

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

5.00PM – 1 JULY 2004

BRIGHTON TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Mitchell (Chair); Councillors Turton (Deputy Chair), Battle, Fitch, Kemble (OS), Morgan, K Norman, Peltzer Dunn, Smith (Culture OS) and Taylor.

PART ONE

ACTION

25. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

25.1 Before the commencement of the meeting, the Chair indicated that the despatch of the agenda had been delayed by a day due to a breakdown in the e-mail system. She was aware that Members had made special arrangements to attend this extra meeting and the matters reported on needed progressing by officers without being delayed to the next ordinary meeting or another special meeting. The Chair considered that no-one would be prejudiced by the slight delay. Therefore, by reason of these special circumstances the Chair was of the opinion that the items on the agenda should all be considered as a matter of urgency. No Member spoke against this view and the Chair exercised her powers accordingly.

25A. Declarations of Substitutes

25A.1 Substitute Councillor For Councillor

Taylor

Wrighton

25B. Declarations of Interest

25B.1 Councillor Kemble declared a personal interest in item 38 'Traffic Order for Vale Road Area Traffic Calming Scheme' as a resident.

25C. Exclusion of Press and Public

25C.1 The Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of

the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in Section 100A(3) or 100 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.

25.2 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting during consideration of any of the items on the agenda.

26. MINUTES

26.1 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2004 be approved and signed by the Chair.

27. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

27.1 The Chair drew attention to two notes which had been made available to brief Members on (a) the A259 sustainable transport corridor and (b) the environment champions waste minimisation programme.

28. CALLOVER

28.1 **RESOLVED** - That, with the exception of the items reserved (and marked with an asterisk), the recommendations and resolutions contained therein be approved and adopted without debate, excepting Notices of Motion, Deputations, Petitions and letters.

28a. LETTER: 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BUILDING OF BEDFORD SQUARE

28a.1 The Committee considered a letter from Councillor Pennington concerning the 200th Anniversary of the building of Bedford Square, the earliest of Brighton's town squares (for copy see minute book). The Director of Environment agreed that Officers would look into some of the proposals put forward.

28a.2 **RESOLVED** – That the letter be noted.

***29. BRIGHTON CENTRE: AREA PLANNING AND URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK**

29.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning: the results of the consultation that was recently undertaken in respect of the 'Brighton Centre: Area Planning and Urban Design Framework'; changes that had been made to the document as a result of the consultation. The Director recommended that the revised document be adopted as

supplementary planning guidance (for copy see minute book).

29.2 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – (1) That a new Design Panel to advise the Council on the design merits of new developments across the whole city be established and that the terms of reference and proposed membership be as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

(2) That a new code of conduct (set out in appendix 3 of the report) for all Panels reporting to the Environment Committee be approved.

(3) That the Architects Panel is brought to a close approximately one month preceding the first meeting of the new Panel.

(4) That the Conservation Areas Advisory Group be renamed the Conservation Advisory Group with a focus on gathering the views from the amenity groups and assisting in the delivery of the conservation strategy (adopted by Committee in September 2003) and that the terms of reference and proposed membership of the new Conservation Advisory Group be as set out in appendix 5.

(5) **RESOLVED** - That the Environment Committee record their thanks to those members of groups, past and present, who have devoted their time freely to the improvement of the city's built environment.

***30. ESTABLISHMENT OF DESIGN PANEL**

30.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment recommending the setting up of a new Design Panel to give the Council independent external advice on the design merits of new developments (for copy see minute book).

30.2 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – (1) That a new Design Panel to advise the Council on the design merits of new developments across the whole city be established and that the terms of reference and proposed membership be as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

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(3) That the Architects Panel is brought to a close approximately one month preceding the first meeting of the new Panel.

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from the amenity groups and assisting in the delivery of the conservation strategy (adopted by Committee in September 2003) and that the terms of reference and proposed membership of the new Conservation Advisory Group be as set out in Appendix 5.

RESOLVED - That the Environment Committee record their thanks to those members of groups, past and present, who have devoted their time freely to the improvement of the city's built environment

31. CONSERVATION AREA EXTENSIONS (REGULARISATION OF ADVERTISEMENT OF DESIGNATIONS)

31.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning a few minor alterations to conservation areas, pre-dating the unitary authority, which had not been formally advertised and seeking approval to advertise these amendments (for copy see minute book).

31.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) To approve the formal advertisement of the extension of the Valley Gardens Conservation Area to include 1-3 and 4-6 Albion Street approved on 13th September 1995.

(2) To approve the formal advertisement of the extension of the Preston Park Conservation Area to include London Road Station and adjoining land approved on 14th June 1995.

(3) To approve the formal advertisement of the extension of the East Cliff Conservation Area to include properties previously within the Valley Gardens Conservation Area namely 4-20 Princes Street and numbers 168-181 Edward Street and all properties in Steine Gardens approved on 11th June 1991.

(4) To approve the formal advertisement of the extension of the Patcham Conservation Area to include a small area of tapering open space south of Patcham Place and north of Brangwyn Crescent. Approved on 8th September 1992.

