

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

WOLLATON AND LENTON ABBEY AREA COMMITTEE (AREA 7)

MINUTES

of meeting held on **28 NOVEMBER 2011** at the Council House
from 5.00 pm to 6.04 pm

- ✓ Councillor Morley (Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Parton (Vice-Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Culley
- ✓ Councillor Fox
- ✓ Councillor Longford

Community Representatives

- ✓ Mr D Allen) North Wollaton Residents' Association
- ✓ Mrs L Dilks)
- ✓ Mrs P Peck - Wollaton Park Community Association
- Mr T Kerry - Friends of Wollaton Local Nature Reserve
- ✓ Mrs T Marshall - Wollaton Park Residents' Association
- ✓ Mrs P Meese - Lenton Abbey Family and Friends Funday/
Lenton Abbey 15th Nottingham Scout Group
- vacancy - Wollaton Care Group
- vacancy - Wollaton Village and Park Conservation Society
- vacancy - Wollaton and Lenton Abbey Neighbourhood Watch
Association
- ✓ Mr B Smith - Lenton Abbey Residents' Association
- ✓ Dr A J Swannell - Wollaton Vale Residents' Association

✓ - indicates present at meeting

Officers In Attendance

- Ms K Curnow - Area Manager Central Locality)
- Mr E Curry - Head of Parks and Open Spaces) Communities
- Mr M J Parker - Constitutional Services Officer - Resources

Please note: except where otherwise indicated, all items discussed at the meeting were the subject of a report which had been circulated beforehand.

ACTION

24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs T Marshall and from Mr G Lowe (substitute representative).

25 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made

ACTION

26 MINUTES

RESOLVED

- (1) that the minutes of the last meeting held on 22 September 2011, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair;
- (2) that, the intention of the Area Manager to circulate a letter of invitation in due course to Community Representatives to attend a visit to the incinerator and re-cycling facilities during January 2012 be noted, it being further noted that the visit would take up to 2 hours and would require a minimum of 8 people to take place.

**K Curnow/
Community
Representatives**

27 ITEMS IDENTIFIED BY AREA COMMITTEE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

**Katrina
Curnow**

(a) Development of Wollaton Allotments Site

Further to minute 10(b) dated 24 August 2011, Mrs Dilks and Mr Allen re-affirmed the opposition of local Wollaton residents to any redevelopment of part of the Wollaton Allotment site for residential purposes and outlined measures to oppose any proposal, including:

- a continuing petition against development – currently with 320 signatures;
- the engagement of consultants to address concerns regarding environmental and traffic issues;
- the support of Nottingham Bat Group regarding the ecological importance of the site, which was also a colonised by bees;
- undertaking a wildlife and butterfly survey to obtain relevant data which could be used, in any consultation on the Land and Planning Policies Development Plan, to support the position that the site, in its present form, was too valuable to lose;
- arranging a briefing meeting with the local Member of Parliament on the issue;
- stressing the interdependence of the wildlife on this site, with that of Wollaton Park which adjoined the area and the adverse impact of any development on wildlife numbers and on the health and wellbeing of local residents;
- requesting that developers provided proper evidence to support any assertion that mitigation of development factors could still be undertaken where it was proposed to remove ecologically valuable hedgerows as part of any development process.

ACTION

Local residents believed that potential developers had, thus far, not adequately addressed the issue of increased vehicle traffic in the locality and had over-estimated the need for property in what was currently a stagnant market. Rather than additional new properties, greater intervention was required from the government to bring up to standard properties which were currently unoccupied and then let them for occupation.

Disappointment was also expressed at the current involvement of allotment officers in reducing the size of the allotment site and uncertainties over its future maintenance. The possibility of supporting the North Wollaton Residents' Association in its engagement of consultants was mentioned.

(b) Road markings - junction of Derby Road/Charles Avenue

Further to minute 10(b) dated 24 August 2011, Mr Smith again requested that the Area Manager continue to draw the attention of the relevant agencies to the Area Committee's desire for cross-hatch road markings at the junction of Derby Road with Charles Avenue.

