

NORTH LUTON AREA BOARD**20TH JUNE 2016 at 8.00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Councillor Garrett (Chair), Councillors Campbell, R. J. Davis, Green, Lewis, Pedersen, Rowlands, Worlding and Young

CO-OPTED MEMBERS: Dr Nina Pearson (Substitute for Dr Anthea Robinson) and Liz Cox - Luton CCG

14. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (REF: 1)

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received on behalf of Cllr Petts, Dr Anthea Robinson, Luton CCG, Inspector Bernadette White and Sgt Louise Bates - Bedfordshire Police.

15. MINUTES (REFS: 2.1 and 2.2)

Resolved: That the minutes of the meetings held on 3rd March 2016 and 17th May 2016 be taken as read, approved as correct records and signed by the Chair.

16. FEEDBACK FROM WARD FORUMS (REF: 4)

Feedback on top three key issues discussed at each ward were noted by Members as follows:

Icknield Ward

- Planning permission issue with 392 Old Bedford Road not yet resolved;
- Weed spraying Cromer Way not done so far this year;
- Parking on double yellow lines both sides of Birdsfoot Lane near the school;
- HGVs still using Grasmere Road, contrary to restrictions.

Northwell Ward

- Speeding and traffic problems;
- Parking problem in the area of the building works;
- Lack of enforcement re parking on double yellow lines.

Bramingham Ward

- The Flood issue dealt with at the Ward Forum.

Limbury Ward

- No grass cutting and state of the parks. Long grass near play area hiding dog excrements;
- Bad parking on corners a growing problem in certain areas;
- Progress re implementation of the 20 mph restrictions;

- Money only available for one side of fencing in children play area. Residents Group need to raise funding.

Sundon Park Ward

- Problems with people parking outside Sundon Park shops all day. Some cars were for sale and not moved on. Lack of enforcement;
- Nuisance motor cycle - written update provided by the Police. Some complaints from residents apparently not acted on by Police;
- Leagrave Park - Residents concerned with lack maintenance, due to budget cuts.

Resolved: That the feedback on the top key issues from the Ward Forums be noted.

17. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (REF: 5)

A member of the public suggested the enforcement of motorists going through red lights and parking on bus laybys in Church Street, as a means of generating income for the Council.

Christine Davy, the Traffic Safety and Regulations Manager advised that fines generated by Police went to the Treasury and did not come to the Council, but council enforcement fines did. She added that the Council did enforce, but that she would pass on the suggestion.

A senior Civil Enforcement Officer present advised that there should be designated signs displayed on bus laybys to enable enforcement.

The Chair, Cllr Garrett requested that Christine Davy looked into the matter and report back at the next meeting of the Board.

Mr Anthony Gamble handed in a petition on behalf of residents of Marsh Farm, objecting to the re-designation of part of green land at Whitehorse Vale, to enable houses to be built. He requested that an evening meeting be convened to discuss the issues, which was agreed.

Cllr Davis moved that an extraordinary meeting of the North Luton Area Board be convened in good time to enable the outcome to be fed into the consultation before its closure on 5th August 2016.

Resolved: That Christine Davy look into signing of bus stop clearway outside the Church, Church Street and report back at the next meeting of the Board;

(ii) That an evening extraordinary meeting of the Luton North Area Board be convened before 5th August 2016 in Marsh Farm to consider the consultation on the proposal for the re-designation of land at Whitehorse Vale for housing. (Note: Now arranged for 6.30 pm on 3rd August 2016, at Futures House, The Moakes, Marsh Farm, Luton)

18. PETITIONS (REF: 6)

6.1 ICKNIELD WAY - THAMES WATER WORKS

Barry Timms, the Parks and Cemeteries Manager, presented the report, relating to the petition (Ref: 6.1). He introduced and thanked officers from Thames Water Works for attending the meeting.

Barry Timms advised that the area concerned would be 80% grass and 20% wild flowers on the banks, which would be planted in September/ October, hence a decision was needed. He suggested that Option1 from the report be agreed for a 12 months period and if residents were still concerned, then the matter could be reviewed.