***32. SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE – ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY IN DEVELOPMENTS**

32.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment seeking approval to adopt Supplementary Planning Guidance on energy efficiency and renewable energy in developments, following the period of public consultation (for copy see minute book).

32.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) To note the comments made during the consultation period relating to proposed Supplementary Planning

Guidance on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and endorse the formal responses set out in Appendix 2 to this report.

(2) To agree the recommended amendments to the draft SPG.

(3) To agree that the draft SPG as set out in Appendix 3 of the report, be adopted for the purposes of Development Control pursuant to policies SU2 and SU17 of the Second Deposit Draft Local Plan

33. SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE – FIRE PRECAUTION WORKS

33.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment seeking approval of the Supplementary Planning Guidance Note (SPG) on the subject of Fire Precaution works to Historic Buildings, which had been amended following public consultation (for copy see minute book).

33.2 **RESOLVED** – To adopt the Supplementary Planning Guidance Note on Fire Precaution Works to Historic Buildings for the purposes of development control.

***34. UPDATE ON RAPID TRANSPORT**

34.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment providing an update on progress towards implementing the Rapid Transport (RTS) project. RTS is one of the five transport priorities that will contribute towards the transport infrastructure that supports the vision for the city as agreed at Policy and Resources Committee on 21 January 2004. The others are Park and Ride, management of the road network, coach strategy and future management of residents' parking and car parks (for copy see minute book).

34.2 The committee discussed the principle of Park & Ride and the need for the Council to make a firm decision on the location of a destination for Park and Ride.

34.3 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the progress to date and proposed plans to progress the Rapid Transport project be endorsed.

(2) **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL** - That the principal of establishing one or more embarkation sites for Park and Ride be endorsed and that officers be asked to report on this matter as soon as possible.34.4

Councillor Taylor wished it recorded that he voted against (2).

***35. DEVELOPMENT OF RESIDENTS' PARKING STRATEGY**

35.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment setting out the conclusions of a strategic review to simplify the operation of parking schemes; a short to medium term timetable for the extension/development of existing and new RPSs; the areas in which RPSs are likely to be considered in the longer term and the principles for simplifying and setting future parking charges (for copy see minute book).

35.2 Councillor Peltzer Dunn wished it recorded that the map showing extension to Area O (Hove Station Area) should not be shown on Appendix D, as it would be subject to a future report to the Committee.

35.3 **RESOLVED** – (1) To approve the adoption of proposed amendments to the operation of parking schemes (existing and new) set out in Appendix A of the report, and update all relevant highway policies, especially HP4/15 and HP4/16.

(2) To agree the short-term programme of reviews and/or extensions to parking schemes set out in Appendix B of the report, subject to the outcome of consultation, committee decisions and availability of resources.

(3) To note the areas that could be considered for the introduction of residents' parking in the longer term, as listed in paragraph 3.7 and illustrated in Appendix D of the report.

36. DYKE ROAD, WESTERN ROAD AND NORTH STREET BUS CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS

36.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment seeking approval to implement the Traffic Order subject to minor changes to address some of the concerns raised in response to this formal advertisement (for copy see minute book).

36.2 **RESOLVED** – To approve that the Brighton & Hove (Dyke Road, North Street and Western Road Bus Priority) (Traffic Regulation) Order 2004 be made as advertised, subject to the changes below:

- Relaxation of advertised bus only areas in Western Road, North Street & Dyke Road from 8am-11pm to 8am-8pm.
- Relaxation of the with flow bus lane in Queen's Road from 8am-11pm to 8am-8pm.

Relaxation of the side road closure of Clarence Square to permit only taxis and cyclists.

***37. LONDON ROAD STATION FORECOURT IMPROVEMENTS**

37.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning comments received to the recently advertised Traffic Regulation Order required for London Road Station Forecourt Improvements and seeking approval for the proposals to be implemented (for copy see minute book).

37.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) To approve that the Brighton & Hove (Waiting & Loading/Unloading Restrictions and Parking Places) Consolidation Order 2001 Amendment * No Order 200* be made as advertised, having taken due account of the representations received, with the following amendments:

- Switch the location of the taxi bay originally proposed on the north west corner with the disabled bay on the north east corner, together with minor alterations to the waiting restrictions.
- Reduce the extent of the waiting restrictions originally proposed in Shaftesbury Place at the junction with Ditchling Rise.

(2) To approve the advertising of the Orders required to implement waiting restrictions around the new footway buildout proposed in Ditchling Rise opposite Shaftesbury Place.

38 TRAFFIC ORDER FOR VALE ROAD AREA TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME

38.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning objections received to proposed parking amendments in St Aubyns Road, St Andrew's Road and Beaconsfield Road and seeking approval for the proposals, as advertised, so that the Vale Road Area Traffic Calming Scheme could be implemented (for copy see minute book).

[Councillor Kemble declared a personal interest in the item as a resident].

38.2 **RESOLVED** To approve the Order as advertised, having taken due account of the representations received.

***39. VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS**

39.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment seeking approval to the adoption of the vehicle activated sign policy and criteria as detailed in the appendices to this report.

39.2 **RESOLVED** – To approve the guidelines for the use of vehicle activated signs in the city.