(c) Updating of Children's Play Area, Wollaton Park

The Committee recalled its previous prioritisation of children's play areas to be improved before Wollaton Park. Whilst appreciating concerns that this play area may appear neglected in comparison to others in the locality, Mr Curry advised that any refurbishment programme needed to take account of the nature of the venue. Thus, proposals for Wollaton Park needed to be developed to reflect its status as a major national tourism destination rather than as locally used facility.

RESOLVED that the position be noted.

28 HIGHFIELDS PARK RESTORATION

(Director of Sport, Culture and Parks)

Mr Curry provided information on the historical background and development of the original Highfields Park, together with recent measures to refurbish or reintroduce some features which were becoming lost or which had ceased to function due to neglect, including restoration of the cascade using probation service scheme workers.

The most recent activity had been undertaken following consideration of the guiding Master Plan for the facility by the Area Committee at its meeting held on 11 February 2010 (minute 43) and the current report provided an update on progress and sought the Committee's support for the submission of a bid of £3.7m to the Heritage Lottery Fund, Parks for People Fund during mid 2012 to continue the work. If successful, the bid would require total match funding of 10%, of which half (£183,125) would be required in cash. Other potential partners to be approached included Boots plc and Nottingham University whose campus adjoined the park.

ACTION

The matter had received the support of the Trusts and Charities Committee at its September 2011 and that Committee had called for a further report in due on the legal status and uses to which the Highfields Trust dowry could be put to.

RESOLVED

- (1) the report be noted and the submission of a Stage One Heritage Lottery Fund bid for the restoration of Highfields Park, be supported;**
- (2) that the creation of a Friends of Highfields Park group to support the restoration project be supported and further consideration be given to representation on it from this Committee.**

**Katrina
Curnow**

29 NEIGHBOURHOOD BLOOM – PROPOSALS 2012
(Director of Sport, Culture and Parks)

The report summarised activities during 2011 and presented proposals available to the Committee for floral displays in its area in 2012, suggesting locations for a slightly reduced range of summer and winter square planters and barrier baskets at a total estimated cost of £5,707.46. The Committee noted that if it wished to maintain planting at previous levels, the additional costs (per item, including maintenance) would be:

Square Planter (Summer)	£137.77
Square Planter (Winter)	£116.50
Barrier Basket	£87.91

RESOLVED

- (1) that the success of locals groups and organisations in providing local displays in the area during 2011 be acknowledged;**
- (2) that the proposed arrangements for the area and display locations for 2012 be approved, it being noted that the estimated cost of up to £5,710 would be met from the Communities department 2012/13 budget for Spectacular initiatives.**

30 AREA CAPITAL FUND 2011-13 – FOOTPATH AND HIGHWAYS WORKS UPDATE
(Director of Local Communities)

The report set out the criteria for allocation of Area Capital Fund monies to individual projects and the following footpath and highway works already prioritised:

ACTION**Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey**

	£
Footpath reconstruction Charles Avenue (Lawley Avenue side)	30,000
Highways - Pedestrian Crossings (5 pairs) – Dorket Drive Area	6,000
Total Allocation 2011/13:	36,000
Total Budget:	67,544
Remaining Balance:	31,544

Wollaton West

	£
Highways – Parking Restrictions Wollaton Road Shops forecourt / Ringwood Crescent	7,000
Total Allocation 2011/13:	7,000
2010/11 balance carried forward:	-750
Total Budget:	67,544
Remaining Balance:	59,794

RESOLVED that the criteria for allocation of Area Capital Fund monies be noted and the programme of schemes for Wollaton West and Wollaton East and Lenton Abbey wards, as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 to the report, be approved.

31 ALLOCATIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL WARD MEMBER BUDGETS
APPROVED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY
 (Director of Local Communities)

RESOLVED that the summaries of allocations made under delegated authority from individual Ward Member budgets in the current financial year, be noted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 30 January 2012, beginning at 5.00 pm