating substantial amount of waste which are not being cleared and will soon result in rats and other rodents coming to our property from the site.

4-Safety

Our garden fences in line with most houses are not very high, travellers can climb over them at any time. We do not feel secure in our own home. We can not let our kids play in our own garden without watching over them.

Below are a few examples of incidents that we residents have to put up with on daily basis since travellers have moved to this site:

Wednesday 21 April 2010

Burning woods and other materials sent smoke and smell that the residents had to keep their windows closed. Following morning inside our houses smelled like a barbecue house.

Thursday 22 April 2010

Joy riders driving their motorbikes around the site during the day creating noise and dust. Again we had to keep our windows shut.

Monday 26 April 2010

Travellers' dogs had jumped over one of the garden fences and carried on jumping from one garden to another. We could only keep our doors to garden locked and watched in despair.

Wednesday 28 April 2010

Another night of burning woods and other materials.

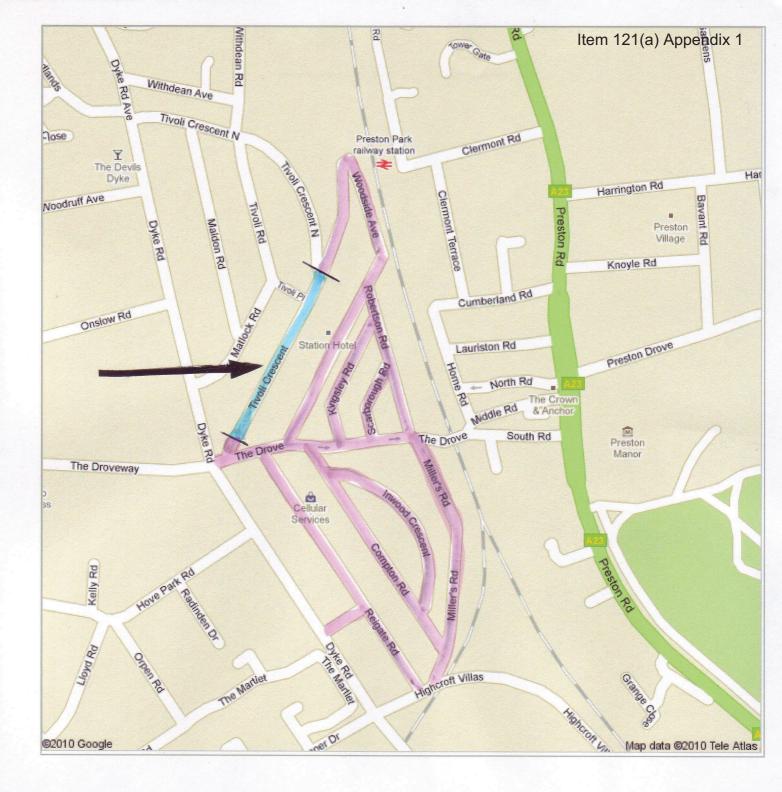
Thursday 29 April 2010

Travellers' dogs had been barking non-stop from 7pm till 8pm. I called the police and reported it. I could not see if something serious had happened.

We are also asking for a long term solution for this site. What can be done to stop travellers moving back to this site.

Several unsuitable planning applications have been put to the council since 1994. Last year a substantial number of mature trees were cut down. Again last year there was stabbing on this site.

Please act urgently to evict the travellers from this site and look for a long term solution for both Anston House unoccupied building no 137-139 Preston Road and the sites 141-143 and 145-147 Preston Road.



Tivoli Crescent – completing the 'missing link'