

NORTH CHINGFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held at Chingford Assembly Hall,
Station Road, Chingford,
E4 7EN.**

On Monday 6th July 2009 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Chair:
Andy Hemsted

Councillor Vice Chair
Laurie Braham

Councillors:

Matt Davis
Graham Sinclair
Peter Herrington
Marion Fitzgerald

Geoff Walker
Michael Lewis
Mladen Jovcic

Community Chair:
Kevin Wyatt-Lown

Community Vice-Chair:
Trevor Calver

Officers in Attendance:

Claire Witney
Moira Bishop
Alan Campbell
Pierre Rossouw
Tim Vine
Dawn Polis
Bettina Aruoture
Alessandra Awolowo

Head, Community Engagement
Head of Capital and Partnering
Manager, Traffic & Project Development
Coordinator, Civil Contingencies
Project Manager, Community Safety
Community Council Manager
Community Council Manager
Committee Manager

Also Present:

Louise Mitchell
S Smith
Acting Sgt Dave Johns
Sgt Lee Palmer

Representative, Waltham Forest LINK
Representative, Ascham Homes
Endlebury Safer Neighbourhood Team
Hatch Lane Safer Neighbourhood Team

Residents Present:

There were approximately 104 residents present at the meeting.

Item

1 WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor **Andy Hemsted (AH)** and **Kevin Wyatt-Lown (KWL)** welcomed residents to the meeting and introduced ward Councillors, officers and representatives of partner organisations.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for lateness were received from Cllrs M. Davis and P. Herrington.

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3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

This standing item is intended only to confirm the accuracy of the Minutes of the last meeting and any matter arising will be discussed during the *Open Forum/Community Discussion*.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 30th March 2009 were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting with the following amendments noted:

Page 10: T Coleman said he was concerned about the speed and volume of traffic in *Long Deacon Road* and *Beresford Road*. He thanked Cllr Lewis for pushing councillor officers to introduce speed checks. However, the situation was still dangerous and wanted to know what the Council would do to resolve the situation.

5 RESPONSE SHEET

Dawn Polis (DP), Community Council Manager, gave a brief summary of the responses provided to the queries raised at the Community Council meeting on the 30th March 2009.

Further comments made on these responses are reported on item 8

6 FEEDBACK ON THE PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE 2008/09 SPEND FUND

The following groups gave updates on the projects that received funding in 2008/09:

- Workbase (received £1,055)
- Chingford Village (received £1,266)
- Waltham Forest Dyslexia Association (received £1,055)
- Chingford Amateur Dramatic & Operatic Society (CADOS) (received £3,110)
- Chingford & District Model Engineering Club (received £5,685)
- Mascular Disease Support Group – Blindness (received £2,000)
- Dogwatch (received £1,600)

7 TRANSFORMING SCHOOLS IN WALTHAM FOREST

Moira Bishop (MB), Head of Capital Strategy and Partnering in Children Services, gave a presentation on primary and secondary placements in the North Chingford area, post-16 education, the proposal for a new school in the Borough and discussion on the standards and organisation of education in the Borough.

MB listed the schools, both primary and secondary, present in each ward, describing their size and type of form entry. She emphasised the diversity of the schools structural framework (for example the presence of community schools, faith schools and foundation schools).

MB then described the transformation works on primary and secondary schools which have already taken place, also mentioning future projects which included the expansion of Handsworth Primary School, remodelling the reception area at

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Yardley Primary School, the proposed expansion of Chingford Foundation School. She mentioned that the transformation works carried out in the past have had an impact on schools' standards. These have improved in most primary and secondary schools.

MB also listed the achievements of local schools, which included: a Turkish Speaking Parents Empowerment Programme at Ridgeway Children Centre and Chase Lane Primary school; successful outcomes from the ISP (Improving School Programme) Regional Advisor at Wellington Primary School; the Arts Award obtained by Chingford Foundation School and a new specialism in Applied Learning at Heathcote.

Finally, **MB** also described future changes in school organisations, including the need to expand the form of entry at Highams Park and five other schools in the borough to meet the demand for places as a result of the rising school population.

Questions and answers following the presentation were raised during the Open Forum.

8 OPEN FORUM

A Alexander (Brodie Road) would like to ask why the Council spends £1.15 of Tax Payers' money for postage on a three-page A4 enclosure in a 12½ x 9½ inch envelope to notify today's meeting, when the cost (as weighted as the Post Office) should only have been a maximum of 61 pence, and hopes that the excessive postage was not also applied on all the notices mailed out to other residents. Those sent in March, which also included minutes of the previous meeting, bore postage of just 37 pence.

