

SOUTH CHINGFORD AND HIGHAMS PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Chase Lane Primary School,
York Road, London E4 8LA,
Monday 7th July at 7.30 pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Chair:

Nick Buckmaster

Councillors:

John Beanse

Laurence Wedderburn

John Gover

Eric Williams

Community Chair:

Peter Jaggs

Community Vice-Chair:

Darren Lupton

Cabinet Champion:

Geraldine Reardon

Officers in Attendance:

Claire Witney

Head, Community Engagement

Gordon Glenday

Head, Spatial Planning

Stephanie McEvaddy

Coordinating Manager, Policy & Partnership

Bill Nisbet

Coordinator, Neighbourhood Watch Liaison & Crime Prevention

Roger Brown

Manager, Waltham Forest Direct

Sonia Hameed

Supervisor, Customer Service Waltham Forest Direct

Alan Campbell

Traffic & Project Develop Manager, Street Service

Andy Lyon

Operation Manager, Greenspace

Penny Allier

Community Council Manager

Dawn Polis

Community Council Manager

Alessandra Awolowo

Committee Manager

Also Present:

David Errington

Representative, Ascham Homes

Sgt. John Sessions

Safer Neighbourhoods Team, Larkswood

Sgt Tony How

Safer Neighbourhoods Team, Valley

Residents Present:

There were approximately 60 residents present at the meeting.

Item

1 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

The Community Chair, **Pete Jaggs**, and the Councillor Chair, **Nick Buckmaster**, welcomed residents, partner groups, speakers and presenters to the meeting. Cllr Buckmaster introduced ward Councillors. The Community Chair requested that residents use the microphone when addressing the meeting and to clearly state their names.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies have been received from Councillors A Siggers, N Penstone, and S Smith-Pryor.

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<p>3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
<p>4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING This standing item is intended <u>only to confirm the accuracy of the Minutes of the last meeting</u> and the Chair requested that any matters arising be discussed during the <i>Open Forum/Community Discussion</i>.</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 6th March 2008 were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Community Chair.</p>	
<p>5 RESPONSE SHEET Penny Allier (PA), the Community Council Manager, gave a brief summary of the items on the (blue) response sheet included in the agenda papers. Further comments made on these responses are reported on item 7.</p>	
<p>6 VALLEY SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM Sgt. Tony Howe (Valley Safer Neighbourhood Team) gave an update on the work of the local SNTs and appealed to residents to raise any issues and concerns.</p> <p>The updated was followed by questions and answers:</p> <p>R Fox (Hall Lane) pointed out that speeding in Hall Lane has become an issue.</p> <p>M Vero (Hall Lane) added the speeding usually took place on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights and was getting increasingly worse.</p> <p>Sgt. Howe replied that he would monitor the area with “traffic guns” (tools to monitor the speed of passing vehicles) and send in the enforcement team.</p> <p>M Trim (Hall Gardens) raised the issues occurring at Chase Lane Park. She said that particularly in the afternoon, dogs were not controlled and there have been accidents. When she reported them to the local Police station, they said that they never heard anything regarding these accidents.</p> <p>Sgt. Howe said he would take note of the concerns raised.</p>	
<p>7 OPEN FORUM S Hope (City of London Corporation) explained to residents that the Corporation has won a Lottery bid of £4 million to improve Epping Forest, which is maintained by the City of London. She said that the areas they would like to invest in included: the Queen Elizabeth Hunting Lodge, introducing grazing animals, improving car parking facilities, managing the health of ancient trees. She encouraged residents to complete the questionnaire handed out at the reception.</p> <p>H Richards (Hurst Avenue) remarked that work had not been completed on the pavement from Hurst Avenue and around to Chingford Mount.</p> <p>P Marshall (Normanshire Drive) pointed out that in her road the number of trees have diminished – once there was a tree every other house. She said that she had spoken with Steve Downing who replied that he would consider replacing one of the</p>	

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trees. She hoped that some of the funding would be used for trees in the area.
A Lyon (Greenspace) pointed out that trees in the area were managed by Colin Lawrence, Arboriculture Manager and he would pass on the issue to him. He also suggested to residents to join the "Adopt a tree" initiative.

N Shipsey (Beech Hall Road) raised the issue regarding the proposed Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) around Highams Park. He pointed out that all the options available would involve a substantial cost increase and he asked why there were not any options which did not require a cost increase like a 1 hour parking restriction.