The Chair advised that the matter had already been discussed at length at the ward forum and there was no need to discuss again.

Cllr Young said it was a matter for residents whether to have all plain grass or all wild flowers. He favoured trial for a year, as recommended and if not working to reinstate 100% grass.

Barry Timms said it was bare grounds at the moment, but turf and wild flowers would be put in if agreed

The Thames Water Works Officer advised that the substantial urban drainage scheme (SUDS) was not yet completed, but would be by August/ September 2016. He added that the temporary scheme put in had increased the profile, but the scheme would be completed within 2 months and turf put in.

Responding to a comment from a resident about the new SUDS increasing the flood risks in Marsom Grove, the Thames Water Works Officer added that from photos of the flood, it was clear water from Marsom Grove, not from Icknield Way. He reiterated that the temporary measure was put in because people requested it, but that the final scheme would be put in place.

The Chair moved that Option1 in the report be approved, which was unanimously supported

Resolved: (i) That Option 1 in the Parks and Cemeteries Manager's report (Ref: 6.1) be approved, with the outcome reviewed in 12 months' time and a decision taken on a permanent solution, as appropriate;

(ii) That the Board's thanks to Officers of Thames Water Works for attending the meeting and answering Members' and residents' questions be recorded.

6.2 GOOSEBERRY HILL, LUTON

The Traffic Safety and Regulations Manager informed the Board that the petition about the increase in traffic using the un-adopted part of Gooseberry Hill as a

through route was still the subject of consultation with residents, which had been already been discussed at the Ward Forum.

It was agreed, therefore, that the outcome of the consultation and the proposal for addressing the issue should be reported to the next meeting of the Board.

Resolved: That the outcome of the consultation with residents and the proposal for dealing with traffic using the un-adopted part of Gooseberry Hill as a through route be reported to the next meeting of the Board.

6.3 REPTON CLOSE, LUTON

Christine Davy, the Traffic Safety and Regulations Manager reported on the petition from residents of Repton Close requesting a roundabout to be installed at the junction of Repton Close and Bramingham Road, due to the difficulty turning in and out of the cul-de-sac.

She informed the Board that a survey had revealed insufficient turning movements to justify a roundabout or traffic lights at the junction, as set out in the report. She added that therefore, neither a roundabout nor traffic signals were recommended.

Richard Gates, the lead petitioner addressed the Board in support of the petition, highlighting the extreme difficulties and danger residents faced trying to enter and exit Repton Close, due to the increased volume and speed of traffic along Bramingham Road.

Cllr Davis was personally aware and had seen vehicles travelling at 60-70 miles per hour along Bramingham Road at 7.00 am. He supported the petition and believed a mini roundabout would be a cost effective way of dealing with the problem.

Members were made aware of one fatal and 8 slight injury collisions in the area. It was also suggested that a roundabout would slow traffic down along Bramingham Road, which would also be of benefit to vehicles entering and exiting Watermead Road and Weltmore Road.

Members discussed the issues and unanimously agreed that a case for a mini roundabout was made, as requested. Christine Davy was requested to take the matter back for further consideration and action and report back to the next Board meeting.

Resolved: (i) That the petition requesting a roundabout to be installed at the junction of Repton Close and Bramingham Road be approved;

(ii) That the Traffic Safety and Regulations Manager be requested to further consider and act on the petition in the light of the Board's decision and report back to the next Board meeting.

(Note: The lead petitioner was present and aware of the Board's decision)

19. LUTON CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP – UPDATE (REF: 7)

Dr Nina Pearson presented the Luton CCG update, as set out in the Health and Wellbeing page of the report within Item (Ref: 8). She drew the Board's attention to the following points:

Luton Urgent and Emergency Care Strategy

- The joint Luton and Beds CCGs' re-procurement of the 111 and GP out of hours. Patients would be able to book an appointment with their GP directly from the 111 call, if the need to do so was identified. Implementation would take time and start from April 2017;

Alternative Provider Medical Services GP contracts

- Consultation on the four GP contracts had ended. Residents were thanked for their responses, which were being collated and analysed and recommendations would be submitted to NHS England. Patients affected would be informed of the decisions made, which Luton CCG could not influence.

