



Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities

Time and Date

3.00 pm on Thursday, 8th December, 2016

Place

Diamond Room 1 - Council House

Public Business

1. **Apologies**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

3. **Minutes** (Pages 3 - 6)

(a) To agree the minutes of the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities meeting held on 13 October 2016.

(b) Matters arising

4. **Response to a petition regarding the safety and appearance of Craners Road and surrounding streets** (Pages 7 - 18)

Report of the Executive Director of Place

Note: Councillor Welsh, a St Michaels Ward Councillor and the petition spokesperson have been invited to the meeting for the consideration of this item.

5. **Outstanding Issues Report**

There are no outstanding issues to report

6. **Any Other Business**

To consider any other items of business which the Cabinet Member decides to take as a matter of urgency because of the special circumstances involved.

Private Business

Nil

Chris West, Executive Director, Resources, Council House Coventry

Wednesday, 30 November 2016

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is

Usha Patel Tel: 024 7683 3198; usha.patel@coventry.gov.uk

Membership: Councillors A Khan (Cabinet Member) and P Akhtar (Deputy Cabinet Member)

By invitation Councillor: Councillor J Birdi (Shadow Cabinet Member)

Please note: a hearing loop is available in the committee rooms

If you require a British Sign Language interpreter for this meeting
OR if you would like this information in another format or
language please contact us.

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Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities held at 3.00
pm on Thursday, 13 October 2016

Members: Councillor A Khan
Councillor J Birdi (Shadow Cabinet Member)
Councillor P Akhtar (Deputy Cabinet Member)

Other Members: Councillor J O'Boyle
Councillor D Welsh

In attendance: Sgt P Mercer (West Midlands Police)
PC L Billings (West Midlands Police)
Ms Taylor (KT Management)

Employees (by Directorate):

Place: C Hickin, M McHugh

Resources: G Carter, C Sinclair

Public Business

28. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

29. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2016 were signed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

30. Response to a petition from residents of Swan Lane and Thackhall Street relating to Anti-Social Behaviour in the locality

The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Executive Director of Place which responded to a petition bearing 10 signatures, sponsored by Councillor O'Boyle, a St Michaels Ward Councillor which had been submitted to the City Council on 4 July 2016 calling for the City Council to place pressure on West Midlands Police to address issues of drug dealing, damage to property and anti-social behaviour occurring in the area. The petition also called for the City Council to place pressure on the private management company, KT Management, to support residents in their quest for a peaceful life.

Councillor O'Boyle and the petition organiser attended the meeting together with representatives from West Midlands Police and KT Management.

All attendees spoke in detail about the difficulties experienced by local residents in respect of a number of anti-social behaviours in the area which had been taking place over a long period of time and which residents described as "plaguing our flats and its surrounds in Swan Lane and Thackhall Street". Councillor O'Boyle

and the petition spokesperson also spoke about frustrations around reporting such behaviour and stressed the need for greater police resources in the area. Ms Taylor from the property management company, KT Management, spoke about the problems in the area and her experience of reporting incidents. Officers from West Midlands Police spoke in detail about their ongoing work in the area, reporting that they would continue their daily patrols. It was anticipated that a new reporting system, which graded according to priority, and which would go live in November 2016, would offer a more long term solution.

Following discussion, the Chair directed Ward Councillors to meet with KT Management, local residents and Police Officers in 6 months' time in order to discuss progress and identify any actions going forward.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities:

- (a) Request that West Midlands Police and KT Management continue their monitoring of the area and respond accordingly to residents requests for assistance.**
- (b) Encourage residents to set up a Neighbourhood Watch in the area and report incidents of concern to Police as soon as they occur.**

31. Response to a petition regarding concerns over Anti-Social Behaviour, Police Patrols and Street Cleansing in Cawthorne Close

The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Executive Director of Place which responded to a petition bearing 32 signatures, sponsored by Councillor Welsh, a St Michaels Ward Councillor which had been submitted to the City Council on 5 April 2016 and referred to issues of anti-social behaviour, police patrols and street cleansing in Cawthorne Close.

Councillor Welsh, the petition organiser, local residents and representatives from West Midlands Police were present for this item.

The Petition Organiser and local residents explained the issues they were experiencing on a regular basis. Police Officers went through the crime data in the area for the preceding months and had met with local residents. In light of the issues raised, Sgt Mercer reported that a named officer would be assigned to the area as a single point of contact. The Police Officer's detailed would be shared with local residents in order that they can report incidents directly.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities:

- (a) Request that West Midlands Police, Council Officers and Ward Councillors continue their monitoring of the area and respond accordingly to residents requests for assistance.**
- (b) Encourage residents to set up a Neighbourhood Watch in the area and report incidents of concern to Police and the Council as soon as they occur.**

32. Outstanding Issues Report

There were no outstanding issues.

