

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

5.00PM – 8 SEPTEMBER 2005

**COMMITTEE ROOMS 2/3
BRIGHTON TOWN HALL**

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Mitchell (Chair); Councillors Turton (Deputy Chair), Battle, Elgood, Fitch, Kemble (OS), Meegan, K Norman, Peltzer Dunn, Smith (Culture & Recreation OS) and Williams.

PART ONE

ACTION

54. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

54A Declarations of Substitutes

54.1 <u>Substitute Councillor</u>	<u>For Councillor</u>
Williams	Wrighton

54B Declarations of Interest

54.2 Councillor Elgood declared a personal interest in Item 66 (Petition for traffic management) and Item 71 (Floral Clock) as a local resident.

54C Exclusion of Press and Public

54.3 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.

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

55A MINUTES

55A.1 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2005 be approved and signed by the Chair.

55B MINUTES

55B.1 **RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the special meeting held on 8 July 2005 be approved and signed by the Chair.

56. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

56.1 The Chair advised the Committee that the Council had won four 'Green Apple' awards for; a) Housing's Brighton & Hove Energy Action Partnership b) Planning's Sustainability Checklist Supplementary Planning Guidance, c) the Sustainability Team's Environment Champions Waste Reduction Campaign Finance and d) Property's Procurement Code of Practice on Sustainability. The awards would be formally presented at Council in November.

56.2 DEFRA had allocated fifty thousand pounds to help assist take-up in areas where households were less enthusiastically embracing recycling. The monies would be targeted to schools to encourage pupils to raise the issue with families.

56.3 The kerbside recycling initiative would be re-launched as it extended to a weekly collection service in some areas.

57. CALLOVER

57.1 **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.

58. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

58.1 There were none.

59. LETTER FROM COUNCILLOR BARNETT

59.1 The Committee considered a letter submitted by Councillor Barnett concerning funding a new CCTV camera in the locality of the Grenadier Public House in Hangleton.

59.2 **RESOLVED** – That the letter be noted.

60. LETTER FROM COUNCILLOR BARNETT

60.1 The Committee considered a letter submitted by Councillor Barnett concerning funding a new bus route in Hangleton.

60.2 **RESOLVED** – That the letter be noted.

61. LETTER FROM COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS

61.1 The Committee considered a letter submitted by Councillor Williams concerning refuse problems in West Hill.

61.2 **RESOLVED** – That the letter be noted.

62. LETTER FROM COUNCILLOR TAYLOR

62.1 The Committee considered a letter submitted by Councillor Taylor concerning resident parking zone consultation and implementation in St Peter's and North Laine.

62.2 **RESOLVED** – That the letter be noted.

63. PETITION: WILLIAM CLARKE PARK

63.1 The Committee received a petition, signed by 350 people, presented at Council on 21 July 2005 by Councillor Edmond-Smith.

'We the residents around William Clarke Park, AKA the Patch use and value this space and feel that the space has become increasingly neglected and even dangerous. We call upon the Council to support us to improve the park and make it safe and accessible for the whole community.'

63.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Petition be noted. (2) That it be noted that funding has been identified to address the problems mentioned in the petition..

64. PETITION: COMMUNAL BINS ON WATERLOO STREET

64.1 The Committee received a petition, signed by 87 people, presented at Council on 21 July 2005 by Councillor Elgood.

'We, the undersigned petition Brighton and Hove City Council to introduce communal bins on Waterloo Street as a matter of urgency.'

64.2 **RESOLVED** – That the petition be noted.

65. PETITION: NEW PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON EASTERN ROAD

65.1 The Committee received a petition, signed by 131 people, presented at Council on 21 July 2005 by Councillor Burgess.

'I support Des Turner MP and Cllrs Simon Burgess, Ken Bodfish and Delia Forester in their call for a new pedestrian crossing on Eastern Road, at the bottom of Park Street, as close to the two bus stops as possible. There are many older people, including those living in sheltered accommodation, who live nearby. It is also an important

route for young children making their way to school. The current crossings at Egremont Place and at the bottom of Freshfield Road are difficult to use 'off route'.

