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Plymstock Area Committee

Monday 9 November, 2009

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs. Pengelly, in the Chair.
Councillor Michael Leaves, Vice-Chair.
Councillors Mrs. Foster and Viney.

Co-opted Representatives: Dr. Brian Cooper and Mr. S. Johnson.

Apologies for absence: Councillors K. Foster and Wogens.

The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 8.15 p.m.

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.

26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

27. MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 September, 2009, be confirmed as a correct record.

CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

28. Planning Application - Reservoir Road

The Chair reported that a planning application had been received to develop four houses at Reservoir Road. Anyone wishing to comment on the application should view the plans which were available at the Council offices.

29. Radford Hide / Plym Youth Forum

Radford Hide

The Vice-Chair reported that problems of an anti-social nature were being encountered at the Radford Hide site to the detriment of occupiers of adjoining properties, particularly those in White Lady Road. The Committee heard –

- (i) the Radford Hide project had been initiated following the development of Badgers Wood when the old store building had passed to the Council to be used for environmental projects;
- (ii) that improvements to the site had included upgrading the building, formation of new footpaths, clearing out and enhancing ponds and building an outdoor classroom/seating area and link footpaths with bridges to Radford Woods;
- (iii) it was the latter of those improvements (seating area and footpath) which had caused a number of complaints about anti-social behaviour in and on the seating area;
- (iv) that over 200 leaflets had been distributed to residents in the area seeking their views and, as an interim measure, the path was being closed at night and reopened the next morning. As a result, there had been a significant drop in complaints, however, the closing and opening of the paths on a daily basis could not continue due to the costs involved;

- (v) from residents of White Lady Road who expressed concern at the lack of consultation prior to installation of the decking;
- (vi) that a lot of good work had gone into redeveloping the site which was now a well-used community facility, particularly by schools as an excellent teaching facility.

Discussion took place around the cause of anti-social behaviour, which it was generally believed resulted from boredom and having nowhere to go. Inspector Fitzpatrick advised that a number of Youth Shelters had been erected in Plympton, at a cost of £7,000, in locations which could be easily monitored by the Police, and that these shelters were being well used. He suggested that this may be something that the Area Committee may wish to consider for Plymstock.

Plym Youth Forum

Further to the meeting on 22 June (minute 10 refers), the Committee heard from representatives of the Plym Youth Forum who were in attendance to present the views of young people in the area. The Committee heard that –

- (vii) the Plym Youth Forum was a non-political, non-profit making, young person led voluntary organisation representing all young people between the ages of 13-19 which met every Thursday at 7.00 p.m. at the Morley Community Centre;
- (viii) the Forum had undertaken a survey of young people in the area to establish what it was that they wanted. Out of the 500 questionnaires distributed, over 200 had been returned indicating that young people would like to have the following facilities available to them –
 - Youth shelter
 - Skate ramps
 - Multi-use games area
 - Places for young people to 'hang out'
- (ix) a portable skate ramp was located at the Morley Community Centre on Wednesdays;
- (x) the Forum would be undertaking a further consultation to establish where young people would like the Youth Shelters to be located.

The Chair welcomed the presentation and thanked the representatives from the Plym Youth Forum for their attendance.

Resolved that the –

- (1) gate to Radford Woods continued to be locked at night and opened in the morning as an interim measure, pending the outcome of (2) below;
- (2) results of the Plym Youth Forum's consultation to identify locations for Youth Shelters be reported to the next meeting.

(In accordance with Section 100(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the Chair brought forward the above items of business because of the need to inform and consult with Members).