33. **Any Other Business**

There were no other items of business.

(Meeting closed at 4.20 pm)

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Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities

1st December 2016

Name of Cabinet Member:

Policing and Equalities – Councillor A Khan

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Executive Director – of Place

Ward(s) affected:

St Michaels

Title:

Response to a petition regarding the safety and appearance of Craners Road and surrounding streets.

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

A petition of 39 signatures, regarding issues of Anti-Social Behaviour, including persistent flytipping, social drinking in the street, poor state of repair of the flower beds in the area and the run down state of rented properties in the area was submitted to the Council on 16th August 2016 by Councillor Welsh, a St Michaels Ward Councillor.

This report details actions taken by the City Council and West Midlands Police

Recommendations:

The Cabinet Member is recommended to:-

1. Request West Midlands Police to continue their monitoring of the area and respond accordingly to residents request for assistance and encourage residents to set up a Neighbourhood Watch in the area and report incidents of concern to the Police as soon as they occur.
2. The Street Enforcement Team to continue monitoring of this area and work with the lead petitioner concerning fly tipping and run down properties.
3. The Council's Highways department to continue their feasibility study into either removing some of the flowerbeds, or ensuring that repairs are undertaken to deter fly tipping

List of Appendices included:

Appendix 1: costing document for flowerbed removal / restoration.

Background papers:

None

Other useful documents

None

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report title:

Response to a petition regarding the safety and appearance of Craners Road and surrounding area.

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 On 16th August 2016, a petition signed by 39 people was submitted to the Council, by Councillor Welsh a St Michaels Ward Councillor. The residents' were concerned about anti-social behaviour, including persistent flytipping, social drinking in the street, poor state of repair of the flower beds in the streets and the run down state of rented properties in the area.
- 1.2 Residents feel intimidated and are regularly disturbed by the activity of these groups and numerous incidents of littering and fly tipping. This makes the area look dirty and untidy and encourages more flytipping. Residents are keen to have the issues addressed at the earliest opportunity.
- 1.3 The street drinking is a particular issue which residents believe was addressed with an alcohol prohibition notice; this was successful for a short time however it appears to have simply diverted the issues to an area on the other side of the road.
- 1.4 Coventry City Council recorded data for flytipping from April 2015 to April 2016 shows; 36 reports directly related Craners Road, 15 relate to Trentham Road, 17 to Swan Lane and 9 to Newnham Road [77 in total] Police data for the period April 2016 to November 2016 shows a total of 6 logs for the areas specified these relate to Anti-Social Behaviour such as street drinking. Others reports relate to regular Police business and are not related to this report.
- 1.5 Residents have specifically requested that:
 - A method for disposing of additional waste is provided for the residents of these streets who are unable to afford to dispose of in the correct manner.
 - The untidy flower beds be looked into and would like to have them reinstated and kept to a decent standard.
 - Action should be taken against the owners of certain properties that bring down the aesthetic appeal of the Streetscene.
 - Residents have requested that the council reinstate its school education programme which they believed was successful.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 In response to the petition officers from the Council and the Police have made contact with the lead petitioner, and have carried out a number of visits to the area to ascertain the extent of the issues. The following initiatives are underway:
- 2.2 Street drinking. West Midlands Police and the Council are monitoring the situation. Extra patrols take place as duties allow and individuals found to be causing issues are challenged and appropriate action taken. The police ask that residents let them know as and when the street drinking is taking place. A specific log has been set up to collate all information as it is received; this has been passed on to the lead petitioner. It is believed that the creation of a neighbourhood watch scheme would be beneficial for this particular area; the Police would be keen to work with the lead petitioner in this matter.

- 2.3 Fly tipping. The main four streets are included in part of a wider initiative known as ‘hot streets’; an initiative used on streets which suffer disproportionately from fly tipping. Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers are tasked with educating and then enforcing where waste offences are discovered.
- 2.4 Street cleansing. This particular area is on a regular fortnightly cleansing schedule by the ‘Barrow man’ and a 5 weekly schedule for the mechanical sweeper, as well as specific visits to collect reported fly tipping from council land. All cases of fly tipping are investigated and the action taken depends on the evidence found at the scene, or from any residents who witnessed the offence. The petitioners have requested the provision of ‘bulk bins’. The Waste Services department continually review methods of waste collection and disposal, but it is believed that such bin provision is likely to be subject to anti-social behaviour and attract fly tipping around the bins. At this moment in time there is no plan to change the current waste receptacles.
- 2.5 Flower beds. The Council’s Highways Department are currently looking into the feasibility of either removing some of the flowerbeds or ensuring that repairs are undertaken to deter the flytipping of waste in them. This is a programme that will include Trentham Road, Newham Road and Craners Road [see appendix 1: regarding specific costing for this work].
- 2.6 Run down properties. The Street Enforcement Team will work with the lead petitioner in identifying properties that are ‘run down’. If applicable, these properties will be referred to the Housing and Planning Enforcement Team for action.
- 2.7 Education. The council does not currently provide an education programme aimed at young children; however colleagues in public health are keen to get involved with such issues and have offered to engage with the community as a whole and look at ways that the Streetscene and Greenspace can be improved.
- 2.8 The following recommendations are made to Cabinet Member:
- Request West Midlands Police to continue their monitoring of the area and respond accordingly to residents request for assistance and encourage residents to set up a Neighbourhood Watch in the area and report incidents of concern to the Police as soon as they occur.
 - The Street Enforcement Team to continue monitoring of this area and work with the lead petitioner concerning fly tipping and run down properties.
 - The Council’s Highways department to continue their feasibility study into either removing some of the flowerbeds, or ensuring that repairs are undertaken to deter fly tipping

