

TRANSPORT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE ADDENDUM

4.00PM, TUESDAY, 26 MARCH 2024

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

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ADDENDUM

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Brighton & Hove City Council

Transport & Sustainability Committee

Agenda Item 77(b)

Subject: Written Questions

Date of meeting: 26 March 2024

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting for questions submitted by a member of the public.

The question will be answered without discussion. The person who asked the question may ask one relevant supplementary question, which shall be put and answered without discussion. The person to whom a question, or supplementary question, has been put may decline to answer it.

The following written questions have been received from members of the public:

(3) TRO 22b 2022 – Pippa Hodge

As part of TRO 22b 2022, additional disabled bays were added into Regent Street to “create better disabled parking provision and allow Blue Badge holders better access to facilities in the North Laine area” (19th Nov 2022 Officer Report). Fast Forward to the present and now Officers intend to claw back 5 of the 11 bays on Regent Street to pay bays without undertaking an Equality Impact Assessment. This will prevent disabled people from entering the North Laines. How is this acceptable under the Accessible City Strategy?

(4) Low Traffic Neighbourhoods- Elaine Hills

A recent Government report and a six-year study found that low traffic neighbourhoods: lead to huge health gains, increase walking and cycling, cut traffic without an increase on boundary roads, do not adversely affect emergency vehicle response times and are popular with residents, once installed. Would the administration now consider joining more progressive Labour-run councils, such as Camden and Waltham Forest, by reversing the decision to scrap work on our city’s first Liveable Neighbourhood trial and instead continue working with Hanover and Turner residents to create the best scheme possible, as was planned by the previous Green Administration?

(5) Bus User Survey- Alec Horner

Given the relatively low rating of Brighton & Hove in the recently published Transport Focus independent bus user survey (19th out of 34) and given the very poor rating given on operator value for money of Brighton & Hove buses of 53rd out of 55, what is the Chair’s view on this rating by bus users what does this Committee propose to improve this rating in the future?

Subject: Deputations from members of the public.

Date of meeting: 1 February 2024

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting of the Council for the hearing of deputations from members of the public. Each deputation may be heard for a maximum of five minutes following which one Member of the council, nominated by the mayor, may speak in response. It shall then be moved by the mayor and voted on without discussion that the spokesperson for the deputation be thanked for attending and its subject matter noted.

Notification of one Deputation has been received. The spokesperson is entitled to speak for 5 minutes.

(2) Deputation concerning Air Quality

Supported by:

Dr Lauren Davis
Dr I N Stevenson
Dr Dominic Nee
Dr Charles Kind
Mr Adrian Hill

Summary of deputation:

Labour, the Green party and Conservatives unanimously voted for the Air Quality Action Plan in November 2022, promising to reduce pollution in our city. The action plan rightly noted that current air pollution in Brighton Hove causes ill health and premature deaths, making it a key concern for residents. The action plan outlined priority measures to improve air quality, including a full clean air zone and a smoke control area, which were noted as some of the most effective measures included in the plan, and ones required to meet the council's agreed pollution targets and "significantly" reduce emissions. We are therefore extremely disappointed that little progress has been made on these key measures to date, and that Labour have abandoned pre-election promises of curbing vehicle emissions.

The action plan committed to targets such as lowering particulate matter to 8.7ug/m³ by the end of this year, 2024. This is despite there being no safe level for particulate matter and the proposed level exceeding WHO guidelines. And yet, even this unambitious target is unlikely to be achieved, as there has been no substantial reduction, nor sufficient action taken to reduce pollution levels, since these targets were set.

Air pollution affects everyone, even if you don't have an underlying condition that makes you more vulnerable. As a doctor, I see the effects of poor air

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quality in this city everyday, and I'd like you to imagine seeing these too. Imagine working in children's A&E and seeing countless children with breathing difficulties. Imagine seeing a toddler with wheeze and respiratory distress, and seeing that their nursery is adjacent to one of the busiest streets in the city. Imagine not being able to give advice to parents of a child with asthma, to avoid polluted streets on the school run, because there are no un-polluted streets in our city. Imagine being that parent, who does everything they can to improve their child's health, and yet is powerless to prevent the harm they are suffering from the air they breathe. You have that power. So far, you have offered vulnerable people in our city a sticking plaster, in targeting idling emissions.

People with illnesses have made decisions about their lives based on the five year action plan, such as whether to stay or to move away from Brighton. Can you assure us that the council's air pollution targets will be met by the end of the year and explain exactly how? Have air quality scientists approved the new plans?

Have you abandoned this important clean air strategy? We hope you have not. We heard the transport chair Cllr Muten say you have abandoned the clean air zone expansion. You must reconsider its implementation if you are serious about cleaning up our air. If you continue with this hard line approach will you be reissuing the report to show how you will achieve those targets, or will you be crossing your fingers and hoping air quality improves without any action or leadership from yourselves?

