

**Coventry City Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee held at 10.00 am on**  
**Wednesday, 28 March 2018**

Present:

Members: Councillor R Brown (Chair)

Councillor N Akhtar  
Councillor A Andrews  
Councillor Clifford (Deputy Chair)  
Councillor J McNicholas  
Councillor M Mutton  
Councillor G Ridley  
Councillor P Seaman (Substitute for Councillor R Singh)

Other Members Present: Councillor G Duggins, Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership  
Councillor J Innes, Cabinet Member for City Services  
Councillor R Lakha, Deputy Cabinet Member for City Services  
Councillor K Maton, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills  
Councillor J Mutton, Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources

Councillor F Abbott  
Councillor R Bailey

Employees (by Directorate):

Place S Bennett, P Bowman, G Holmes, A Walster

People D O'Shaughnessy, C Webb

Apologies Councillors Gannon, R Singh  
S Hanson, Co-opted Member

## **Public Business**

### **70. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **71. Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 March, 2018 were signed as a true record.

There were no matters arising.

### **72. School Parking Issues**

The Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee considered a Briefing Note of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) which outlined the current problems and road safety concerns outside of schools caused by parked vehicles during school drop off and pick up times. The Briefing Note detailed the current arrangements for tackling the issue and options available for dealing with the problem more effectively.

The problems caused by vehicles parking outside of schools is a long-standing one. The fact that cars are parked does not necessarily mean that there is a parking problem. It is only a problem if the parking is illegal or causing a danger to pedestrian or vehicle movement. The problem caused by illegally parked vehicles outside of schools is one that many local authorities across the country have to contend with and is widespread at many schools throughout Coventry.

In Coventry there are more than 130 primary and secondary schools and many of these have more than one entrance to the site. The majority of schools regularly experience parking problems due to the lack of available parking in the vicinity of the school. Some drivers also inconsiderately park in front of private driveways thereby preventing residents from accessing their own property or even park on the resident's private driveway.

The Briefing Note highlighted the following issues:-

- Not all keep clear road markings (a yellow zig zag line) are the subject of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) which makes them enforceable
- The role of the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers
- The Local Authorities enforcement powers under the Traffic Management Act 2004
- The use of an Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) camera – its effectiveness and issues relating to the current contract with a third party supplier
- The wide range of initiatives undertaken by schools to help influence behaviours to alleviate the problem
- A pilot project being trialled in Solihull which limits the traffic in certain streets around the school at key times
- A number of options being explored as a way forward.

The Committee were informed that data shows that the majority of children attend their local catchment area school. The Committee also heard from a local resident who was regularly affected by the behaviour of inconsiderate and dangerous parking and questioned officers on a number of issues including:-

- Enforcement powers available to the Council
- Potential for using Public Space Protection Order and Anti Social Behaviour Orders

- On –going work done with schools and parents to look at alternatives to travelling to school by car, including safer routes risk assessments
- The use of Green Travel Plans

Timescales and costs involved in introducing Traffic Regulation Orders (Officers were requested to submit information regarding this to all Members of the Committee)

- Traffic calming measures introduced in Deedmore Road which have had an impact on parking problems.

The Cabinet Member for City Services attended the meeting and outlined her commitment to exploring all options to tackle this issue.

The Committee acknowledged that there was not an easy solution to this problem and that there needed to be a holistic approach which involved both encouragement to change behaviour and enforcement where appropriate.

**RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee :-**

- (1) Notes the increasing concerns caused by vehicles that are parked illegally outside of schools and the Council’s enforcement strategy to combat this issue**
- (2) Supports the proposed options presented as a way forward in the report**
- (3) Informs the Cabinet Member for City Services of their support for the following further action in relation to this problem:-**
  - a) The development of a business case to procure and operate an in house enforcement vehicle**
  - b) The possibility of having a “pilot” school where a number of initiatives can be trialled, including encouraging courteous behaviour**
  - c) The distribution of “parking cards” which can be placed on the windscreens of cars parked inappropriately**
  - d) Ensuring that all zig zag lines are covered by a TRO and enforced**
  - e) Reviewing the outcome of the exclusion zone currently being trialled in Solihull**
  - f) Consideration of introducing a Public Space Protection Order/Anti Social Behaviour Order to prevent in appropriate parking/ anti-social behaviour**

- g) Consideration of bidding, as part of the PPR process, for additional resources to tackle this issue in future year's budgets**
- h) Supporting and encouraging the introduction of green travel plans and safer route assessments for all schools**
- i) Looking at the impact on parking issues resulting from the introduction of traffic calming measures in Deedmore Road**

**73. West Midlands Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Feedback**

The Committee received and noted an update from Councillor J McNicholas on the West Midlands Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny, particularly in relation to the recent scrutinising of Local Enterprise Partnerships.

**74. Outstanding Issues**

The Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee noted that all outstanding issues had been included in the Work programme.

**75. Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee Work Programme 2017/2018**

The Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee noted their Work Programme for the remainder of the Municipal Year.

The Committee also noted that all Members of Scrutiny were being asked to complete a survey providing feedback on the work of Scrutiny during 2017/18, which would be considered at their next meeting.

**76. Any Other Items of Public Business**

(Meeting closed at 11.20 am)