We need a new pedestrian crossing!

65.2 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Petition be noted. (2) That it be noted that a crossing will be installed during this financial year.

66. PETITION: ONE-WAY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN PALMEIRA SQUARE AND ADELAIDE CRESCENT

66.1 The Committee received a petition, signed by 125 people, presented at Council on 21 July 2005 by Councillor Watkins.

'We, the undersigned residents of Palmeira Square and Adelaide Crescent, Hove wish to support by petition the request made by the Friends of Palmeira and Adelaide Residents Association to Brighton and Hove City Council through their Ward Representative for the implementation of a one-way traffic management system in Palmeira Square and Adelaide Crescent and other associated improvements, as detailed in the drawing and notes attached to this petition (sic).'

66.2 **RESOLVED** – That the petition be noted.

67. NOTICE OF MOTION: TENNIS – PARK FEES

67.1 The Committee considered the following Notice of Motion submitted to Council on 21 July 2005 by Councillors Giebler and Bennett:

"In view of the fact that children are now encouraged to play sport for their health with the Government's Sports Strategy, it is illogical that they are required to pay expensive charges to use the local tennis courts in our public parks. At present fees for under 18 years are £3.00 per court for one hour. Adults £6.00 per court for one hour. This eliminates children whose parents are unable to pay.

Park fees are set by the local authorities and it is requested that Brighton & Hove City Council allow children under the age of 18 years to use the courts free and an accompanying adult to be charged £1 per hour. This could apply to school holidays and weekends. Some courts can still be set aside for adults at full price.

Our aim is to encourage sport, not only for health but for future champions. With the Olympics being chosen to take place in London 2012, it is even more important to give every encouragement for children to participate in many sports. Tennis being one of them.

Schools and parks are the stepping stones to the future of increasing the tennis playing community where youngsters can start at an early age."

67.2 **RESOLVED** - (1) That the Notice of Motion be noted. (2) To note that Officers will meet to discuss a new pricing structure for 2006 and

this will be discussed with relevant parties.

68. NOTICE OF MOTION: REFUSE COLLECTION FROM HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

68.1 The Committee considered the following Notice of Motion submitted to Council on 21 July 2005 by Councillors Randall and Taylor:

"This Council notes with concern the continuing problems associated with refuse collection from Houses in Multiple Occupation in certain areas of the City. There still appears to be widespread confusion amongst tenants and landlords over where to store rubbish/recycling and when the appropriate collection days are.

In the light of the above, this Council recognises that the following measures would go a long way towards remedying the situation:

1. Producing an information leaflet for distribution by letting/estate agents to tenants/owners of HMOs in the City explaining (a) when the appropriate collection day is; (b) where refuse storage and recycling areas are; (c) the importance of keeping refuse containerised and (d) the possible sanctions available if rubbish is allowed to spill out onto the street.
2. Taking stronger and more timely enforcement action against tenants/landlords who persistently fail to adequately contain their refuse on the street. This should include looking at introducing measures in the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, such as Street Litter Control notices, at the earliest opportunity. In consultation with the Ward Councillors, particular problem areas could be targeted to make more effective use of resources.
3. Launch a joint initiative with the university lettings teams and student union to produce a leaflet for the beginning of the next university year explaining students' responsibilities as tenants for refuse.

Therefore, this Council urges the Environment Committee to consider these proposals as a matter of urgency."

68.2 **RESOLVED** - (1) That the Notice of Motion be noted. (2) To note that a new licensing regime is being developed for HMO's, that will assist the council ensuring that there is adequate provision for waste storage and that tenants and landlords receive the proper information on refuse arrangements and take a more responsible approach. These licenses will be issued systematically between November 2005 and February 2006.

