

Minutes

**Petition Hearing - Cabinet Member for Planning
and Transportation
Wednesday, 12 February 2020
Meeting held at Committee Room 3 - Civic Centre,
High Street, Uxbridge**



	<p>Cabinet Member Present: Councillors Keith Burrows (Chairman)</p> <p>Ward Councillors Present: Councillor Simon Arnold, Yiewsley (Agenda Item 6); Councillor Jonathan Bianco, Northwood Hills (Agenda Item 4); Councillor Alan Deville, Yiewsley (Agenda Item 6); Councillor Duncan Flynn, Northwood Hills (Agenda Item 4); Councillor John Morgan, Northwood Hills (Agenda Item 4); Councillor Jan Sweeting, West Drayton (Agenda Item 5);</p> <p>Officers Present: David Knowles, Head of Transport and Town Centre Projects Luke Taylor, Democratic Services Officer</p>
1.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS COMING BEFORE THIS MEETING <i>(Agenda Item 1)</i></p> <p>Councillor Burrows declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 4, as he knew a Councillor who lived in the local area.</p>
2.	<p>TO CONFIRM THAT THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN PUBLIC <i>(Agenda Item 2)</i></p> <p>It was confirmed that all items would be considered in public.</p>
3.	<p>PETITION TO IMPROVE ROAD SAFETY IN HARLYN DRIVE, CHAMBERLAIN WAY & CATLINS LANE, PINNER <i>(Agenda Item 4)</i></p> <p>Councillors Jonathan Bianco, Duncan Flynn and John Morgan were in attendance at the meeting as Ward Councillors for Northwood Hills.</p> <p>A petitioner addressed the Cabinet Member and noted a number of concerns, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Three petitions have been raised in the area over the past five years, and this latest petition has over 800 signatures in support, including both past and present local MPs, the Headteacher of Harlyn School, parents and local residents;• Previous action was taken to address parking issues in Tolcarne Drive and Cuckoo Hill in 2013, but this was never extended to Harlyn Drive, Chamberlain

Way and Catlins Lane;

- Traffic calming measures were put in place in Cheney Street without KSIs and an 85th percentile that was lower than that on the three roads named in the petition;
- Following the action taken in 2013 on Cuckoo Hill, traffic volume and traffic speed has increased in Harlyn Drive, Chamberlain Way and Catlins Lane;
- Data figures used by the Council to calculate increased traffic volume and speeds come from 2016-18, but these time frames should be extended back to 2013 when the speed bumps were introduced in Cuckoo Hill, as that was when more the three roads became a rat-run to avoid the speed bumps;
- The speeding in the area put vulnerable groups in danger.

Councillor Duncan Flynn, Ward Councillor for Northwood Hills, thanked the residents for their hard work on the issue over the years and noted that Hillingdon Council had a proud record on road safety. Councillor Flynn commented that there were serious concerns regarding this road and the size of the petition demonstrates this. The Cabinet Member heard that views of the residents must be considered and there has been a large increase in residents who have signed this petition in contrast with previous petitions. Councillor Flynn noted the support of the local care facility, Harlyn School, the driving test centre, police and local MP, and asked that action be taken to address these concerns that did not arrive alongside measures in Tolcarne Drive and Cuckoo Hill.

Councillor John Morgan, Ward Councillor for Northwood Hills, commented that statistics may not say that speed is an issue in the area, but residents know differently. When measures were implemented in Tolcarne Drive and Cuckoo Hill, the residents of Harlyn Drive, Chamberlain Way and Catlins Lane did not support measures on their roads but they do now. Councillor Morgan stated that it was usual to have a 20mph zone near schools, and Harlyn School is situated nearby. The Cabinet Member heard that speed was an issue on Catlins Lane, and measures were needed to slow traffic and make the roads safer. Councillor Morgan noted that the 800 plus signatures were nearly 10% of the Northwood Hills Ward, which should be the strength of feeling, and the Council should not just look at statistics, as residents see the issues first hand and know there are problems.

