

Minutes

PETITION HEARING - CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION AND RECYCLING

20 January 2016



Meeting held at Committee Room 3 - Civic Centre,
High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW

	<p>Committee Members Present: Councillors Keith Burrows (Chairman)</p> <p>LBH Officers Present: David Knowles</p>	
31.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS COMING BEFORE THIS MEETING (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>None.</p>	
32.	<p>TO CONFIRM THAT THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN PUBLIC. (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p> <p>RESOLVED: That all items be considered in public.</p>	
33.	<p>TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE OFFICERS ON THE FOLLOWING PETITIONS RECEIVED. (<i>Agenda Item 3</i>)</p>	
34.	<p>RESIDENTS' REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES AND PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS FOR SWAN ROAD, WEST DRAYTON (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>Councillors Janet Duncan, Dominic Gilham and Jan Sweeting attended the meeting and each spoke as Ward Councillors.</p> <p>The petitioner could not attend the meeting but sent his concerns via e-mail.</p> <p>The lead petitioner was heard by the Chairman previously in March 2015 about this issue, having been deferred from February at the lead petitioner's request. The lead petitioner did not attend the meeting in March, but local Ward Members were present.</p> <p>The lead petitioner stated in his e-mail that 350 signatures had been submitted, as opposed to 199 and 7 letters of support what had also been submitted from local businesses, Swan Road Church, Swan Road Care Home, Councillors and the MP.</p> <p>The lead petitioner continued that specific measures, other than pedestrian crossings were flexible about and believed that the road safety department could recommend appropriately and Councillors could arrange a consultation.</p>	

The lead petitioner requested clarification on the statement that "the traffic report does not support a case for traffic calming on Swan Road".

Ward Councillors made the following points in SUPPORT:

- The issues affected the wider area of The Green, Church Road, Old Farm Road, Money Lane and Mill Road.
- The area was a traffic hot spot with heavy vehicles that brought metal waste to the recycling facilities in donkey Lane and the Common.
- There were more buses that used the route and there was increased traffic from residents in the new flats.
- Swan Road was a bus route and there was heavy traffic that used this road giving rise to noise and vibration. The Council had installed vibration monitoring equipment.
- The road was busy through the working day and the problems experienced varied according to the time of day. There was speeding in light traffic and standstill at some points of the working day.
- Residents whose children attended St Catherine's School, Money Lane walked down Swan Road and some had observed incidents of near misses and damage to parked cars and accidents.
- Ward Councillors were happy to work with local schools on travel plans.
- There was inconsiderate and unsafe parking on the road by commuters, holiday makers and local workers. There was no controlled parking zone but some residents would welcome one. However, this could perhaps encourage speeding. Cars were able to park on Swan Road and this reduced the width of the carriageway and caused damage to parked cars when traffic tried to move through narrow space.
- There had been accidents in Swan Road; last year there were four that the Ward Councillors had been informed about. However, the Police had no record of accidents on the road even though an accident last year had resulted in the road being closed.
- Reference was made to a petition which had been submitted last year for a 20mph zone but it had been unsuccessful as Council investigations found there was an average speed of less than 30mph. However, as part of the time the traffic was slow, it was implied that at other times the traffic would be in excess of 30mph. In addition the Police data did not match accident levels experienced by those living and working in the area.

- The current petition had been submitted to introduce traffic calming measures to ensure safer movement of traffic and to reduce accidents and damage to vehicles and pedestrian crossings. A request was made by Ward Councillors for CCTV to monitor road conditions over a few months.
- The Cabinet Member, Councillor Keith Burrows, listened to the concerns raised and noted that the police could not provide supporting evidence if they had not been called to the scene of an accident. He also noted that there was a school crossing and a patrol officer which would make the zebra crossing safer.
- Regarding the average speed cameras the Cabinet Member reported that it worked on car count and therefore could not mask data.
- The Cabinet Member asked that the Ward Councillors work with the petitioner and engage with residents in the other roads.