30. POLICING ISSUES

Inspector Fitzpatrick was in attendance to report on local policing issues. The Committee was advised –

- (i) that the average number of crimes in this area had decreased from 87% to 81% (6%), compared to the same three month period last year;

- (ii) that a further Day of Action had taken place on 14 October involving partner agencies in events such as –
- Street Pastor patrols
 - Visits to local parks and public open spaces by Animal Health and Welfare Officers
 - MOD Marine Unit patrols of local waters
 - Activities for young people at the Morley Centre
 - Visits by the Neighbourhood Team to anti-social behaviour hot-spots
- (iii) PACT meetings would be held as follows –
- Elburton/Dunstone – 7 December at 7.00 p.m. at Church Hall
 - Goosewell – 27 January at 7.00 p.m. at Radford Community Centre
 - Plymstock – 27 January at 7.00 p.m. at William Venton Day Centre
 - Hooe/Turnchapel/Oreston – 27 April at 6.30 p.m. at Hooe Baptist Church
- (iv) a new mobile Police Surgery would be commencing on the first Wednesday of every month operating as follows –
- Elburton Village – 9.00 a.m.
 - Lake Road – 10.00 a.m.
 - Plymstock Broadway Car Park – 2.00 p.m.
 - Goosewell One-Stop Shop – 3.00 p.m.

The Chair took the opportunity to advise that on Wednesday 11 November there would be a 20-minute memorial service at the Burrow Hill monument commencing at 10.45 a.m. Immediately following the service, Members would be available for their ward surgery at Plymstock Library.

In response to questions raised, the Committee heard further that –

- (v) unfortunately no-one had been able to attend the last Hooe/Turnchapel/Oreston PACT meeting due to staff sickness;
- (vi) PCSO Tim Quitterio had now left and had been replaced by Mark Rothwell;
- (vii) it had been very quiet in Plymstock over the Halloween/bonfire period with few incidents reported;
- (viii) the Police did react to 'hot spots' and welcomed information from residents in identifying problem areas. The incidents highlighted at Lower Saltram and the Broadway Community Centre were noted and would be given extra attention;
- (ix) concerns regarding availability of PACT minutes and publication of priorities would be taken back;
- (x) it was acknowledged that the vehicle being used to trial the new mobile police surgery was not best suited for the purpose. However, it was still early days and feedback on its operation would be fed back and used to determine whether or not it would continue.

The Chair thanked Inspector Fitzpatrick for his report and attendance.

31. **COUNCIL PRIORITIES REVIEW** (Pages 1 - 4)

The Head of Performance Policy and Partnerships gave an interactive presentation on the review of Council priorities. Members of the Committee were informed that –

- (i) the purpose of the presentation was to help establish the priorities for the Council over the forthcoming financial year;
- (ii) at present Plymouth City Council had over 300 different services and that most of these operated well, however, there are other areas that need some direction to improve their service. These areas were called Corporate Improvement Priorities (CIP's) and were contained within the Corporate Plan;
- (iii) the CIP's were changed on an annual basis and were formed from feedback gathered throughout the year via surveys, customer comments and complaints and information gathering in forums such as Area Committees.

Members of the Committee and members of the public were then asked to indicate, via an interactive voting system, if the Council should do more, keep it up or do the less within nine key areas identified by the Council which it believes are most relevant to customers. The results are attached as an annex to these minutes.

The Head of Performance Policy and Partnerships was thanked for his attendance.

32. **ORESTON ROAD FOOTWAY IMPROVEMENTS**

The Committee received a report from the Director for Development and Regeneration proposing footway improvements along Oreston Road. The report advised that –

- (i) the proposed footway improvement scheme comprised –
 - Waiting restrictions on Oreston Road
 - School entrance clearway outside Oreston Community Primary School
 - 20mph speed limit on Oreston Road and on the approach to Oreston Road from Thornyville Villas and Thornyville Terrace
- (ii) the formal Traffic Regulation Order for the scheme was advertised between 17 September and 7 October, 2009;
- (iii) Ward Councillors and residents living within the vicinity had been notified of the proposals in writing.

In response to questions raised, the Committee heard further that –

- (iv) there were no plans to introduce a one-way system;
- (v) traffic calming measures along Plymstock Road were a requirement of the Wain Homes development and did not form part of the Oreston proposals;
- (vi) with regard to the build-out and priority give way proposals at Plymstock Road/Oreston Road, a 12m space would be available for parking/delivery purposes.

