

## Minutes

### Petition Hearing - Cabinet Member for Improvement, Partnership and Community Safety

Thursday, 18 March 2010



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

	<p><b>Members Present:</b></p> <p>Councillors Douglas Mills</p> <p><b>Officers Present:</b></p> <p>Ed Shaylor Mark Oakley Gill Brice</p> <p><b>Also Present:</b></p> <p>Councillor Bruce Baker</p>	
1.	<p><b>To confirm that the business of the meeting will take place in public</b></p> <p>It was confirmed that the meeting would take place in public</p>	
2.	<p><b>The Sigers - Petition requesting the installation of CCTV Cameras</b></p> <p>Councillor Bruce Baker attended the meeting and spoke as Ward Councillors.</p> <p><i>Concerns and suggestions raised at the meeting included the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The lead petitioner had lived in the area for the last 10 years and the road had previously been very quiet.</li><li>• More recently cars had been broken into with wing mirrors broken off, windows smashed and walls knocked down.</li><li>• A majority of the people living in the road were elderly and were afraid of the anti social behaviour currently taking place in The Sigers.</li><li>• Petitioners expressed disappointment with the report and the recommendations put forward, and the meeting was held in the afternoon so some residents were not able to attend as they work.</li><li>• The time of the meeting had been agreed with the lead petitioner.</li></ul>	<p><b>Action By:</b></p> <p><b>Ed Shaylor Mark Oakley</b></p>

- One reason there had been fewer incidents reported recently, is that residents are parking in another road on Friday and Saturday evenings.
- It was felt that the number of incidents reported to the Police and the Community Safety Team did not reflect the full scale of the problem.
- Doubt was expressed that the Safer Neighbourhood Team would not work past midnight.
- Provision of surveillance was not difficult as stated in report, and the installation of permanent CCTV is justified due to the number of incidents that had occurred.
- A lot of residents are not aware that the Community Safety Team exists.
- There had been 14 incidents in 3 months, which was too many to be ignored.
- Consideration could be given to the installation of a CCTV camera for a trial period.
- During a trial period residents would report all incidents to establish effectiveness of the camera.
- Following a trial period the situation should be re-assessed to consider whether to keep or remove the camera.

The Cabinet Member listened to the concerns of the petitioners and Ward Councillors and advised that he would be agreeing Recommendations 1 and 2 and amending recommendation 5. Recommendations 3 and 4 would not be agreed.

The Cabinet Member stated that a temporary camera had previously been installed but had not recorded any incidents. Residents should be able to expect peace and quiet and with that in mind recommendation 5 was to be amended to read:-

‘Officers investigate modern wireless temporary CCTV in consultation with the lead petitioner, Chris Groom and Councillor Baker on the best location for the Camera. That the camera be for an experimental period of 3 months with a report back to the Cabinet Member at the conclusion of the temporary period for a further decision to be made.

The Cabinet Member also advised that he believed there was merit in speaking to the Borough Commander to ensure that the Eastcote Safer Neighbourhood Team was aware of the problems in the area. Control of the Police operations was not under the Authority’s control but a request for more input from the Safer Neighbourhood Team would be made.

	<p>Officers advised that the use of covert or hidden CCTV, as requested is governed by the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000, and presents many difficulties in a residential area due to privacy issues.</p> <p>Officers further advised that there was a process that needed to be followed before overt CCTV could be installed. If after following the process and overt CCTV agreed it was hoped that a camera could be in place by the end of April. In answer to an issue raised by the petitioner, officers advised that Anti Social Behaviour should be reported to the Police, (if crimes are committed) or to the Council's Contact Centre, which will forward the calls to the Community Safety Team.</p> <p>The Cabinet Member and Ward Councillors were to be advised of the timescale for the installation of the CCTV.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Solutions to the problems in the area are not obvious due to the sporadic nature of the incidents and the residential nature of the area.</b></li> <li><b>2. The local Police Safer Neighbourhood Team had been asked to patrol The Sigers more frequently on Friday and Saturday evenings between 23:00 - 03.00, as these tend to be the peak times of the incidents after the pubs close.</b></li> <li><b>3. Officers investigate the purchase of a modern wireless temporary CCTV to be installed in The Sigers. That in consultation with the lead petitioner, Chairman of Eastcote Residents Association and Ward Councillors the best location for the Camera be discussed. That the camera be for an experimental period of 3 months with a report back to the Cabinet Member at the conclusion of the temporary period for a further decision to be made.</b></li> </ol>	
	<p>The meeting, which commenced at 3 p.m., closed at 3.30 pm.</p>	

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