

ST. HELIER, THE WRYTHE AND WANDLE VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE

3 October 2019 at 7.00 pm

MEMBERS: Councillor Annie Moral (Chair), Councillor Ben Andrew (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Vincent Galligan, Martin Gonzalez, Nali Patel, Colin Stears, Sam Weatherlake and Hanna Zuchowska

ABSENT Councillor(s) Jean Crossby

12. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair, Councillor Annie Moral, welcomed those present.

13. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jean Crossby.

14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

15. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 July be agreed as an accurate record with an amendment to paragraph four of the item Public questions to read, 'Members reported they understood that no one had been hurt and that the matter was being followed up by the fire brigade.'

16. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Residents at the meeting were invited to ask questions, and those who had submitted and received a response to a question outside of the meeting (published as an addendum to the agenda) were invited to ask a supplementary question.

Mr Behan local resident explained as a supplementary question that he had discussed with Highways Officers that Go Bus was using areas signed as 'no buses', and that there is work to review this.

As a supplementary to his second question submitted Mr Behan, local resident explained the issues he had experienced when using the report it system.

A local resident asked about green bags of rubbish that had been left by beat sweepers and not collected, for example bags had been left in Middleton Road for five days, it was suggested that these bags attracted flytipping. The Head of Parks and Open Spaces

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explained that beat sweepers leave the bags which should be collected within 24 hours and that the Neighbourhood Services team are monitoring the collection of bags.

A local resident asked about the recent fire at the Viridor incinerator, being reported as a small fire although it had taken nine hours for the fire brigade to get the fire under control. Members explained the fire had been in the sorting area not the incinerator, and acknowledged a fire at the site did raise concerns. They also explained that some quotes provided by the resident about incinerators related to older style incinerators than the ERF in Beddington.

A local resident asked about the reconfiguration plans for the Epsom and St Helier hospitals and the removal of acute services from one or both of the sites. Members explained there are no plans to remove either hospital.

17. GO SUTTON BUS

Councillor Hanna Zuchowska joined the meeting at 19.31pm.

Robert Varney, TfL provided the presentation.

Robert Varney confirmed the policy that TfL buses should not have engines running at terminus or when parked.

Residents reported they have experienced drivers following sat navs, and the route taken had not been the quickest route. Robert Varney explained the Go Bus service required capacity to pick up passengers on route. Drivers work from the Sutton bus garage and therefore did have local knowledge, but that they are advised to follow the sat navs.

In discussion about the area covered Robert Varney explained an aim of the scheme was to encourage people out of their cars, and the service did not include areas where there was already good public transport coverage. He explained there was a range of data being collected about the scheme and usage.

The phone number which can be used to book a Go Bus is charged at local rate.

The scheme is a 12 month trial and at present there is no scope to extend the trial.

Robert Varney explained that there had been some increase in use of the Go Bus when the price had been reduced in August, however this was also the time when the coverage area was enlarged, price will be a part of the analysis of the service.

18. PARKING STRATEGY UPDATE

Mark Johnson, Parking Programme Manager and Ian Price, Team Leader Strategy & Commissioning provided a verbal update he mentioned that:

Responses provided by residents during all of the stages of the consultation process have been used to progress the parking strategy.

The Parking Programme Manager then referred to the locations of the anticipated PPAs and the numbers of residents affected by schemes in each area, he mentioned that details of this information is available on the Council's website.

In response to questions from residents the Parking Programme Manager explained:

Traffic Management Orders (TMOs) normally only request objections. Members explained there have been changes to schemes following stage 2. It has been recognised that there are problems in parking in the area, and some of these issues related to parking by users and staff from St Helier hospital. Parking schemes can not be free, it is a requirement that any scheme is self funding, charges must cover costs such as enforcement. Pricing arrangements for schemes on private land or areas such as housing estates are managed differently to schemes on the public highways, therefore pricing charges are different.