***40. A23 – SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT CORRIDOR (A27 BYPASS TO PRESTON PARK) PHASE 4 – IMPROVEMENT BETWEEN KNOYLE ROAD**

AND THE DENEWAY

40.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning comments received in response to the recently advertised Traffic Regulation Order required for the A23 Sustainable Transport Corridor Phase 4 scheme (for copy see minute book).

40.2 **RESOLVED** - (1) To approve that having considered all duly made objections, Brighton & Hove (A23 London Road) (Various Restrictions) Order 200* be made as advertised.

(2) To approve that if problems occur as a result of closing the junction of Curwen Place, with the A23, further investigations would be carried out to see whether an alternative access could be provided.

***41. ST JAMES'S STREET AND QUEEN'S PARK AREA RESIDENTS' PARKING SCHEME (EXTENDED AREA C)**

41.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment detailing the outcome of the public consultation exercise for the proposed introduction of an enlarged Area C residents' parking scheme incorporating the St James's Street, Upper St James's Street and Queen's Park Areas, and the outcome of the informal consultation conducted in the area (for copy see minute book).

41.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) To approve that the extended Area C residents' parking scheme proposals for the area identified in Appendix A of the report, be progressed to detailed design and the Traffic Regulation Order advertised.

(2) To approve that an order should be placed for all required pay and display equipment to ensure that implementation of the proposed Queen's Park residents' parking scheme is undertaken as programmed. If the proposed scheme is delayed or not implemented following statutory consultation, the equipment can be used in other schemes in the city.

(3) To approve that the scheme will be operational from 9am to 8pm Monday to Saturday.

***42. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR: PROGRESS REPORT IN TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN NEIGHBOURHOODS AND THE CITY CENTRE**

42.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment providing an update on progress in tackling anti-social behaviour in neighbourhoods and in the city centre, highlighting

some key and emerging issues and seeking approval for a strategy to tackle begging and street drinking between 2004-06 (for copy see minute book).

42.2 RESOLVED - (1) To note the significant progress in tackling anti-social behaviour in neighbourhoods and in the city centre.

(2) To approve the Tackling Street Drinking and Begging Strategy 2004-2006.

(3) To note that much of this work is currently funded from initiative funding; that funding begins to reduce for some posts and activities from March 2005 and under current arrangements ends completely in March 2006.

42.3 Councillor Taylor wished it recorded that he abstained from voting on this item.

***43. KERBSIDE RECYCLING AND WHEELED BIN EXPANSION 2004/05**

43.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment outlining the current performance of the Council's recycling service and detailing the plans in place to develop and improve that service in 2004/05. Further work would be needed in future years to progress recycling and to deliver the culture change in resident attitudes to waste (for copy see minute book).

43.2 RESOLVED - To note the current performance of the Council's recycling and wheeled bin refuse service and the plans to be implemented over the next year to deliver a more sustainable waste service.

***44. COMMUNAL CONTAINERS TRIAL – INTERIM RESEARCH REPORT**

44.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning the methodology and findings to date of the public consultation and statistical data gathering on the communal containers trial (for copy see minute book).

44.2 RESOLVED - (1) To formally note the research findings.

(2) To request a further report at the end of the trial.

(3) To agree to officers meeting with residents groups and Ward Councillors where they have requested communal containers so information about the scheme can be shared.

(4) To note that no communal containers will be placed in streets removed from the original trial area until the trial is completed and evaluated.

***45. OLD STEINE WAR MEMORIAL RAILINGS**

45.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning the progress in response to the recommendations made by the War Memorial Scrutiny Review Panel and the wider implications of maintaining War Memorials (for copy see minute book).

45.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) To nominate an officer within CityParks to co-ordinate responses and who will provide practical assistance within available resources to ex-Services Associations.

(2) To note progress.

46. PROVISIONAL OUTTURN 2003/2004

46.1 The Committee considered a report of the Acting Director of Finance and Property setting out the provisional outturn position for 2003/2004 for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account, which is subject to external audit (for copy see minute book).

46.2 **RESOLVED** - To note the provisional outturn for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account for 2003/2004.

***47. AIR QUALITY REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT 2004**

47.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment providing an interim report on the comments made by DEFRA on the Air Quality Review and Assessment 2004 while awaiting the outcome of the statutory consultation process (for copy see minute book).

47.2 The special circumstances for non-compliance with Council Procedure Rule 19, Access to Information Rule 5 and Section 100B(4) of the 1972 Local Government Act as amended (items not to be considered unless the agenda is open to inspection at least five days in advance of the meeting) were that the necessary comments required from the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (defra) were received on 23rd June 2004.

47.3 **RESOLVED** - To approve that the Director of Environment report to the next Environment Committee the findings of the 2003/2004 air quality review and assessment, including the findings of the statutory consultation process and the proposal for designation of Air Quality Management Area(s) in Brighton and Hove.

48. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO COUNCIL

48.1 **RESOLVED** – To be determined.

PART TWO

49. ITEMS TO REMAIN EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE TO THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

49.1 **RESOLVED** – That no items remain exempt from disclosure to the press and public.

The meeting concluded at 7.05 pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2004