KWL encouraged residents to opt for receiving email notifications instead.

J Wood (Dale View Avenue) raised his concerns regarding the Chingford Assembly Hall car park which he claimed to be always empty because the hall was too expensive for groups to hire.

He also mentioned his displeasure on hearing about the closure of the public house in Hatch Lane.

Finally, he asked information regarding the 20 mph area in Highams Park. He wanted to know if speed bumps would be introduced and how long would it take to set up.

M Carvell (Endlebury Road) asked how much it would cost to introduce more street cleaners.

A Campbell (Manager Traffic & Project Development) clarified that the 20mph zone would be a temporary measure for work to be carried out and it would last 18 months.

KWL suggested that a representative of the Enforcement Unit should be invited to attend the meeting to give a presentation.

J Lackmacker (Kings Head Hill) raised concerns regarding the new housing development. He asked if the plans have changed since he has not heard

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Cllr Davis replied that there was not a change of policy – the Council had failed to deliver letters to residents. However, he assured residents that the development was still at a speculative stage and he was looking into the issue.

T Calver asked how local schools were coping with the influx of new people taking up residence in the area. He also asked why so many supply teachers were used. Finally, he asked what the figures were of school leavers unable to read and write.

M Bishop replied that the main mechanism was to monitor planning applications for housing development and make sure that surrounding schools were capable to absorb the influx of residents moving in the area. The Team would also work closely with schools' admission sections. She assured that the Team has been very accurate so far. In reference to the figures of school leavers unable to read and write, she would have to find out the answer.

A **resident** (Goldsborough Crescent) asked what the Council was doing to redress the lack of community use of local schools.

M Bishop replied that part of the Building School for the Future programme would be to expand the schools' extended services to include community involvement.

She explained that it was challenging for the Team to make sure that the funding needs were spent on statutory education, whilst looking at a way to use school creatively.

She explained that there were two consultations taking place on sport and service strategies.

R Tonkin (Dale View Avenue) raised concerns regarding the repairing works on Endlebury Road.

B Carvel (Endlebury Road) asked if the works would include repairs on the pavement.

Cllr Herrington replied that the repairing works would start on 20th July and a letter would be sent to residents.

A **resident** asked if Gunners Road was included in the scheduled works.

Cllr Davis replied that Gunners Road was not in the same planning schedule.

T Calver pointed out that WF Magazine and website stated that millions of pounds have been given to secondary school in the Borough. He wanted to know to how much time teachers spent with pupils whose English was not their first language to the detriment of others. He also asked information regarding the phone mast on Chingford Foundation School.

M Bishop replied that the Council would have limited choice on how to spend the funds received from the Government if these were earmarked for specific projects.

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	<p>Finally, she asked the residents to submit his final question to Chingford Foundation School.</p>	
	<p>R Zalicks (Manor Farm Drive) informed residents that coffee mornings were hosted at the Chingford Assembly Hall and were organised by a local charitable group. However, now that the hire charge was too high the coffee mornings have stopped. She suggested introducing a “charity rate” so that the organisation would be able to afford reinstating coffee mornings.</p>	
	<p>D Sinclair agreed that the price of the Chingford Assembly Hall should be reduced. She urged residents to make their voices heard by the Council.</p>	
	<p>A resident said to have reported tree problems on Buxton Road but no action has been taken, therefore there was clutter on the pavement. He also asked information regarding the replanting on Station Road.</p>	
	<p>A resident asked what the cost of running the Chingford Assembly Hall was when it was not in use and what the profit the Hall made when hired was.</p>	
9	FORMAL COUNCIL BUSINESS	
	<p>Cllr Davis raised concerns regarding the venue for the Community Council meeting on 16th November 2009.</p>	
10	SPEND FUNDING 2009/10 (Part 1)	
	<p>Dawn Polis (DP), Community Council Manager, gave a short presentation explaining how funds would be allocated and how residents can apply for funding or put suggestions forward.</p>	
11	SPEND FUNDING 2009/10 (Part 2)	
	<p>Following DP presentation, residents have been asked to discuss and feedback their ideas for spending the Community Councils funds.</p>	
12	DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING	
	<p>The meeting is asked to note that date and venue of the next is on Wednesday 18th November 2009 at the Chingford Foundation School.</p>	

The meeting ended at 09.30 pm

Chairs Signature _____

Date _____