Councillor Jonathan Bianco, Ward Councillor for Northwood Hills, stated that speed bumps were not his preferred route to improve road safety due to noise and environmental concerns, and there were also concerns over whether 20mph zones would be regularly policed. Councillor Bianco also noted that Harlyn School had signed the petition but previously were not involved in the Council's School Travel Plan. Councillor Bianco stated that while he was not supportive of certain traffic calming measures, the wishes of the constituency and ward should be respected and this issue must be looked at again. The Cabinet Member heard that the correct route to do this was via an independent traffic study, and this would be a good starting point to tackle the issue, but it cannot be rushed because it may lead to a rat-run elsewhere.

Councillor Burrows noted that officers had confirmed that Harlyn School had been in touch with the Council and would be meeting with the Road Safety and School Travel

team on 13 February 2020, which was a positive development. The Head Teacher of Harlyn School was in attendance and stated that the school took road safety matters seriously and had taken action in this regard over the last 12 years.

The Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation noted that the Council had received no indication of Police action, and although two visits were reported, the Council had not received any shared data from the Police, and this would be raised imminently.

Councillor Burrows commented that traffic surveys were required for the Council to have the most up-to-date data on the roads, and this data would feed into any judgement of moving forward in the future. The Cabinet Member stated that he was mindful of the increased number of signatures on the current petition, and also noted that he was mindful that residents did not want action taken in the past.

The petitioners were informed that Councillor Burrows was mindful that residents want something done in the area and that all options were on the table, but it was important that the data received from the traffic surveys supported this.

The Cabinet Member confirmed that petitioners and Ward Councillors could choose when and where to place the equipment required to secure the traffic data. Residents confirmed that they would need some time to consider where traffic data would be collected and would return the locations to their Ward Councillors, along with a suggested time period for the traffic surveys to be put in place.

RESOLVED: That the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation:

- 1. Met and discussed with petitioners their request to improve road safety in Harlyn Drive, Chamberlain Way and Catlins Lane, Pinner;**
- 2. Noted the detailed information provided with the petition;**
- 3. Asked officers to undertake traffic surveys at locations agreed by the petitioners and local Ward Councillors and then report back to the Cabinet Member;**
- 4. Welcomed Harlyn School's engagement with the Council's School Travel and Road Safety Team to work towards tackling some of the issues of concerns to petitioners;**
- 5. Noted the last available Police recorded personal injury data for Catlins Lane, Harlyn Drive and Chamberlain Way; and,**
- 6. Asked officers to discuss the recent operations undertaken by the Police with colleagues in the Northwood Hills Safer Neighbourhood Team in greater detail, with a view to coordinate future initiatives.**

4. PETITION TO REQUEST SPEED RESTRICTION MEASURES ON THE BRAMBLES, WEST DRAYTON (*Agenda Item 5*)

The lead petitioner addressed the Cabinet Member and noted a number of concerns, including the following:

- All residents of the road have seen cars speeding on The Brambles and over 40 signatures were received for the petition, although it would have been easy to gather more;
- Due to speed bumps on surrounding roads, The Brambles has become a 'rat-run' for cars, which often drive around the bend at high speeds.
- The bend on The Brambles is too narrow for two cars to pass;
- There are a number of disabled bays on the road, and it is difficult for them to pull out onto the road or get out of their cars due to cars passing at high speeds;
- There is a park on the road and a lot of concerns about children's safety;
- Cars are parked on the road, so visibility when turning out onto the road is very poor;
- Speed bumps or a 20mph zone on the road would help as cars often travel at 40mph or more on the road.

Councillor Jan Sweeting, Ward Councillor for West Drayton, thanked the Cabinet Member for deferring the item from the last meeting and noted she was glad the lead petitioner was able to attend. Councillor Sweeting offered her full support to the petition, and noted that children in the area were at risk from cars travelling at high speeds near the park. The Cabinet Member heard that due to the narrow road and parked cars, drivers travel at high speeds down The Brambles to avoid getting stopped by cars coming the other way, and the road is used as a rat-run following traffic calming measures on Laurel Lane. Councillor Sweeting expressed concern that the traffic survey may not show the high speeds required to progress speed reducing measures, but noted that the road was very dangerous and she would support any measures that could be taken to lessen the speed of cars travelling down a residential street with a lot of children.

Councillor Burrows noted that he had seen and experienced the problems on The Brambles first-hand as drivers become frustrated waiting on the road for other cars to pass. The Cabinet Member also noted that the bend was very narrow and dangerous.

