

ENVIRONMENT CABINET MEMBER MEETING

Agenda Item 61

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Petitions		
Date of Meeting:	6 November 2008		
Report of:	Director of Strategy & Governance		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Tanya Massey	Tel: 29-1227
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Key Decision:	No		
Wards Affected:	Various		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

1.1 To receive the following petitions presented at Cabinet on 18 September and Council on 9 October 2008, and any petitions presented directly to the Environment Cabinet Member Meeting.

62. (i) To receive the following petition presented at Cabinet on 18 September by Councillor Mears and signed by 972 people:

We, the undersigned, request Brighton & Hove City Council to urgently review the bus lanes now being constructed on the A259 coast road between Longridge Avenue and Ovingdean roundabout before a serious or fatal accident occurs. The lanes are too narrow, the pedestrian crossing lights are not consistently operating, emergency vehicles are having to drive on the wrong side of the road at the Rottingdean traffic lights to get through the traffic queues and the white lining is so confusing that a head-on vehicle collision is almost inevitable.

62. (ii) To receive the following petition presented at Cabinet on 18 September by Councillor Watkins and signed by 8 people:

We the undersigned residents of First Avenue are opposed to the introduction of communal bins in our road.

62. (iii) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 8 October by Councillor Marsh and signed by 41 people:

We, the undersigned call on the council to urgently review the Vogue Gyrotory System and local area to stop Coombe Road being used as a dangerous rat run.

62. (iv) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 8 October by Councillor Davis and signed by 269 people:

Highdown Road is long, wide and straight; many drivers are using it irresponsibly. In recent months it has become an increasingly popular shortcut between Dyke Road and the Old Shoreham or Montefiore Road.

A large number of young children live in this road, many of whom enjoy playing outside after school. Even with existing speed limits this creates a very dangerous situation. We, the undersigned, call on Brighton & Hove Council to find ways to make our street safe by reducing the speed of all vehicles that use it.

62. (v) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 8 October by Councillor Kennedy and signed by 324 people:

We request that Brighton & Hove City Council respond to our plea for safer access into Preston Park at the north end of Preston Park Avenue. The residents living at the north end of the road have a choice of either crossing at a very busy and dangerous crossroad junction or of walking a substantial distance down the road to no. 20 for safer access. The crossing at the top end of the road is VERY DANGEROUS FOR THE ELDERLY, WHEELCHAIR & MOBILITY AID USERS AND ALSO FOR CHILDREN & MOTHERS WITH PRAMS AND PUSHCHAIRS, etc. Several Council Officers have agreed with this yet nothing has been done to solve the problem.

*The **first request for safe access was made in 1997** by St Mary's Hose (no. 38-39) and also by Princess Alexandra House at no. 34 – both are residential homes for the elderly. We are simply asking for a pathway and handrail (as is situated opposite no. 20 Preston Park Avenue) that would give safe entry into the park as many residents of Preston Park are not able to climb over a low wall and cut across a sloping grassy bank before getting into the park. We ask that Brighton & Hove City Council finally allocate funding for this much needed contribution to our community as we have been patiently requesting this for ELEVEN YEARS!*

We, the undersigned heartily support the plea for safer access into the park.

62. (vi) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 8 October by Councillor Carden and signed by 288 people:

After the recent road traffic accident that sadly saw a 9 year old boy lose his life, we the undersigned, feel that the local council needs to relook at traffic calming measures in Chalky Road/Fox Way in Portslade as a matter of urgency. We feel that further action is needed in order to maximise safety for other pedestrians (including school children, adults and elderly residents) as well as vehicle drivers.

- 62. (vii)** To receive the following petition presented at Council on 8 October by Councillor Meadows and signed by 19 people:

Meadowview/Tenantry Local Bus Service

Local residents are still not happy with the current bus service offered to the area and want to continue with the campaign to challenge the bus company on:

- *Recent changes to the timetable*
- *The majority of buses are not wheelchair/buggy friendly*

If these or any other issues affect you and/or you want to have your say please do join us and offer your support.

- 62.(viii)** To receive the following petition presented at Council on 8 October by Councillor Caulfield and signed by 23 people:

Re: Eggington Close

We the undersigned wish to propose that the grass area of the close is transformed into car parking areas.

Our reason for this is the increased occupancies and car ownerships of tenants.

Our justification for this request is that the previous allocated car parking area was repossessed by the council for the building and renting of three council properties with no apparent thought to forthcoming problems.

- 62. (ix)** To receive the following petition presented at Council on 8 October by Councillor Caulfield and signed by 493 people:

Petition for Brighton & Hove Council to receive funding to give the City a 24 hour Noise Abatement Service.

- 62. (x)** To receive the following petition presented at Council on 8 October by Councillor Morgan and signed by 78 people:

We the undersigned residents of Maresfield Road call on the city council's Conservative administration to take action on parking in Maresfield Road, and to support our local Labour councillors in efforts to tackle parking on pavements, verges and driveways.

- 62. (xi)** To receive the following petition presented at Council on 8 October by Councillor Fallon-Khan and signed by 21 people:

We urge Brighton & Hove City Council to consider having a high fence erected around Hove park Bowls Club Green. This would protect both members and visitors as we now have to endure having balls, branches,

stones and water-filled balloons being thrown over hedge whilst play is in progress – this could result in serious injury. A fence would also provide security and stop cycling and football being played by groups of youths which damages the green, as has happened on four separate occasions.

A fence would also prevent acts of criminal damage in the form of graffiti on walls of Clubhouse and shutters.

Hove Park Bowls Club Green has been voted the best bowls green in the City for the years 2006 and 2007 and is again possibly the best in 2008 – it would be a travesty of justice if the jobs were allowed to ruin this jewel in the Park. The Council have given us a lovely green and rebuilt the Club House superbly – a fence would be a great asset to the Bowls Club.

62. (xii) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 8 October by Councillor Drake and signed by 20 people:

We the residents of Highbank request that Brighton and Hove Council consider congestion calming measures in relation to cars parked opposite driveways.

The request follows on from incidents where local residents:

- *on a number of occasions were unable to either gain access to our driveways or exit our driveways during emergencies*
- *early mornings during winter were at risk of backing into cars parked on the opposite side of driveways due to poor visibility and ice, as there were not sufficient room to exit driveways safely*
- *noticed that larger delivery vehicles could not manoeuvre around tight corners caused by cars parked behind driveways. As a result these vehicles had to reverse uphill onto a blind corner and had to take alternative routes. This could potentially affect emergency services.*

We therefore request restricted parking by means of white lines opposite the following driveways (indicated on the petition).