You have a duty to vulnerable people in Brighton & Hove to let them know where they stand.

(3) Deputation concerning introducing parking restrictions in Nevill Road and Nevill Avenue, Hove

Supported by:

Don Lee
Mark Bellchambers
Norma Riley
Rosi Porter
Robert Cook
Andrew Jones
Tommy Sowerby
Kerry Sellers
Sean O'Brien
Jenny Herbert
Helen Stafford
Sarah Easter

Summary of deputation:

As residents of Nevill Road and Nevill Avenue, we are increasingly worried about road safety for ourselves, our visitors, and the primary and secondary school children from the surrounding schools.

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There has been a problem for a few years with employees from Legal & General and Lloyds TSB using the roads to park during the day. Train passengers using both Hove and Aldrington stations do the same.

Since further parking restrictions have been brought in across Hove, notably around Hove Park, our roads have seen significant increases in long-term parking. Most noticeable are vehicles such as campervans, trade vans, and other large vehicles. Volumes increase at the weekends and during holiday periods.

This situation will only get worse for residents when the new Sackville Estate development opens. The problem will be further compounded when the planned housing in the Orchard Road area opens. These new developments will have insufficient parking for the number of homes being built.

I'm well aware of the situation from my own experience and from reading all the comments shared by residents post consultation. These parked vehicles, particularly the Campervans and trade vans, block the line-of-sight onto our busy roads. The average speed on the roads is 37mph, according to police speed monitoring. The speed limit is 20mph. This makes pulling out of driveways extremely dangerous, not only for us, but also for cyclists. The latter are predominantly school children going to and from the local primary and secondary schools.

Councillor Ivan Lyons sent out the consultation following contact with all residents in Nevill Road and Nevill Avenue up to the Holmes Avenue boundary (all part of the Westdean and Hove Park ward).

The results from the survey were as follows. 123 households responded, 63 residents want a light touch scheme, 14 a full permit scheme and 46 want to retain free parking. 62.6% of responders are seeking a parking restriction scheme. We urge the Administration to take our request seriously, especially as there will be more limited parking than there is now and when the enforcement to restrict parking on the pavements of Nevill Road starts.

Supporting information:

Signatures in support of this action from residents of Nevill Road and Nevill Avenue (I have 25 other consents, from residents who also requested to be added to the deputation).

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL

4.30pm 1 FEBRUARY 2024

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillors , Atkinson, Davis, Evans, Fishleigh, Grimshaw, Meadows, McNair, Robins, Sankey, Shanks, C Theobald, West, Williams, Alexander, Allen, Asaduzzaman, Baghoth, Burden, Cattell, Czolak, Earthey, Gajjar, Galvin, Guilmant, Goddard, Goldsmith, Helliwell, Hewitt, Hill, Hogan, Loughran, Lyons, McGregor, McLeay, Miller, Mistry, Muten, Nann, Pickett, Pumm, Robinson, Rowkins, Sheard, Simon, Stevens, Taylor, Thomson and Winder

PART ONE

77 TO RECEIVE PETITIONS AND E-PETITIONS

- 77.1 The Mayor stated that she had been notified of a petition to be presented and invited the submission of petitions from a member of the public. She reminded the Council that petitions would be referred to the appropriate decision-making body without debate and the person presenting the petition would be invited to attend the meeting to which the petition was referred.
- 77.2 Catherine Lane presented a petition signed by 32 residents concerning the cost of resident's parking permits.
- 77.3 The mayor thanked the lead petitioner and stated that the petition would be referred to the Transport and Sustainability Committee consideration.

79 Deputations from members of the public.

- 79.1 The Mayor reported that deputations had been received from members of the public and invited Dr Davis as the spokesperson for the deputation concerning Air Quality to come forward and address the council.
- 79.2 Dr Davis thanked the Mayor and presented the deputation.
- 79.3 Councillor Muten replied, thank you for bringing your deputation to Council today. For the record: we are fully committed to act; to improve air quality across the city. We are highly focused on addressing the impacts on residents' health, especially those with respiratory health conditions; and are fully committed to taking clear targeted action to improve air quality in the six air quality management areas (or AQMAs). May I concur that in recent years, there has been insufficient progress in effectively tackling and improving air quality. Unlike what you may have experienced from previous

administrations, Labour are committed to robust action to deliver substantial air quality improvements.