69. NOTICE OF MOTION: GRAFFITI REMOVAL

69.1 The Committee considered the following Notice of Motion submitted to Council on 21 July 2005 by Councillors Kemble and Oxley:

"This Council expresses its grave disappointment and concern over the lack of progress that has been made in tackling graffiti in the 6 months since the notice of motion on graffiti removal was passed by Full Council on 20 January 2005. As the peak tourist season in Brighton & Hove approaches, some of the major routes into and around the City continue to give an extremely unfavourable impression to visitors and residents alike. In particular this Council notes that:

- No report has yet been put before the Environment Committee looking at what lessons can be learnt from Wandsworth Borough Council's Charter Mark award-winning graffiti removal service.
- The new powers to serve 'graffiti removal notices' contained in sections 48-52 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 have still not been rolled out to Brighton & Hove, in spite of the expectation that this would happen in March 2005.
- The informal agreement reached between Brighton & Hove City Council and NTL over graffiti removal on 'green boxes' has now broken down. Consequently, these boxes are in as bad a state as they have ever been.
- The need, in the light of the above, to urgently bring a report to the next meeting of the Environment Committee (8 September) detailing how to address failings listed above, including identifying potential alternative funding streams for increasing the resources put into graffiti removal by the Council and possible use of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement Surpluses, which under the new Traffic Management Act 2004 can be used for 'Environmental improvement in the local authority's area'.

Therefore, this Council:

1. Urges the Environment Committee to consider this matter as a matter of urgency and, in any case, not later than its next meeting.
2. Instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Home Secretary requesting that the section 48-52 powers of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 be rolled out to Brighton & Hove City Council as a matter of priority."

69.2 **RESOLVED** - That the Notice of Motion and the report at Item 78 be noted.

70. DEPUTATIONS

70.1 None received.

***71. CHURCH ROAD, HOVE, HIGHWAYS & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME - FLORAL CLOCK**

71.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning comments received to the recently advertised Traffic Regulation Orders required to implement improvements within the 'Floral Clock' area of the Church Road Highways and Environmental Improvement Scheme (for copy see minute book).

71.2 **RESOLVED** - The Environment Committee having taken account of all duly made representations and objections received, that the 'Brighton & Hove Controlled Parking Zone (Area M) Traffic Regulation Order 200* Amendment No*', be made as advertised with the amendments set out in Section 4, for the reasons set out in the report.

***72. VARIOUS WAITING RESTRICTIONS IN BRIGHTON & HOVE**

72.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning objections and comments received to proposed parking amendments in Kingsthorpe Road, Glastonbury Road, Windsor Close/Queen Victoria Avenue, Varndean Drive, Park Crescent, Bromley Road, Beaconsfield Villas, Havelock Road, Waldegrave Road, Chester Terrace, Cleveland Road, Southdown Road, Preston Drove and Lucerne Road, Leahurst Court Road, Curwen Place, Kingsway, West Way and to seek approval for some of the proposals to be implemented (for copy see minute book).

72.2 **RESOLVED** - (1)The Environment Committee having taken account of all duly made representations and objections, that the Brighton & Hove (Waiting & Loading/Unloading Restrictions and Parking Places) Consolidation Order 2001 Amendment No * Order 200* be made with the amendments set out in Section 4.3 of the report, but otherwise as advertised for the reasons set out in this report.

(2) In regard to the proposals for double yellow lines in the Preston Drove area (Beaconsfield Road, Havelock Road, Waldegrave Road, Chester Terrace, Cleveland Road, Southdown Road, Preston Drove and Lucerne Road), given the level of objection received to these proposals, that the proposed restrictions in these streets be not implemented.

***73. SOUTH EAST PLAN – CITY HOUSING TARGET**

73.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment seeking agreement to a draft housing figure for Brighton & Hove for inclusion in the South East Plan for consultation

and a programme of public involvement (for copy see minute book). The Committee requested a recorded vote. Councillor Mitchell, Turton, Battle, Elgood, Fitch, Kemble, Meegan, K Norman, Peltzer Dunn, Smith voted for the proposal. Councillor Williams abstained.

