

Compton and Peverell Area Committee

Monday 28 September 2009

PRESENT:

Councillor Dr. Mahony, in the Chair
Councillor Stark, Vice Chair
Councillors Ball, Fry, Martin Leaves and Mrs Nicholson

Co-opted Representatives: Commander P Searle and Mr R Wheeler

Apologies for absence: Mr H R M Clifton and Mrs M White

The meeting started at 7.00pm and finished at 8.30pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the committee will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by Members in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

15. MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2009 is approved as a correct record.

16. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

17. POLICING ISSUES AND PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER (PACT) PRIORITIES

A representative from the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary addressed the Committee about policing issues and Partnerships and Communities Together (PACT) Priorities.

The Police representative explained that –

- (i) there had been a 1% increase in crime and a 2% increase in the detection of crime in the central area of the city, compared to statistics collated from the same period last year;
- (ii) other statistics for the central area of the city revealed a reduction in criminal activity, as follows –
 - 31% reduction in robberies
 - 38% reduction in burglaries
 - 11% reduction in theft from or of vehicles
 - 5% reduction in assault
- (iii) the increase in recorded crime in the Central area was largely due to targeted drug work by police.

The Police representative informed the Committee of the latest PACT priorities for Compton, Hartley and Mannamead.

Compton priorities –

- (iv) problematic youths and criminal damage to properties in Carlton Close;

- (v) criminal damage and antisocial behaviour in Priory Road and Priory Lane:
 - with regards to (iv) and (v) above, the police were working with the Youth Service of Plymouth City Council to identify youths and get involved with them to combat these issues
- (vi) speeding and antisocial driving on Higher Compton Road near Compton Primary School.
 - it was believed that the issue was occurring due to the delivery schedule of the pet shop on Higher Compton Road. It was reported that this was being dealt with and that the pet shop had agreed to alter its delivery schedule;

Hartley and Mannamead priorities –

- (vii) speeding and skateboarders at Burleigh Manor;
- (viii) underage drinking in Limetree Park;
- (ix) youths entering a building site at Seymour Road.

A Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) representing the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary addressed the Committee in regard to policing issues and PACT priorities for Peverell.

The PCSO explained that there were currently three PACT priorities in the Peverell ward, which were –

- (x) antisocial behaviour in Central Park and Pounds Park;
 - there had been reports that youths had been drinking in Limetree Park and were then entering the grounds of Pounds Park
 - PCSO's had been monitoring both parks on Friday and Saturday evenings to try and combat antisocial behaviour
 - the police had been working together with the parks department to combat the issue
- (xi) Criminal damage to allotments;
 - in one day there were 16 reports of criminal damage to allotments in Central Park
 - the police had contacted all 351 allotment owners by letter and advised them that they were dealing with the issue as a PACT priority
 - there had been no reports of criminal damage at the allotments over the past 2 months
- (xii) Antisocial use of minimoto's and mopeds;
 - there had been an increase in the use of these vehicles

particularly in service lanes

- the police were dealing with the issue and had placed an advert in the local newspaper asking residents to contact the police regarding the issue

Other issues raised during the consultation on priorities were –

- (xiii) consumption of alcohol outside of the Blue Bird Inn, Egguckland Road, this was reported to be outside of the police's remit and the Licensing department would need to take action;
- (xiv) cars parked at the top of Revel Road had caused access difficulties particularly with waste collection vehicles;
- (xv) parking at Beacon Park and Peverell on days that Plymouth Argyle were playing at Home Park;
- (xvi) obstructions caused by cars parking on the pavement at Weston Park Road;
- (xvii) the safety of children who attended Kings School, Hartley Road was being placed in jeopardy due to cars being double and sometimes triple parked.

Resolved that –

- (1) with regard to (xiv) above, Councillor Fry will take up this matter and obtain a response for the member of public;
- (2) with regard to (xv), (xvi) and (xvii) above, the police and PCSOs will monitor and deal with these issues;
- (3) the police are thanked for their attendance.

18. LOCALITY WORKING

The Customer Service Programme Manager presented a report on locality working and informed the Committee that –

- (i) the report was part of the consultation process that the Council was undertaking in order to get views and ideas from local people on locality working;
- (ii) the Local Strategic Partnership had divided the city into six localities;
- (iii) the Council was looking at reorganising Area Committees to follow the boundaries of the new localities, which would result in the eight existing Area Committees changing to six locality partnerships;
- (iv) the intention of the proposed locality partnerships, was to help the Council engage more with communities and encourage better service delivery.