We are fully committed to our citywide Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP). Our commitment is to a scientific data-led approach to policy implementation; and to set our aim above and beyond central government's minimum compliance requirements. Where the data shows deteriorating air quality requiring action, we will of course act. We have a clear duty to do so *and* the political will to make much needed change now happen. We presently have six AQMAs across our city. It is my strong view that one size does not fit all – we need the best and most targeted interventions for each AQMA. Improving air quality in AQMA3 South Portslade is by working with businesses taking heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) and vans along the Shoreham Port designated access route. In AQMA4 in Sackville Road / Old Shoreham Road and AQMA2 in Rottingdean High Street, junction design and traffic flow may deliver the improvements needed. From 2015 to 2020 showed substantial improvement in air quality in along our existing Ultra Low Emission Zone (or ULEZ) between Palmeira Square and Castle Square However, since some deterioration in air quality over the course of the past 3 to 4 years. It is our view that there was insufficient action taken as we came out of the pandemic lockdowns and the unique opportunity was not taken to really gain the improvements in air quality our city needed. The inaction of the Green administration is not an excuse; know we have to reverse the worsening trend. We are installing air quality monitors across our city and connecting many of these to real time on-line public access. We recognise that improving our city's air quality requires us to work in partnership with others across the city. Earlier this week, Cllr Rowkins and myself met with leading air quality experts at the University of Brighton. Quarterly Nitrogen Dioxide levels have dropped since April 2023. Nonetheless, they persist above World Health Organisation [WHO] standards – the higher than minimum statutory target which have adopted as our target - and therefore there is much to do. This is why as a Labour administration; we have already taken bold action – with much more to come – to really tackle air pollution and bring about the air quality improvements that residents rightly call for.

- 79.4 The Mayor thanked Dr Davis for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. She explained that the points had been noted and the deputation would be referred to Transport and Sustainability Committee for consideration. The persons forming the deputation would be invited to attend the meeting and would be informed subsequently of any action to be taken or proposed in relation to the matter set out in the deputation.
- 79.5 The Mayor then invited Sue Spink as the spokesperson for the deputation concerning introducing parking restrictions in Nevill Road and Nevill Avenue, Hove to come forward and address the council.
- 79.6 Sue Spink thanked the Mayor and presented the deputation.
- 79.7 Councillor Muten replied, may I firstly thank you for your deputation today. I wish to state clearly that I will be taking this very seriously. Thank you for raising these pressing matters. I have had several residents in the south Nevill and Orchards area also contact me directly asking for parking enforcement in response to increasingly pressure for on street parking in this area of Hove. Regrettably as this area is not within a permitted parking zone. As a result, beyond double yellow lines, there are presently limited enforcement options. Further, with new high-rise developments in former Sackville Road

Trading estate, Newtown Road, Hove Gardens in Conway Street and the proposed Portslade Panelworks site on Orchard Gardens, more and more residents are expected to live within this area. Quite limited parking provision is provided by these new developments, with some on-street provision in the Artists Quarter. However, as you rightly note, combined with commuters parking to access Hove and Aldrington train stations and some using as a park and ride and workplace parking, and with residents moving in to Moda from March this year, there is clearly a case for evaluating the design of a permitted parking zone as a matter of priority. Ward Cllr Lyon's initiative to undertake an unofficial survey of residents in this part is helpful – good work as a ward councillor. However, your delegation is the first report received by the council of this local survey. I have spoken to some residents in this area who were under the misapprehension that the council had undertaken consultation as part of formal process. May I ask Cllr Lyons to share his survey results with the council? Noting 62.3% of the 123 respondees are in favour of the Council introducing parking restrictions; I welcome your deputation calling for parking restrictions and parking enforcement. I will press for a proper public consultation as part of a Traffic Regulations Order (or TRO) aligned with the strategic citywide outcomes from our parking review for residents of Nevill Road, Nevill Avenue, Orchards and nearby streets to have a well-designed new parking zone; to enable residents to park in their streets and enforcement to take action. As for drivers speeding, nearly doubling the 20MPH speed limit, this is absolutely unacceptable, irresponsible and a danger to pedestrians, cyclists and other vehicles including those pulling out of driveways and parked along this busy residential road. I will support action to effectively address this. Pavement parking is a citywide challenge. Regrettably, enforcement is limited to pavements where a double yellow line is in place. There is a need for a law change in England outside London – as in Edinburgh and in London. We call for this Tory government to stop provocation on pavement parking and to urgently implement one of the three recommendations from the Department of Transport's extensive consultation in 2019. Despite the Secretary of State's commitment to implement the preferred option, this has yet to happen some four years later. The TRO process on a street-by-street basis is costly and impractical for widespread pavement parking ban and this is not the answer to this problem. English Local Authorities outside London - such as Brighton and Hove City Council - need central government enable a ban of pavement parking to bring about the change called for today.

- 79.8 The Mayor thanked Sue Spink for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the deputation. She explained that the points had been noted and the deputation would be referred to Transport and Sustainability Committee for consideration. The persons forming the deputation would be invited to attend the meeting and would be informed subsequently of any action to be taken or proposed in relation to the matter set out in the deputation.

91 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting concluded at 9.10PM

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2024