RESOLVED: That the Cabinet Member:

- 1. Met and discussed with petitioners their request for traffic calming and enhanced pedestrian crossing facilities in Swan Road, West Drayton;**
- 2. Noted that he heard a previous petition, from the same lead petitioner, seeking a 20mph Zone, as recently as March 2015;**
- 3. Noted that the Council had to date commissioned four separate sets of independent traffic surveys in Swan Road, undertaken in November 2008, July 2011, January 2014 and July 2014, the results of which are set out in this report and none of which in themselves have supported a case for traffic calming;**
- 4. Sought clarity from the lead petitioner on his specific requests and the extent to which other petitioners were involved in the consideration of this level of detail;**
- 5. Noted that there was no new information since the last petition. Ward Councillors were asked to engage with the petition lead and carefully decide their next steps**
- 6. Asked officers to review the situation in Swan Road with London Buses and TfL as part of any ongoing investigation;**
- 7. Invited Ward Members to encourage relevant local schools to work with the Council's School Travel and Road Safety Team to formulate their School Travel Plans and establish a case, if any, for further measures in Swan Road as part of this, and noted that the School Travel Plans were in their early stages;**
- 8. In light of the ongoing claims that there were incidents of vehicles speeding, albeit despite the lack of independent traffic survey evidence to support this, considers asking officers to specifically raise Swan Road with the Metropolitan Police and other emergency services at the next available liaison meeting with them, seeking their own monitoring and enforcement at his specific request, and furthermore to seek a report back via officers for his consideration along with his Ward Member colleagues.**

MORFORD WAY, EASTCOTE (*Agenda Item 5*)

Councillors Eddie Lavery and Michael White attended the meeting and each spoke as Ward Councillors. Ward Councillors were sympathetic with residents and supported them and the officer's report. They were impressed with the petitioner's packs and the petitioners open mindedness to alleviate the problem. Ward Councillors agreed with the proposal to conduct a formal exercise to monitor speeds.

The Petitioner provided information packs for the Cabinet Member. The Concerns and suggestions from the petitioner in SUPPORT included the following:

- 54 signatures had been obtained from the 44 dwellings on the road.
- Teams of residents had worked to develop evidence based data, one resident was a former traffic policeman, lecturer on traffic related matters at the Metropolitan Police training and consultant to Local Authorities and he had developed the data gathering process which had been employed.
- The pack included - a paper on Traffic Calming Options, a questionnaire on neighbours' opinions and analysis, and a study of traffic flow.
- The Petitioner reported that the traffic flow from both directions which had been suggested from the study that vehicles avoided waiting to turn at the Elm Avenue / Field End Road traffic lights by using Hawthorne Avenue and Meadow Way or Hawthorne Avenue and Morford Way to continue their journey.
- The study measured vehicle speeds over a distance of 100 metres, which was about half the length of Morford Way.
- The studies found that speed differed dramatically at different times of the day. Morford Way had limited width with parking down one side of the road; vehicles had to stop or slow down to give way at certain times of the day.
- On 7th September 20% of vehicles had travelled at between 45 and 55 mph
- On 8th September 30% vehicles had travelled between 45 and 55 mph
- 10th September 20% vehicles did so.
- Other vehicles at peak times overall were travelling within the speed limit, but often vehicles for a proportion of the 100 meters were travelling faster than the speed limit.
- On 17th September at non-peak times there were fewer on-coming vehicles and 50% of vehicles were travelling in excess

of 40 mph.

- This pattern had not been observed in Hawthorne Avenue as the road was wider, but the Cabinet Member was informed that on Boxing Day there had been an accident.
- The lead petitioner welcomed any advice from officers including an independent vehicle speed and traffic survey, but suggested that a whole neighbourhood approach including Hawthorne Avenue and Meadow Way was required.
- From the survey of residents there was a preference held by residents but not a uniform view that a tri-lateral approach was suitable.
- It was requested that a well-signed 20 mph speed limit through the neighbourhood be introduced.
- Also that a re-working of the timings of the traffic lights be implemented so that cars were encouraged to use them.
- The installation of two shallow and wide speed bumps on Morford Way and at levels in Hawthorne Avenue and perhaps Meadow Way.

The Cabinet Member, Councillor Keith Burrows listened to the concerns raised and was impressed by the detail of the pack provided. The Cabinet Member commended the petitioner and residents for their hard work.