73.2 **RESOLVED** - That the Environment Committee (1) approve to consult on a figure of 11,052 (annual average 553) additional dwellings for Brighton & Hove over the period 2006 to 2026.

(2) Approve the broad programme of public consultation set out in Section 4 of this report.

***74. EDWARD STREET QUARTER SPD**

74.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment detailing the progress to date on the production of a site specific Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the Edward Street Quarter and seeking approval of a draft SPD for the purposes of formal public consultation (for copy see minute book). The Director informed the Committee that comments had recently been received from the Sustainability Commission and it was intended to incorporate appropriate aspects of these in the draft SPDs before they went out for consultation. The Committee endorsed this approach

74.2 **RESOLVED** - That the Environment Committee approve the draft Supplementary Planning Document on the Edward Street Quarter for the purposes of formal public consultation.

***75. CIRCUS STREET QUARTER SPD**

75.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment detailing the progress to date on the production of a site specific Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the former Municipal Market site on Circus Street and seeking approval of a draft SPD for the purposes of formal public consultation (for copy see minute book). The Director informed the Committee that comments had recently been received from the Sustainability Commission and it was intended to incorporate appropriate aspects of these in the draft SPDs before they went out for consultation. The Committee endorsed this approach

75.2 **RESOLVED** - That the Environment Committee approve the draft Supplementary Planning Document on the Circus Street Municipal Market site for the purposes of formal public consultation.

***76. SHOP FRONT DESIGN SPD**

76.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of

Environment detailing the results of recent consultation undertaken on the draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Shop Front Design and the changes that have been made as a result of the responses received. It further recommends Members' approval to adopt the Shop Front Design SPD (for copy see minute book).

76.2 **RESOLVED** - That the Environment Committee (1) note the results of the public consultation exercise and endorse the changes that have been made to the draft Supplementary Planning Document on Shop Front Design.

(2) Approve the adoption of the Supplementary Planning Document on Shop Front Design as part of the Local Development Framework.

77. CLEANSING AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC TOILETS IN BRIGHTON & HOVE

77.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning the proposed procurement route for cleansing and maintenance of public toilets in Brighton and Hove (for copy see minute book).

77.2 **RESOLVED** - That the Environment Committee approve the procurement strategy for cleansing and maintenance of public toilets in Brighton and Hove so that the new contract for services will commence on 1 November 2006

***78. NEXT STEPS TO ADDRESS GRAFFITI, FLY POSTING & STICKERS**

78.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment concerning the fact that graffiti, fly-posting and stickers are having an increasingly negative impact on the appearance of the city and on how safe people feel in affected areas (for copy see minute book).

78.2 **RESOLVED** – That the Environment Committee (1) agree the initial approach to graffiti removal and physical prevention in the areas highlighted. (2) Agree the approach for the development of a sustainable Strategy for graffiti to be brought to the Environment Committee on the 8th December 2005. (3) Agree that a report be presented to Policy and Resources committee for the identification of funds for 2006/7 to continue graffiti removal and implement sustainable strategy for controlling graffiti in the medium and long term.

***79. COMMUNAL CONTAINERS**

79.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment detailing the results of the consultation with residents in

Waterloo Street, Cross Street, chapel Mews, Ivy Place, Cavendish Mews and Farman Street on the introduction of communal bins for containing and collecting household refuse and to approve the placement of containers (for copy see minute book).

79.2 **RESOLVED** - That the Environment Committee approve the placement of communal bins to serve Waterloo Street, Cross Street, Chapel Mews, Ivy Place, Cavendish Mews, and Farman Street, with a 6 month review of the operation and location of the containers to ensure the scheme is successful.

PART TWO

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

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

The meeting concluded at 7.00pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2005