Resolved that the -

- (1) comments received as part of the Traffic Regulation Order advert be noted;
- (2) Cabinet Member for Transport be recommended to implement the following orders (as shown on the plans attached to the report) –
 - (a) double yellow lines along Oreston Road and Thornyville Terrace;
 - (b) 20mph speed limit along Oreston Road outside the school;
 - (c) proposed school entrance clearway outside Oreston Community Primary School;

- (3) Cabinet Member for Transport, Ward Councillor Michael Leaves and a representative from Amey meet to give further consideration to the priority give way (and build-out) proposals at Plymstock Road/Oreston Road.

33. HOWARD ROAD DISSENTERS CEMETERY

The Assistant Director Community Services (Environmental Services) submitted a report setting out a proposal to establish a small arboretum at the site of the Dissenters burial ground located at the corner of Pleasure Hill Close and Howard Road, Plymstock.

After considering the report and hearing representations against the proposal, it was resolved that the site should remain as it was, undisturbed.

34. LOCAL ENVIRONMENT FUND

The Director for Development and Regeneration submitted a report on the Local Environment Fund.

Resolved that firm proposals for expenditure be brought back for consideration at the next meeting.

35. STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING - RENUMBERING OF 111A CHURCH ROAD

The Director of Corporate Support submitted a report on the Renumbering of 111A Church Road, Plymstock.

Resolved that the report be noted.

36. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Resolved that the following issues be included on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting –

- Radford Hide / Plym Youth Forum
- Local Environment Fund
- Leisure Facilities

37. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

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

- (i) surveillance techniques;
- (ii) disabled access at Plymstock Library;
- (iii) responses to questions raised at the last meeting.

Responses were provided as follows –

- (a) with regard to (i) above, the Council did use surveillance techniques on special targets identified as undertaking criminal activity, e.g. Trading Standards in monitoring the sale of fake goods and Benefits in monitoring benefit fraud. The Council was able to do this by using certain legislation, however, in doing so it was very tightly controlled and monitored;
- (b) with regard to (ii) above, the library was fully DDA compliant;
- (c) with regard to (iii) above –
 - fencing had now been erected around the cliff-top by Mount Batten Tower
 - Councillor Leaves was still waiting for a response from Amey with regard to the installation of the slow sign at the junction of St. John's Road and Church Hill Road

- the committee was aware that the access road to the public slipway at Mount Batten was not owned by the Council. However, in order to establish ownership enquiries would need to be made of the Land Registry. As this had cost implications the Committee had not agreed to pursue the matter further
- Councillor Leaves had investigated the complaints of overnight parking and found this to not be a problem
- Councillor Leaves had investigated the concerns raised about the public toilets closing at 4.30 p.m. during the summer season and advised that, unfortunately, due to lack of resources within the Council, the toilets could not be open 24-hours a day and had to be locked on a rota basis. Sometimes they were open until later depending in which order the City's public toilets were locked that particular day/week

38. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held at 6.00 p.m. on Monday 18 January, 2010, at Hooe Baptist Church, 29 Hooe Road, Plymouth, PL9 9QS.

39. EXEMPT BUSINESS

There were no items of exempt business.

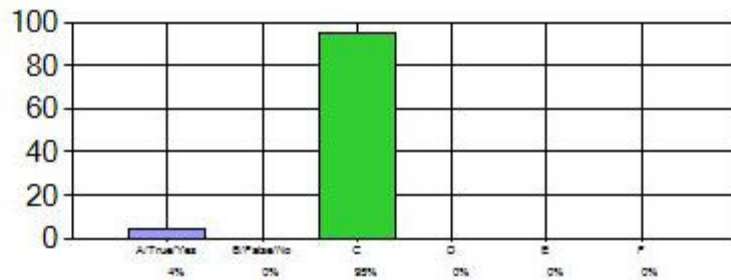
Class Information

Class: Elburton
Teacher: Tracy Hewett
Activity: Area Committees
Date: 10/11/2009
Class Avg: 25%
Class Size: 40

Question 1 - Multiple Choice

Where is Plymouth situated within the country?