RESOLVED: That the Cabinet Member:

- 1. Discussed with the petitioners their concerns.**
- 2. Asked officers to arrange a speed and vehicle survey at locations suggested by petitioners and that this be reported back to the Cabinet Member and local Ward Councillors.**
- 3. Asked officers to undertake further investigations under the Road Safety Programme and report back.**
- 4. Asked officers to check the current traffic lights for vehicle and pedestrian movement and report back to the Cabinet Member.**

36.

PETITION ASKING FOR A SPEED HUMP IN EASTCOTE HIGH ROAD NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH LARKSWOOD RISE (*Agenda Item 6*)

Councillors Jonathan Bianco, Duncan Flynn and John Morgan attended the meeting and each spoke as Ward Councillors.

The petitioner could not attend, local resident Professor Ward spoke on their behalf and provided photographs for the Cabinet Member. She expressed concerns and suggestions in SUPPORT which included the following:

- There was a blind spot which was highlighted with the

photographs provided.

- It was suggested that a speed hump in Eastcote High Road near its junction with Larkswood Rise would calm traffic and improve safety.
- The petition was supported by Northwood Hills and Eastcote Resident's Association.

Ward Councillors SUPPORTED the petition and made the following points:

- That the traffic ignored speed limits and they would support traffic calming measures particularly as this was an old, bendy road.
- That the road safety campaign should continue on from the 'Case is Altered' pub.
- The Cabinet Member, Councillor Keith Burrows listened to the concerns raised and noted that there was a strong case with the support of all 3 Ward Councillors.

RESOLVED: That the Cabinet Member

- 1. Instructed officers to arrange a speed and vehicle survey at location suggested by petitioners and report the results back to the Cabinet Member and the local Ward Councillors.**
- 2. Asked officers to undertake further investigations under the Road Safety Programme and report back to the Cabinet Member.**

37. **RESIDENTS' REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES IN LANGDALE DRIVE, HAYES** (*Agenda Item 7*)

Councillor Fyfe attended the meeting as a Ward Councillor. Councillor Oswell sent his support to the petitioners as he had to attend another meeting.

Concerns and suggestions from the lead petitioner included the following:

- That the road surface was damaged.
- That traffic speeded down the lane and that traffic calming measures were needed.
- That a resident had had serious damage to her parked car.
- That the local school resulted in increased parking at certain times of the day and some drivers parked on dropped kerbs.

RESOLVED: That the Cabinet Member

- 1. Met with the petitioners and discussed their concerns**
- 2. Agreed that the item be added to the future programme for possible resurfacing when appropriate.**
- 3. Asked Officers to arrange speed and vehicle surveys at**

	<p>locations suggested by petitioners and report the results back to the Cabinet Member and local Ward Councillors.</p> <p>4. The Road Safety team be asked to look at Langdale Drive and consult with residents and Ward Councillors.</p>	
38.	<p>REQUEST FOR A PARKING MANAGEMENT SCHEME - HARMONDSWORTH LANE, WEST DRAYTON (<i>Agenda Item 8</i>)</p> <p>Councillor Manjit Khatra and Councillor June Nelson attended the meeting and spoke as Ward Councillors in support of the petition; Councillor Peter Money also sent his support to the petition.</p> <p>The Lead petitioner presented the petition to the Cabinet Member, Councillor Keith Burrows and raised the following concerns and suggestion:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The petition was requesting a parking management scheme in Harmondsworth Lane, West Drayton. • Reference was made to British Airways staff parking on the road on their non-parking days. • During the Christmas period 15 cars had been parked on the road for two weeks and that the cars looked like they were parked professionally as they were in very close proximity indicating that the road may be used for airport parking. • 'Mediquip' vans were also parked on the lane. • There had been an overall increase in parking. <p>The Cabinet Member, Councillor Keith Burrows listened to the concerns raised with current parking situation on Harmondsworth Lane.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Cabinet Member asked that Ward Councillors be asked for their input and Officers be asked to conduct investigations into parking options for the road.</p>	
	<p>The meeting, which commenced at 7.00 pm, closed at 9.20 pm.</p>	

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Kiran Grover on 01895 250693. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.