3. **Results of consultation undertaken**

- 3.1 Officers and the Police have been in regular dialogue with the lead petitioner.

4 **Timetable for implementing this decision**

- 4.1 Officers from the Council and the Police will monitor the area and meet with residents where needed.

5 Comments from Executive Director, Resources

5.1 Financial implications

There are some financial implications due to the removal or repair of the flower beds which will need to be met from Highways budget, any other costs will be met from within existing resources

5.2 Legal implications

None

6 Other implications

None

6.1 How will this contribute to the Council Plan (www.coventry.gov.uk/councilplan/)?

Crime and Disorder

Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour through partnership working is central to the delivery of the Council Plan in improving the quality of life for Coventry people by making communities safer and our city cleaner and greener.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

See paragraph 4.1 above.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

None

6.4 Equalities / EIA

N/A

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

The Council has a zero tolerance on fly tipping. Where evidence is available, Council officers will take legal action against the perpetrators.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

None

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Neil Whitehead	Highways project technician	Place Directorate	07.11.2016	08.11.2016
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Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Cath Crosby	Lead Accountant	Resources Directorate	08.11.2016	11.11.2016
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Members: Name				
Cllr Abdul Khan	Cabinet Member Policing and Equalities			

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www.coventry.gov.uk/councilmeetings

Appendices: Appendix 1: Highways costing report.

**Craner's Road, Newnham Road, Trentham Road –
Footway Build-out Condition Report**

1 November 2016

Officer – Neil Whitehead

Findings

The footway build-out, traffic calming features comprises of a mixture of planters with upright paving slabs and granite kerb retaining walls. Fly tipping and general litter are deposited on some of these. Shrubs and trees in these planters are maintained, however litter is a recurring issue. There are no defects at intervention level.

Recommendations

Given the amount of pedestrian usage and comparing the general condition with other footways in the city and available budget, some planters that are most prone to littering and in poor condition can be considered for removal and footway build-out reconstructed in 2017/18. The remaining footway build-outs are in an acceptable condition and can be maintained with reactive maintenance where required.

Option for 2017/18 subject to approval and budget – Craner's Road at the junction with Harnall Lane East and adjacent to number 36 to remove planters and reconstruct the build-outs with strengthened blacktop footway construction. Newnham Road adjacent to number 15 to remove planter and reconstruct the build-out with strengthened blacktop footway reconstruction. Trentham Road adjacent to numbers 12, 38, 64 and at the junction with Harnall Lane East to remove planters and reconstruct the build-outs with strengthened blacktop footway reconstruction.

Footway estimate: £7,000

Craner's Road junction with Harnall Lane East

Google Maps Harnall Ln E



Coventry, England
Street View - Jul 2016

Image capture: Jul 2016 © 2016 Google

Craner's Road adjacent to number 36

Google Maps Craners Rd



Coventry, England
Street View - Sep 2015

Image capture: Sep 2015 © 2016 Google

Newnham Road adjacent to number 15

Google Maps Newnham Rd



Coventry, England
Street View - Jul 2016

Image capture: Jul 2016 © 2016 Google

Trentham Road adjacent to number 12

Google Maps Trentham Rd



Coventry, England
Street View - Jul 2016

Image capture: Jul 2016 © 2016 Google

Trentham Road adjacent to number 38

Google Maps Trentham Rd



Coventry, England
Street View - Jul 2016

Image capture: Jul 2016 © 2016 Google

Trentham Road adjacent to number 64

Google Maps Newnham Rd



Coventry, England
Street View - Jul 2016

Image capture: Jul 2016 © 2016 Google

Trentham Road junction with Harnall Lane East

Google Maps Trentham Rd



Coventry, England
Street View - Jul 2016

Image capture: Jul 2016 © 2016 Google

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