Information about the display of permits on motorcycles can be found on the Council's website in the frequently asked questions.

The Team Leader Strategy & Commissioning reported that if the fire brigade raised concerns about access which suggested a real and repeated risk this would have to be investigated further. Repeat visits would be made by both the fire brigade and Highways Officers to confirm issues.

19. NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES OVERVIEW

Mark Dalzell, Head of Parks and Open Spaces provided the presentation.

Residents raised concerns about the report it system, the Head of Parks and Open Spaces asked that residents continue to make use of the system as this allows officers an overview of all issues in the area.

Concerns were raised about known hotspots where there had been regular fly tipping, such as Assembly Walk, residents and Officers acknowledged this had been an issue over a long period of time.

The Head of Parks and Open Spaces outlined the system for grading the streets and that there is a rota in place for the street sweeping.

The Head of Parks and Open Spaces informed attendees that the boroughs parks had received a silver gilt award and that Beddington Park had received a gold award, he asked that residents comment on the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy which is open for consultation at present.

20. APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

RESOLVED:

Gill Cluckie be appointed as a community representative of the local committee on behalf of Horizon Church.

Claire Smith, Locality Lead Officer explained the role of Community representatives.

21. LOCAL COMMITTEE REVIEW

Claire Smith, The Locality Lead Officer, provided a verbal update on the feedback from residents to date and explained that a comprehensive consultation has been undertaken. Feedback received from residents which suggested improvement to the current format of meetings and better methods of engagement through Local Committees would be used when considering any changes.

The suggested new format of Local Committee meetings would allow a more informal and engaging format so more residents became involved in meetings, and a wider range of topics and issues to be discussed these would be focussed on local needs, also feedback would be sought at meetings from residents for topics for future consideration.

Resident feedback suggested a preference for a varied timing of meetings to include both daytime and evening, this would allow a broader range of the community to attend such as those with careers and childcare responsibilities or older people who do not like to go out when it is dark.

In addition the Locality Lead Officer outlined a suggestion of online engagement with residents based on local needs/priorities which could provide opportunity for a more diverse and wider audience to receive information, this would take the committee to residents rather than them having to attend a meeting.

The Lead Locality Officer then summarised the proposed ideas and options for the new style Local Committee meetings as follows:

A half day community engagement event, which would provide relevant information and offer residents the opportunity to propose projects which would have a positive impact on their local area.

Two Local Committee meetings each year could be themed around local priorities/issues to meet the needs of the local community.

An online engagement based offer be provided as suggested by feedback from residents.

Attendees discussed the proposed ideas, they were provided with feedback sheets which outlined the new style proposals. The comments provided on the feedback sheets were collected by the Locality Lead Officer for analysis.

The Chair and the Locality Lead Officer explained that the date and format of the next meeting was to be confirmed, and that the agreed date would be advertised on the Council's website and added to these minutes.

A local resident expressed concern that an engagement style event would not include the formal and scrutiny style function which was part of the current formal style of meeting. The resident was reassured by Members that scrutiny would remain a key purpose of all Local Committee meetings.

Councillor Martin Gonzalez left the meeting at 21.05pm

22. PUBLIC REALM PROJECTS AND NEIGHBOURHOOD GRANTS

Claire Smith, Locality Lead Officer provided the presentation.

A local resident expressed concern that the process of applying for a Neighbourhood Grant or Public Realm funding is complicated. The Locality Lead Officer reported there is information on the Council’s website which explained the process which had been updated recently, she could also be contacted if residents needed more information about the process.

23. RECOMMENDATIONS TRACKER

Claire Smith, Locality Lead Officer provided the presentation.

There were no further questions.

Confirmation received: the next meeting of the St Helier, The Wrythe and Wandle Valley Local Committee will be an Engagement Day on 28 November 2019, this will be held at The Circle Library from 2pm - 7pm.

24. ANY URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

The meeting ended at 9.18 pm

Chair:

Date: