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Compton and Peverell Area Committee

Monday 8 June 2009

PRESENT:

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

Co-opted Representatives: Commander P Searle, Mr R Wheeler and Mrs M White

Apologies for absence: Councillor Ball and Mr H R M Clifton

The meeting started at 7.00 pm and finished at 8.30 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.

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Resolved that –

- (1) Councillor Dr Mahony be appointed as Chair for the current municipal year;
- (2) Councillor Stark be appointed as Vice-Chair for the current municipal year.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. CO-OPTED REPRESENTATIVES

The Chair informed Members that Mr Wheeler's four year term, as a co-opted representative on the Committee, was due to expire on 21 July 2009.

Resolved that –

- (1) Mr Wheeler (Emmanuel Church) be re-appointed as a non-voting co-opted representative on the Committee for a four year period, subject to annual review;
- (2) the following non-voting co-opted representatives be confirmed for this municipal year
 - Commander Peter Searle
 - Mr HRM Clifton (Friends of Hartley Park)
 - Mrs M White (Mutley Community Association)

4. MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2009 are approved as a correct record subject to the removal of the apostrophe in the word 'Committees' as written in the title of minute 51.

5. **CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

6. **POLICING ISSUES AND PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER (PACT) PRIORITIES**

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 –

- (i) Anti-Social Behaviour in Central Park:
 - underage drinking and assaults which had been occasionally serious had been a major cause for concern
 - underage drinking was being tackled by the police walking the area every weekend and confiscating any alcohol found as well as taking names and addresses of offenders and paying visits to their parents
 - police were working in partnership with Plymouth City Council (PCC) to deal with the issue of assaults by drawing up Anti-Social Behaviour Contracts (ASBC's). The ASBC is an 'acceptable behaviour' contract which lasts for six months and is reviewed on a monthly basis
 - so far, three individuals had been signed up to the ASBC's and the police believed that these were a good intervention for dealing with this issue as, firstly, it was reassuring to the public that measures were being taken, and secondly, there had been a decrease in the number of assaults reported since the introduction of these ASBC's.

- (ii) One-way system at Langhill Road:
 - there had recently been a number of complaints about motorists driving the opposite way to the one-way system at Langhill Road
 - the police were enforcing the one way system by issuing a fixed penalty notice of £60 and three points on the licence of any motorist caught disobeying the one-way system in Langhill Road

- (iii) parking outside Hyde Park Primary School:
 - there had been concern in this area for the safety of children crossing the road where vehicles were parked on the zigzag lines outside of the school
 - police were working with PCC to ensure that any motorists caught parking their vehicles on the zigzag lines would be asked to move on

The PCSO also reported that –

- (iv) the role of PCSO's was having a positive impact at Central Park:
- (v) there had been a decrease in the number of burglaries reported for the last three months:

- (vi) convictions for drug use in Peverell had increased by 200% over the last three months. However, this was seen by the police as a positive statistic as it showed the police were taking the issue of drug use seriously and that action was being taken:

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

The Police representative informed the Committee of the latest PACT priorities for Compton, Hartley and Mannamead and explained that PACT meetings were now held once a year and that priorities were now being collated from local residents being interviewed through street surveys, random house calling or over the telephone.

Compton priorities –

- (vii) cars for sale on Egguckland Road:
- the police were unsure as to who the perpetrator selling the cars was
 - the issue had been sent to the Trading Standards Department as it fell under their remit
- (viii) double yellow lines and parking along Priory Road and Chapel Way:
- this issue fell under the remit of PCC who were enforcing it by issuing parking tickets to offenders
- (ix) Anti-Social Behaviour in Revel Road:
- this issue was being dealt with by the police walking the streets and asking youths to move on
 - if alcohol was found on any youths it was being confiscated
 - the use of ASBC's had been looked into for this area and if they were required they would be issued

Hartley and Mannamead Priorities –

- (x) criminal damage and graffiti in the old Preparatory School in Hartley Road:
- police were engaged with the owner of the old Preparatory School to ensure that security was being reinforced as the site posed a danger to trespassers
 - police were also regularly patrolling the area to ensure that children were not entering the site as criminal damage had become a major issue
 - a number of youths had been arrested following criminal damage to the site; restorative justice and personal apologies to the owner, were being sought
- (xi) road junction at Mannamead Road and Torr Lane:
- a speed monitoring system was being installed at this junction by PCC, and the area was to be monitored over the next few months

- PCC had advised that this junction was not a traffic issue at present as it does not have an accident cluster
- (xii) lack of youth facilities:
- this had been an ongoing issue and the police were currently engaged with the youth service to improve the facilities in the area

Other issues raised during the consultation on priorities were –

- (xiii) drinking alcohol on the street in Mutley Plain was illegal and this issue was being enforced by police through pouring drinks away if they saw them:
- (xiv) Vapron Road and Thornhill Road junctions on to Mannamead Road were not safe due to cars parking close to the corners of the junction causing a hazardous obstacle:
- (xv) youths were being anti-social in Efford Crescent and were gathering by the co-op:
- (xvi) there had been a lot of speeding through Priory Road and the location of the speed camera was placed in such a way that it was not catching any motorists speeding:

The Committee thanked the Police representatives for their attendance.