The lead petitioner and Ward Councillor also noted that the implementation of a residents' parking scheme in Harmondsworth Road may also exacerbate the problem.

The Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation agreed traffic surveys should take place on the road and the local Ward Councillor and lead petitioner agreed the locations that the traffic surveys would take place.

Councillor Burrows noted that if high speeds were not shown in the data, a high volume of traffic may still be, and other actions that could help reduce the speed or volume of traffic would be considered.

The Cabinet Member also requested that officers look to add possible signage by the park to tell drivers to slow down as children may be in the area.

RESOLVED: Having met with the petitioners, the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation:

- 1. Listened to the petitioners' request for speed humps and / or speed reduction measures in The Brambles, West Drayton;**
- 2. Asked officers to undertake further traffic surveys, at locations agreed by the petitioners, and to then report back to the Cabinet Member; and,**
- 3. Instructed officers to look at possible signage by the park and report back to the Cabinet Member.**

5. PETITION FOR A PARKING MANAGEMENT SCHEME IN APPLE TREE AVENUE & BIRCH AVENUE, YIEWSLEY (*Agenda Item 6*)

Councillors Simon Arnold and Alan Deville were in attendance at the meeting as Ward Councillors for Yiewsley, and passed on the apologies from Councillor Ahmad-Wallana, who was unable to attend.

The lead petitioner addressed the Cabinet Member and noted a number of concerns, including the following:

- The street was very busy with two bus routes and a nearby school, and experienced Sixth Form students parking on the road, in addition car dealers operating in the vicinity and tourists leaving cars on the road before being taken to Heathrow Airport;
- The introduction of Cross Rail would make the parking situation even worse;
- Apple Tree Avenue and Birch Avenue are quiet roads, but due to parked cars, the roads are significantly narrower;
- Residents are not able to park near their homes, and as a result, elderly people are having to walk long distances to their homes;
- Only four residents who were asked to sign the petition did not want to, and over 130 had signed the petition;
- Residents do not want to go out as they will lose their car parking space if they move their car, and visitors have nowhere to park;
- There has been a significant increase in hospital workers parking on the roads while they work long shifts, so there is nowhere to park for all hours of the day;
- People have been seen leaving cars on the street and then being picked up by a minibus with their luggage to go to Heathrow Airport; and.
- Some residents have even rented out parking spaces outside their homes.

Councillor Arnold, Ward Councillor for Yiewsley, thanked the lead petitioner for his efforts and noted that it was clear hospital traffic and parking has moved to Apple

Tree Avenue and Birch Avenue following residents' parking schemes being implemented in nearby roads. Councillor Arnold stated that introducing a scheme in these roads would just move the issue elsewhere and cause parking concerns for other residents and suggested that Royal Close, Violet Avenue and Campion Close be included in any consultation over the implementation of a scheme.

Councillor Alan Deville, Ward Councillor for Yiewsley, also thanked the petitioners and added his support to the petitioners and residents on the roads deserved to be able to park near their homes.

Councillor Burrows recognised that the parking concerns were the result of a domino effect from residents' parking schemes nearby, and hospital workers and students parking were increasing the issue. The Cabinet Member stated that Ward Councillors should submit a Members' Enquiry regarding possible car dealers on the road.

The Cabinet Member stated that 131 signatures was a high number, particularly when collecting signatures over winter, and it showed the level of support from local residents.

Residents were informed that the Cabinet Member would contact Ward Councillors to discuss which other roads in the area would be involved in the informal consultation to implement parking management schemes, in addition to Apple Tree Avenue and Birch Avenue.

The petitioners noted that parking bays on the road had faded, and the Cabinet Member noted that Ward Councillors may wish to put in a Members' Enquiry to have parking bays on the road repainted.

RESOLVED: Having met with petitioners, the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation:

- 1. Listened to the petitioners' request for the introduction of "residents only parking" in Apple Tree Avenue and Birch Avenue, Yiewsley;**
- 2. Noted the petition submitted previously by residents of Apple Tree Avenue, Yiewsley; and,**
- 3. Asked officers to add the request to the Council's parking programme for further informal consultation on options to manage parking in these roads and other roads in the area which Ward Councillors may deem appropriate.**

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Democratic Services on 01895 250 636. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.