The following comments were made–

- (v) why had members not been consulted on the boundaries;

- (vi) the geographical features of Plymouth had not been taken into account when dividing the boundaries;
- (vii) Members of the Committee highlighted that they had grave reservations about the six localities, as they crossed ward boundaries, and expressed a strong wish to remain as an Area Committee that caters solely for the residents of the Compton and Peverell wards.

Resolved that –

- (1) a request be sent to the Director of Community Services asking that a report notifying members as to who agreed to the boundary arrangements on behalf of the city be presented at the next Area Committee;
- (2) the Customer Service Programme Manager is thanked for her attendance.

19. **STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING - 7 FORD PARK LANE**

Resolved that the report is noted.

20. **LOCAL ENVIRONMENT FUND**

Members had received costings for improvements at Pounds Park from Nick Jones, Principal Parks Manager and were awaiting further costings before deciding on which improvements were going to be made.

Members commented that they were considering using the Local Environment Fund as follows –

Compton Ward

- (i) planting trees and improving the areas of:
 - Thorn Park
 - Hartley Vale
 - the new park off Mutley Plain

Peverell Ward

- (ii) improvements in Pounds Park

Resolved that the report is noted.

21. **SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR MARKINGS (VARIOUS), TRANSFER OF ENFORCEMENT FROM POLICE TO COUNCIL'S CIVIL ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS PHASE 2 - OBJECTIONS**

The Committee received a report on School Keep Clear Markings and noted that no objections or comments were received during the advertisement period.

Recommended to the Cabinet Member for Transport that the proposed traffic regulation orders detailed in Appendix 1 are implemented.

22. **PROHIBITION OF RIGHT-HAND TURNS ON OUTLAND ROAD BETWEEN BEAUCHAMP ROAD AND LYNDHURST ROAD**

A Senior Engineer from AMEY gave an update on the prohibition of right hand turns on Outland Road between Beauchamp Road and Lyndhurst Road. It was reported to Members that –

- (i) the prohibition of right hand turns had now been implemented and only affected vehicles exiting Outland Road, not vehicles entering Outland Road;
- (ii) all signs had now been erected on Outland Road to prohibit right hand turns;
- (iii) a few comments had been received about the visibility of the signs erected around Pounds House as branches appeared to be covering them. A request had been made to the Parks department to trim the branches to ensure that the signs were visible to all on coming traffic.
- (iv) there had been occasions where drivers had been deliberately ignoring the prohibition and were continuing to turn right;

The following comments and suggestions were made –

- (v) putting signs in the middle of the road or painted on to the road could be an option to increase awareness of the ban;
- (vi) the area of road in the region of the petrol garage was particularly dangerous when turning right and extra signage should be erected there, or barriers should be placed in the middle of the road to prohibit the ability to turn right altogether;
- (vii) more notice should have been given to local residents as many were not made aware of the ban;

In response to comments, members of the Committee were informed that –

- (viii) notice had been given to residents living on the streets that the ban was placed on;
- (ix) consideration would be given to adding roadmarkings (straight ahead arrows) outside the petrol filling station. A central reserve adjacent to the petrol filling station could not be considered due to the narrowness of Outland Road. The possibility of widening the road at the garage was discussed to coincide with the re-modelling of Outland Road to improve access to the Life Centre;
- (x) if drivers continued to ignore the prohibition and turn right then a request would be made to the Police to ask them to enforce the ban;

Resolved that the Senior Engineer from AMEY is thanked for his attendance.

23. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Committee considered requests from Members about possible future agenda items.

Resolved that the Committee receives reports on –

- (i) Locality working (reference minute 18 (1));
- (ii) the current use of and the future plans of the public parks in the Compton and Peverell wards.

24. **QUESTION TIME FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

The Committee considered questions raised by members of the public on the following matters –

- (i) antisocial behaviour at Seaton Avenue;
- (ii) antisocial behaviour at Compton Methodist Church.

In response to (i) above, Colebrook Housing had been notified of this issue as the problems of antisocial behaviour were generally being caused by one of their residents. With the assistance of Colebrook Housing this issue had now been resolved.

Resolved that with regard to (ii) above, the police and the youth service would work together to tackle this issue.

25. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Resolved that the next meeting of the Committee will be held at 7pm on Monday 16 November 2009, at Trinity United Reformed Church, Torr Lane, Plymouth.