

SOUTH LUTON AREA BOARD

26th April 2016 at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Agbley, Castleman, Farooq (Chair), Hussain, O'Callaghan, D. Taylor, Rafiq and Timoney.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (REF: 1)

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received on behalf of Councillor Ashraf.

2. MINUTES (REFS: 2)

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the South Luton Area Board held on the 11th November 2015 be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. FEEDBACK FROM WARD FORUMS (REF: 4.)

Feedback on key issues discussed at each Ward Forum were as follows:

Dallow Ward: Councillor Rafiq

- Drug dealing
- Fly Tipping
- Pavement Parking

Farley Ward: Councillor Timoney

- Pavement Parking
- Wellhouse Close – Anti-social Behaviour
- Roundabout at Whipperley Ring and Bollingbroke Road
- Lorries parked overnight on Southfield Road

South Ward: Councillor Castleman

- Parking –
- Speeding in Park Street
- Traffic Light sequencing

Resolved: That the above issues be passed to the relevant Council departments to follow up and reported back to the Ward Forums.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (REF: 5)

The following issues were raised by members of the public:

A member of the public enquired what work had been carried out on the impact of the reductions Police and PCSOs on the streets. In response the Police replied that last year PCC consulted the public on a small increase of 1%

in council tax bills to cover extra resources which was not accepted and the Police will continue to police the streets with the resources available.

A member of the public enquired whether Farley Community Centre was earmarked for closure. In response Councillor O'Callaghan replied that the Centre was not included in the proposed changes recently published. But its future would depend on the outcome of the consultation currently taking place with the Bushmead and Raynham Way Community Centres.

A member of the public enquired whether Park Town Community Centre was on the list for closure. The Councillor replied that the Centre was looked at a few years ago and there was uncertainty whether closure would go ahead as it has a fly start programme run from that centre which was important to that area.

Resolved: (i) That the above issue be noted.

5. OPERATION METOR – NUISANCE MOTORCYCLES (PRESENTATION)

The Area Support Officer advised that the Police Officer responsible for presenting this item was unavailable to attend the meeting.

6. PETITION – CRAWLEY ROAD (REF: 6.1)

Ali Ataie, Interim Highway Services Manager presented the report (Ref 6.1) on a petition received from residents at Crawley Road requesting the introduction of parking restrictions.

The petition contained 31 signatures and there were currently about 28 vehicles within the bays in Crawley Road, which were also available for drivers without parking permits to park up to 2 hours during the time zone operation (Monday to Saturday 8am to 6pm).

The council receives a number of requests for parking restrictions and does not have the human or financial resources to deal with these immediately. A request list is maintained and towards the end of each financial year all outstanding requests are reviewed and prioritised with the highest priority included on the next year's programme subject to budget provision.

An item to review the residents parking scheme is on the request list and consultation with residents will start in 2017 on options to remove the time limited parking, increasing the number of bays and introducing pay and display parking.

Resolved: (i) That the Board notes receipt of the petition.

(ii) That consultation with residents programmed for early 2017 be noted.

(iii) That the Service Director, Engineering and Street Services be instructed to advise the petitioners on the outcome.

7. PETITION – PARKING FERNDALE ROAD (REF: 6.2)

Ali Ataie, Interim Highway Services Manager presented the report (Ref 6.2) on a petition containing 44 signatures from residents in Ferndale Road to improve the parking in the street.

The Council receives a number of requests to introduce parking restrictions and does not have the resources or finances to deal with all of them. The request has been added to the request list and towards the end of the financial year all outstanding requests are reviewed and prioritised with the highest priority included in the next year's programme of works subject to budget provision. Ferndale Road is programme for the financial year 2017-18.

Residents within the area bounded by existing controlled parking zones in Ferndale Road, Ashburnham Road and Hatters Way will be consulted in late 2016 early 2017.

Resolved: (i) That the Board notes receipt of the petition.

(ii) That consultation with residents is programmed for late 2016/early 2017.

(iii) That the Service, Director Engineering and Street Services be instructed to advise the petitioners of the outcome.

8. PETITION – PARKING – MEYRICK AVENUE (REF: 6.3)

Ali Ataie, Interim Highway Services Manager presented the report (Ref 6.3) on a petition containing 40 signatures from residents in Meyrick Avenue. The request states residents were unable to access their own driveways which were being blocked by drivers who work or shop in the town centre.