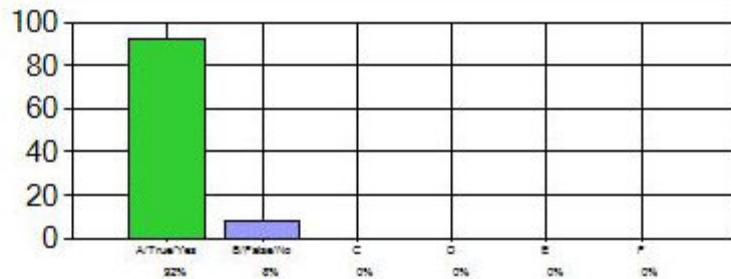
- A) South East
- B) North East
- C) South West
- D) North West



Question 2 - Multiple Choice

Surfing is a sport that takes place where?

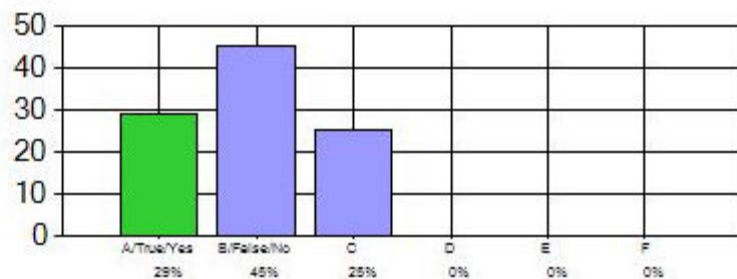
- A) In the sea
- B) In a swimming pool
- C) In your living room
- D) In a school hall



Question 3 - Multiple Choice

"I want you to provide better and more affordable housing."

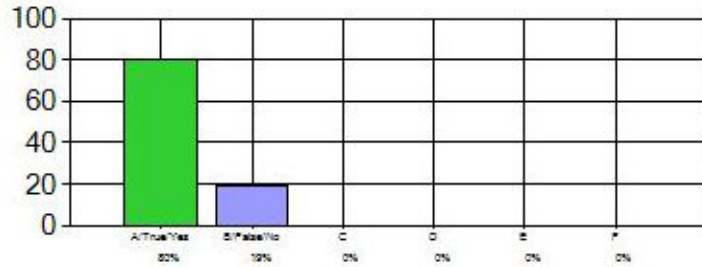
- A) Do more
- B) Keep it up
- C) Do less



Question 4 - Multiple Choice

"I want you to provide more culture and leisure activities."

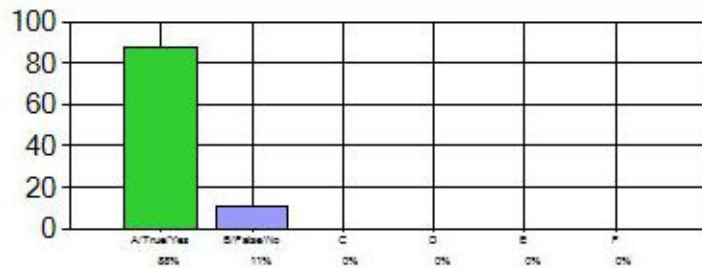
- A) Do more
- B) Keep it up
- C) Do less



Question 5 - Multiple Choice

"I want you to tackle anti-social behaviour."

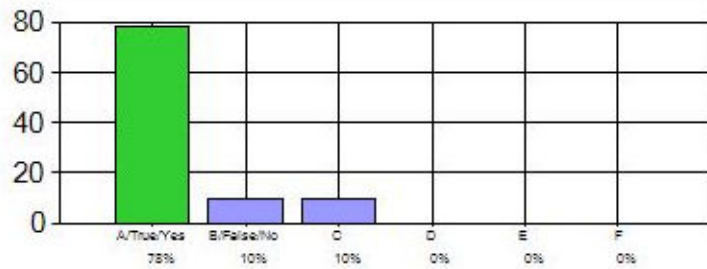
- A) Do more
- B) Keep it up
- C) Do less



Question 6 - Multiple Choice

"I want you to keep me informed and involved in local issues."

