

# Devonport, Stoke and St Peter & the Waterfront Area Committee

Tuesday 24 November 2009

## PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs Dolan, in the Chair.  
Councillor Wildy, Vice Chair.  
Councillors Coker, McDonald, Reynolds, Mrs Stephens and Mrs Watkins.

Co-opted Representatives: Ms Rhea Brooke, Mrs Nicky Finnigan, Mrs Dee Harvey, Mrs Nicola Hawkings and Mr Paul Squire

Apologies for absence: Councillors Stevens and

The meeting started at 6.00 pm and finished at 7.55 pm.

*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.*

## 29. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

| Name                    | Minute No. and Subject | Reason  | Interest |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---|----------|
| Councillor Mrs Stephens | 36. Localities Report  | Member on Localities Scrutiny Task and Finish Group | Personal |
| Councillor Mrs Watkins  | 36. Localities Report  | Member on Localities Scrutiny Task and Finish Group | Personal |
| Councillor Wildy        | 36. Localities Report  | Member on Localities Scrutiny Task and Finish Group | Personal |

## 30. MINUTES

The following corrections to the minutes of the last meeting were made-

- (i) Minute 23. Resolution should read 'to recommended to the Cabinet Member for Transport that the proposals in relation to Stuart Road Primary School and Holy Cross Primary School as detailed appendix 2 plan A and B of the report be implemented.

Resolved that, subject to the above changes, the minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2009 be confirmed as a correct record.

## 31. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of Chairs urgent business.

## 32. POLICING ISSUES

The Panel received a verbal report from the Devonport Sector Inspector. The officer reported that-

- (i) In the Devonport Sector overall crime had declined by 4% year on year;

- (ii) violence against strangers had reduced;
- (iii) there were issues with vehicle crime in the area, the constabulary had taken steps to address these issues and subsequently there had been eight arrests;
- (iv) in the past months there had been three warrants in relation to drugs executed resulting in six arrests;
- (v) as part of preventative work which had been carried out, the constabulary had provided residents with an information leaflet;
- (vi) an informal partnership had been formed with the MOD police, the pilot had been successful and would continue.

In response to questions from the Committee it was reported that-

- (vii) all incidents in the area were treated seriously and security advice had been given where required;
- (viii) vehicle crime has not been confined to particular streets but had taken place across the area.

An explanation of the cautioning process was provided.

### 33. **ANTISOCIAL DRIVING ON THE HOE**

A representative of Plymouth Transport and Highways provided a verbal update on traffic calming measures on the Hoe and surrounding area.

In response to questions from the committee it was reported that-

- (i) a letter had been sent in response to a question from a member of the public;
- (ii) resources would be prioritised to reduce injury and death;
- (iii) the authority cannot erect 20 Mph limit signs without engineering works.

Resolved that the matter be referred to the Growth and Prosperity Scrutiny Panel to consider a task and finish group, with scope to include why the Policy on traffic calming measures in this area changed, on what evidence and why it was removed from the capital programme.

### 34. **TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS AT CHARLES STREET, COBOURG STREET AND CHARLES CHURCH ROUNDABOUT**

The Committee considered a report on proposed traffic regulation orders and traffic management improvements.

Resolved to recommend to the Cabinet Member for Transport that the traffic regulation order proposals as detailed in plans A, B and C in Appendix 2 of the report be made operational during the construction works.

### 35. **FLY TIPPING AND DOG FOULING**

The committee received a verbal update on issue of dog fouling and fly tipping in the area. In relation to dog fouling it was reported that-

- (i) there was engagement with PCSOs as they are able to issue fixed penalty notices for dog control orders;
- (ii) the service required better information to target particular areas;
- (iii) dog bins had been removed as youths had often removed the waste and misused it;
- (iv) cleansing machines designed to tackle the problem had not been proven to work and could potentially make the problem worse.

Regarding fly-tipping, the committee heard that -

- (v) there had been a drop in complaints, the service would begin to map the complaints it received in order to see if there were any patterns;
- (vi) fly tipped waste on private land required a different order than public land;
- (vii) the service had a designated two person crew dedicated to clearing fly tipped waste.

In response to questions from the committee it was further reported that;

- (viii) the service issued fixed penalty notices;
- (ix) professional fly tippers were a problem and the service was working with the environment agency to tackle the problem.

### 36. LOCALITIES REPORT

The Head of Policy, Performance and Partnerships submitted a report outlining proposals for locality working. It was reported that -

- (i) the city would be divided in 6 locality areas, each locality would be made up of a number of the 43 neighbourhoods in the city;
- (ii) the boundaries of the six localities were agreed by the Local Strategic Partnership in consultation with partners including the Council;
- (iii) the six partnerships would be supported by a Locality Service Coordination team.

In response to questions from members of the committee it was reported that-

- (iv) the 43 neighbourhoods had been confirmed and there would be no changes, partners had been collecting data at that level for some time;
- (v) that recommendations from the Task and Finish group on localities and information from Area Committees will be fed into the process and consultation would be reflected in any final proposals.

### 37. COUNCIL PRIORITIES REVIEW

Committee members and members of the public took part in an interactive presentation which sought their views on the council's current activity.

Due to a technical problem the committee were unable to register their final answer to the question “I want you to make it easier to get around Plymouth” but unanimously voted “do more”.

38. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Committee considered previously agreed items for future agenda items and found that some of the subject area's were no longer relevant or had been dealt with at the Committee.

Resolved that the following items be carried forward as future agenda items –

- (i) Skateboarding in the City Centre, although this was the subject of a scrutiny task and finish group;
- (ii) neighbourhood management update;
- (iii) empty spaces in the city centre and how best to make the city more vibrant;
- (iv) antisocial drinking and the potential displacement effect of the designated public places order now in forcing the city centre;
- (v) the persistent smell of the south west water treatment plant at camels head

39. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions from members of the public.

40. **DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Resolved that the next meeting be held at 18:00 on 26 January 2010 at the Council House, Civic Centre.

41. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

There were no items of exempt business