Luton CCG Chief Officer role

- The retirement of Carol Hill, the CCG's Chief officer and the appointment of Colin Thompson as Interim Chief Officer.

Responding to Members' and public questions/comments, Dr Pearson provided further information as follows:

- Some proposals in the Estates Strategy were not yet in the public domain. Five areas were included, including Sundon Park. The CCG was working with Luton Borough Council on how to utilise buildings in the five areas to improve facilities.
- The consultation of the proposals for the 4 GP contracts had closed and the CCG was waiting for output from NHS England. Good quality and access to primary care expected, as the process had worked well elsewhere;
- In Luton some GP Practices were good, some not so good. There was a commitment to deliver good primary care;
- Individual cases could not be commented on and should be taken up directly with the GP, but it should be clear where a patient was registered;
- GP Practices should be large enough to cater for the needs of patients. Some smaller Practices, which could not meet needs would have to group together and look different;
- The CCG would push for NHS England's decisions and actions, but exact time line not known;

- A 'Walk-in' arrangement could be one option, as could ringing the GP, who would then call back and assess on the phone. Practices would need to share good practice and learn from each other;
- There was a passion to deliver by putting extra capacity in the system to sustain services and get on top of demands;
- With two GP practices in at the Moakes in Marsh farm, patients should be able to register, a matter she would look into and address, as appropriate;
- Good quality primary care would include use of multi-disciplinary teams, which smaller practices could not sustain. Larger units would provide continuity and deliver excellent care.
- On the idea of the family doctor, she said the concept would not be taken away, as continuity of care was vital.

Resolved: (i) That the Luton CCG update be noted;

(ii) That Luton CCG be requested to provide the Board with an update on the decision of NHS England in relation to the Alternative Provider Medical Services GP contracts consultation;

(iii) That the Board's thanks to Dr Nina Pearson for attending the meeting, providing the update and answering questions be recorded.

20. YOU SAID, WE'RE DOING – NEIGHBOURHOOD GOVERNANCE PROGRESS REPORT (REF: 8)

The Strategic Community Services Manager presented the 'You Said, We're Doing' Neighbourhood Governance progress report (Ref: 8), which had been tabled for Members and widely distributed to attendees.

She drew attention to and promoted events taking place, including and the Luton Junior Euro football championship at Lea Manor on Tuesday, 21st June and Luton's 'Big Iftar' on Friday 24th June 2016.

Resolved: That the 'You Said, We're Doing Neighbourhood Governance Progress Report be noted;

21. ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING (REF: 9)

Resolved: That items agreed at this meeting as set out below, and any other future items identified be included in the work programme for future meeting of the Board.

- The Traffic Safety and Regulations Manager to report back on the issue of enforcement of parking on bus laybys;

- Luton CCG to provide an update on the decision of NHS England in relation to the Alternative Provider Medical Services GP contracts consultation;
- The Traffic Safety and Regulations Manager to update the Board on the action to be taken to give effect to the Board's decision to approve the petition requesting a roundabout to be installed at the junction of Repton Close and Bramingham Road;
- The Traffic Safety and Regulations Manager to update the Board on the outcome of the consultation with residents and the proposal for dealing with traffic using the un-adopted part of Gooseberry Hill as a through.

The Traffic Safety and Regulations Manager to look into signage of bus stop clearway outside the Church in Church Street and report back at the next meeting of the Board;

- Christine Davey, the Traffic Safety and Regulations Manager advised that Police fines did not come to the Council, but council enforcement fines did. She added that the Council did enforce, but that she would pass on the suggestion.

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING (REF: 10)

The next scheduled meeting: Provisionally set for 13th October 2016, subject to confirmation.

An extraordinary meeting to be held prior to 5th August 2016 to consider the petition objecting to the re-designation of part of green land at Whitehorse Vale for housing. (Note: Now arranged for 6.30 pm on 3rd August 2016, at Futures House, The Moakes, Marsh Farm, Luton)

(Note: The meeting ended at 9.50 pm)