The Council receives a number of requests for the introduction of parking restrictions and does not have the resources or finances to deal with these immediately. The request has been added to the request list which is reviewed at the end of the each financial year. Outstanding requests are prioritised with the highest priority included in the next year's programme of works subject to budget provision. Meyrick Avenue was assessed as a high priority.

A video parking survey had been completed which shows Russell Street, the bottom half of Meyrick Avenue and Milton Road were heavily parked.

A consultation with residents from Meyrick Avenue, Russell Rise, Hillborough Road, Corncastle Road, Anthony Gardents, Tenzing Grove, Hunts Close, Hillary Crescent and St Saviours Crescent commenced at the end of March 2016. The consultation to include the following options:

- Residents parking scheme to limit parking to residents only who had purchased a parking permit;
- Limited waiting (single yellow line) to reduce all day commuter parking;
- Do nothing.

Resolved: (i) That the Board notes receipt of the petition.

(ii) That consultation with residents is programmed for the end of March 2016.

(iii) That the Service Director, Engineering and Street Services be instructed to advise the petitioners of the outcome.

9. PETITON – HILLSBOROUGH SCHOOL (REF: 6.4)

Councillor Timoney gave a brief outline of the issue due to no Officer available to present the report.

She advised that there were a number of issues in that area which included parking on pavements and bins being left out and not emptied due to contamination. The cleansing section were employing more enforcement officers to target hotspot areas and taking enforcement action on illegally parked vehicles. The enforcement officers will be working across the town and the public is urged to report anti social behaviour to be investigated and for action to be taken.

Resolved: (i) That the Board agreed the following:

- To improve street cleansing monitoring and cleansing standards within the immediate location.
- To increase street cleansing schedule from once per fortnight to once per week within this location only.
- To write to all residents within location reminding residents to remove their refuse bin from the pavement after collection day.
- To investigate longer term solutions of yellow lining or a ban on pavement parking within this location.
- Enforcement to take active role in identifying anti social behaviour.

(ii) That the Board endorsed the success of Environmental Action Days and agreed for one to be arranged for this area ASAP.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD GOVERNANCE – ‘YOU SAID WE’RE DOING’ (REF: 7)

Shohir Uddin, Community Development Project Officer presented the report (Ref 7) and advised that work was going well in the area. The main projects delivered were outlined in page 2 of the report.

There were changes to the police colleagues but was not sure who would be replacing them.

The community development restructure was now complete and Shohir is now responsible for the Dallow, Farley and South areas.

The participatory budgeting process has been delayed due to capacity issues within the team which will now be launched next week. The funding open day will be on 9th May 2016 and closes on 31st July 2016.

Councillor Castleman thanked the Farley and Dallow Councillors for new homes funding contribution which went towards extending the basket ball court in the south ward.

The Officer further advised that there was some funding for new homes in Farley still to be spent and Dallow had similar issues which were flagged up and are being discussed.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

11. LUTON CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP (LCCG) (REF 8)

Dr Karunadasa gave the following updates:

- NHS England announced the clinical commissioning groups revenue allocations for the next five years in early January.
- Luton's CCGs allocation increased by 7.5% compared with the national average of 3.7%.
- The Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) GP Contracts – Luton CCG is working with NHS England to ensure there is sufficient capacity to meet current and future demand levels in Luton. No decision has been made regarding the future of any of the affected practices. Alongside NHS England Luton CCG is undertaking a formal consultation and stakeholder engagement process which will examine the four APMS contracts in two phases:
 - Transforming the walk-in centre and town centre GP practice
 - Review the other 3 APMS GP practices (sundon park health centre, moakes medical centre and whipperley medical centre)

Resolved: That the above updates be noted.

12. CLEARING OF BLOCKED DRAINS (REF 9)

This item was deferred to the next meeting due to no officer available at the meeting to present the item.

Resolved: That the Board expressed their disappointment that this was the third time this item was deferred due to no officer present at the meeting and requested the Area Support Officer to relayed this message back to the department.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING (REF 10)

The Area Support Officer advised that there was uncertainty as to what form area board meetings would take and that a working group of Members were tasked with finding a solution. So far no firm proposals had been made and that when a new date has been arranged it would be fully publicised.

(Note: Meeting ended 8.15pm)