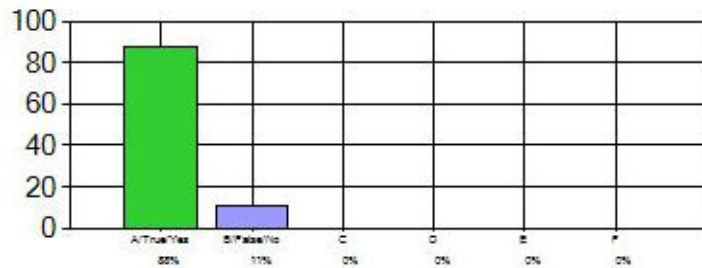
- A) Do more
- B) Keep it up
- C) Do less



Question 7 - Multiple Choice

"I want you to work on providing better value for money."

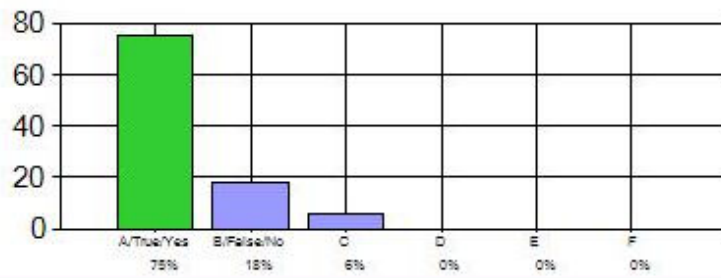
- A) Do more
- B) Keep it up
- C) Do less



Question 8 - Multiple Choice

"I want you to help older people to live independently."

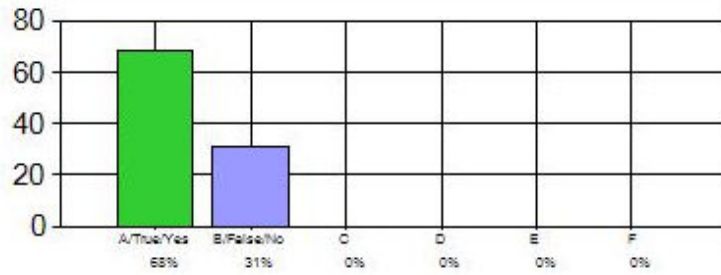
- A) Do more
- B) Keep it up
- C) Do less



Question 9 - Multiple Choice

"We want cleaner streets."

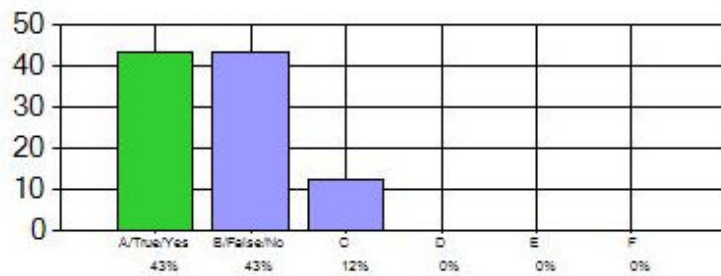
- A) Do more
- B) Keep it up
- C) Do less



Question 10 - Multiple Choice

"I want you to raise achievement in our schools and colleges."

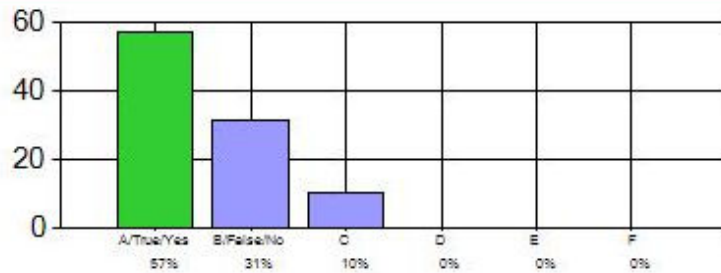
- A) Do more
- B) Keep it up
- C) Do less



Question 11 - Multiple Choice

"I want you to make it easier to get around Plymouth."

- A) Do more
- B) Keep it up
- C) Do less



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