A Campbell (Street Services) replied that the Council had introduced only one low cost option in the Borough and it has not been successful, for example anyone could park on residents' bays. He also pointed out that a no-cost restriction would not be sufficient to deal with commuters' issues all day. He also said that the preferred option would go forward if more than 50% of residents were in favour.

N Shipsey (Beech Hall Road) emphasised that there were no options which would not involve a cost increase of the CPZ.

P Jaggs suggested to residents to vote against the CPZ if they have any concerns.

M Townsend (Ainslie Wood Road) raised issues regarding the traffic situation from Chingford Road to Larkswood Road. He was concerned by the fact that the road has been used by lorries and heavy duty vehicles and the situation would worsen with the introduction of a new Tesco.

A Campbell replied that Tesco has not made a formal application. However, residents were welcome to raise their concerns with the planning committee if/when an application is made. He also suggested that width and weight restrictions is a possible option but this would have to be monitored and there is the issue of access.

J Dent (Coolgardie Avenue) stated that at the last meeting residents were asked to discuss issues, opportunities and challenges for the Sustainable Community Strategy. However, the report sent out to residents did not represent residents' comments and did not give practical responses to the issues raised.

S McEvaddy (Policy & Partnership) replied that the Sustainable Community Strategy report was a summary of all the issues raised in all Community Council areas as well as other consultation events. Although residents' comments were not included, they had been taken on board and looked at more closely to deal with specific issues.

T Calver (Larkshall Road) said that at North Chingford Community Council, the Head of Asset Management replied to a query regarding Louisa Oakes stating: "There are however opportunities that are being explored, and which will be shared and consulted on in due course if they become deliverable projects". At that meeting, a resident suggested whether local residents can give their input before a decision was reached. T Calver suggested that residents in South Chingford should get involved too.

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He also raised the issue of the phone mast in Westward Road. It consisted of the mast plus one cabinet, though there are two other cabinets, which contravene the original application.

N Shipsey (Beech Hall Road) pointed out that at the Tesco exhibition, it was difficult to make an informed decision when each representative from Tesco gave a different response.

I Woodward (Larkshall Road) submitted the following written request on behalf of residents in Linnett Close: "Could some actions be taken regarding fly tipping in Larkswood.

There is a path leading from New Road to Larkshall Road (next to the Larkshall Pub) that runs between Mead Crescent and Linnett Close. There is regular fly tipping taking place here, particularly from a house in Linnett Close where a significant amount of rubbish appears to have been thrown over the back fence. Please could some action be taken to 1) clear the rubbish and 2) warn the residents about this behaviour?

I previously wrote to the Council by email about this for the "Our Area Matters" day in Larkswood ward, but did not even receive the courtesy of a reply."

8 REFRESHMENT BREAK

9 NEW WHALTHAM FOREST DIRECT (WFD) SHOP

Roger Brown (RB) Manager and **Sonia Hameed (SH)**, Customer Service Supervisor of the Waltham Forest Direct team outlined plans for a new shop at Chingford Mount and discussed the services to be offered with residents.

RB said that he was very keen to learn what residents wanted from the WFD Shop in order to satisfy local needs. He described that the Shop would be all on one level with nine work stations and a payment kiosk (for Council tax, garage and rent payments); there would also be interview rooms for confidential conversations.

The Shop would be wheelchair friendly and would accommodate representatives from partner organisations such as Age Concern, the Department of Work and Pension and other organisations.

The presentation was followed by questions and answers:

H Richards asked why the WFD Team did not chose the site of the old Post Office

RB replied that the site was more difficult and expensive to convert. The chosen site was in a more prominent position.

Cllr Buckmaster asked when the WFD Shop would be open.

RB replied that it would be open to the public by December 2008.

10 INCREASED COMMUNITY COUNCILS FUNDING

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Penny Allier (PA) explained the new mechanisms for making proposals for the increased Community Council funding £35,000 (£10,000 per ward plus £5,000). She emphasised that at this meeting residents were asked to give proposals and voting would take place at the next meeting in November.

11 SPEND SUGGESTIONS

Following the presentation, residents were asked to discuss suggestions with other residents and Councillors of their wards and come up with proposals.

12 FORMAL COUNCIL BUSINESS

There was no formal business for discussion.

13 VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date and venue of the next Community meeting will be:
17th November 2008 at Selwyn Primary School, London E4 9PJ.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Chairs Signature_____

Date_____