Resolved that, with regard to (vii) above –

- (1) a letter will be sent (accompanied by this minute) to the Trading Standards Department asking them to take firm action against the individual who has created a public nuisance by selling cars on the highway;
- (2) a request will be made to the Parking Department asking for a time limited parking rule to be implemented on Egguckland Road.

7. YOUTH SERVICES UPDATE

A Team Leader from the Youth Service gave an update on recent activities within the Compton and Peverell wards.

Members of the Committee were informed that –

- (i) The Central and North East Action Plan 09/10 was submitted was a summary. Anyone who wanted the full version could contact Cathy Tasker:
- (ii) the youth service was currently providing activities on a Tuesday evening in the Compton Methodist Church, which included –
 - DJ Workshops
 - Break-dancing
 - Tree-surfing
- (iii) the Church had applied for a Youth Opportunity Fund (YOF) to redecorate and provide improved services through the Duke of Edinburgh open award group.

- (iv) the Peverell Café, working in partnership with Devonport High School for Girls was discussing the possibility of increasing the operation of the café from one night to two nights a week through a Positive Activities for Young People bid via the Youth Service:
- (v) the skate-park at Central Park was to be demolished to make way for the Life Centre's car park and young people had been meeting with the Project Management Team to discuss ideas for a new skate-park. Ward Councillors raised concern about their lack of involvement in these arrangements:
- (vi) the youth service offered a sexual health, advice and information drop-in centre every other Friday night from the Mayflower Centre. This has received a competency standard from the Teenage Pregnancy Unit. Every Monday evening at the Central Park swimming pool a Youth Forum met to ensure the collective voice of young people in the area informed development of services to and affecting young people:
- (vii) a YOF bid had been applied for by the Mayflower Centre to be spent on improvements to their services.

Resolved that –

- (1) With regard to (v) above, the Democratic Support Officer would report back to the Peverell ward Councillors about the proposal to demolish the skate-park, and ask the relevant officer to contact Councillor Dr Mahony by telephone.

8. HOUSING COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT FUND

The Committee agreed that due to the limited housing stock within the Compton ward the monies allocated from the Housing Community Fund would be spent in the Peverell ward.

Resolved that Councillor Dr Mahony will discuss with Nick Jones, Principal Parks Manager the possibility of spending the Housing Community Environment Fund on improvements to the housing estates at Westeria Terrace and Segrave Road.

9. LOCAL ENVIRONMENT FUND

The Committee was informed that the budget for the Local Environment Fund (LEF) for 2009/10 was £10,524 and that this would need to be committed by the end of the financial year.

Suggestions on spending the LEF were –

- (i) Mr Clifton had submitted a note which was read out by Councillor Fry and had suggestions on spending the LEF for improvements to Hartley Park, the improvements included –
 - inviting PCSO's and the local community to help in bulb and wild flower planting
 - children's play area equipment
 - Sporting facilities
- (ii) replanting trees outside of the post office on Efford Crescent:
- (iii) improvements to Mutley Park and Pounds Park:

Resolved that –

- (1) Councillor Dr Mahony would ask Nick Jones, Principal Parks Manager to provide quotes on improvements to both Mutley Park and Pounds Park, which would then be discussed amongst the other Peverell ward Councillors and reported at a future meeting;
- (2) the Compton ward Councillors would discuss spending plans and report back to a future meeting;
- (3) this issue would be included as an agenda item at a future meeting.

10. **ON STREET PARKING CHARGES**

The Committee discussed the report submitted about 'on street parking charges'. It was resolved that –

- (1) the Democratic Support Officer will ascertain with the Parking Department as to whether motorists with disabilities have to pay for parking at 'Pay on Exit' car parks;
- (2) the Democratic Support Officer will send a letter on behalf of the Committee to Councillor Wogens, Cabinet Member for Transport informing him that Members of the Compton and Peverell Area Committee believe that car parks should offer lower hourly charges for longer periods in evenings and weekends as this would generate more revenue for the city and also encourage more people into the City Centre';
- (3) the report be noted:

11. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

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

Resolved that the Committee receives reports on –

- (1) the proposed traffic arrangements and infrastructure of Outland Road after the opening of the Life Centre;
- (2) why the recommendation to ban right hand turns on Outland Road at the Compton and Peverell Area Committee on Monday 17 November 2008 has yet to be implemented;
- (3) proposals for the future of Pounds House;

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

The Committee considered questions by members of the public. In response to questions raised it was reported that –

- (i) speeding on Egguckland Road, outside of the Mannamead Surgery, was not a significant danger as the area did not have many accidents and there was a good and safe place to cross this road at Henders Corner;

- (ii) roads and pavements were subsiding in the Higher Compton area. Also there had been a large number of potholes in this area.

Resolved that –

- (1) with regard to (ii) above, Councillor Stark will take up this matter and obtain a response for the member of public.

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Resolved that the next meeting of the Committee will be held at 7pm on Monday 28 September 2009, at a venue to be confirmed.

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