

**WOLLATON AND LENTON ABBEY AREA COMMITTEE (AREA 7)**

**MINUTES**

of meeting held on **24 AUGUST 2011** at the Council House  
from 5.00 pm to 6.24 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 ) Communities
- Mr G de Max - Partnership Manager, Housing )
- Strategy ) Development
- Ms C Davies - Housing Strategy )
- Ms J Briggs - Principal Planning Officer )
- 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**

**8 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Morley declared a personal interest as a member of the City Council's Development Control Committee in agenda item 4, regarding discussion on the possible future disposal of part of Wollaton Allotments for residential building purposes.

**ACTION**

That Committee may be required to determine a planning application at some future time, but the current interest did not preclude her from speaking or voting.

**9 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the minutes of the last meeting held on 21 June 2011, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair;**
- (2) that, further to minute 4 dated 21 June 2011, the intention to include an update item on progress of matters affecting the Industrial Museum, Wollaton Park, to the next meeting, be noted;**
- (3) that the Area Manager be requested to seek nominations from the following organisations to fill the following Community Representative vacancies on the Area Committee :**

**Ron Inglis**

**Katrina Curnow**

**Wollaton Care Group  
Wollaton Village and Park Conservation Society  
Wollaton and Lenton Abbey Neighbourhood Watch Association**

**10 ITEMS IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES**

**(a) Road markings - junction of Derby Road/Charles Avenue**

Mr Smith 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.

**Katrina Curnow**

**(b) Possible development of Wollaton Allotments**

Mrs Dilks and Mr Allen provided an update on recent developments regarding the future of Wollaton Allotments. It was understood that preparatory surveys had been undertaken by a company engaged by the Allotment Holders Management Committee prior to pre-application discussions being held with City Council officers. It was expected that a planning application to develop the previously identified nine acre segment of the allotment site for residential development would then be submitted.

The North Wollaton Residents' Association remained extremely concerned at the adverse effects of such a development, both on the character of the locality and about the environmental impact of any development on the ecology of the site which was formerly designated a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). It was confirmed that any application, once received, would be widely consulted upon.

**ACTION****(c) Tottle Brook**

The Area Manager on behalf of Dr Swannell, reported an outbreak of the invasive giant hogweed in Tottle Brook. The Area Manager would also assist Wollaton Vale Residents' Association in development of a web site.

**(d) Area Committee Business**

Mrs Marshall considered that the length of time between the previous Committee meeting with items of substantial business on 21 March 2011 and this meeting had been too long, with an increased potential for the Committee to lose sight of important local issues such as the Industrial Museum at Wollaton Park.

**(e) Area Committee Meeting Arrangements**

The wider discussion prompted by Mrs Marshall's concerns is recorded under minute 15, below.

**11 THE EMERGING HOUSING STRATEGY FOR THE CITY**

(Corporate Director of Development)

Comments, including views on priorities and objectives and the following themes, were sought on a review of the Council's three year Housing Strategy or Plan, delivered in partnership with other organisations, the current version of which would end in 2011.

**Themes**

- the supply of homes – how it was ensured that the opportunities to deliver new housing were maximised;
- housing standards – making best use of housing and maintaining and improving it;
- housing for specific groups and inclusion – ensuring delivery of housing choices to a range of different groups;
- housing's contribution to neighbourhoods – making sure that housing providers played their part in improving our neighbourhoods.

In addition to submitting the report to all Area Committees, its substance would be discussed by Tenants and Residents' Associations and could be addressed by a written questionnaire, a fuller version of which was available on the internet. Outcomes from the questionnaire represented only one strand of information which would be used to influence Plan content and, although respondents were not required to identify their current property type, the data generated would continue to have value within the process. The Area Committee commented that, as with other consultation exercises, they had found it difficult to differentiate sufficiently between the subject areas to produce only five priorities.

**ACTION**

**RESOLVED that the report be noted and community representatives be encouraged to submit responses directly before the consultation period ended.**

**Community  
Representat-  
ives**

**12 DESIGNATION OF A LETTING BOARD CONTROL AREA**

(Corporate Director of Development)

Ms Briggs explained the rationale behind the development of a Letting Board Control Area, the designation of which would enable the City Council to exercise statutory control of how, when and where landlords and letting agents could advertise vacant properties for let and which was a logical extension to the former voluntary scheme.

It was anticipated that approval of a Direction under Regulation 7 of the Control of Advertisement Regulations 2007 by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government would result in a diminution in the display of residential lettings boards which were considered over-intrusive by local residents in their neighbourhoods. Although the request had already been submitted, the consultation stage on the Design Guidance was open until 7 October 2011.

**RESOLVED that the proposal for making an application for a Direction under Regulation 7 of the Control of Advertisement Regulations 2007 to control the use and display of advertising boards advertising properties for let in the area identified in red on the plan accompanying the report, be welcomed and supported.**

**Joanna  
Briggs**

**13 FINANCIAL UPDATES**

(Director of Neighbourhoods and Communities)

**(a) Ward Member Budget Allocations 2010/11**

An individual allocation of £8,000 per Councillor in the constituent wards of the Area Committee was reported and a request was made that each Ward Councillor contributed £500 of this overall allocation towards a central fund to defray costs associated with issues which were 'cross-committee', rather than area specific in nature.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the level of individual ward Councillor allocations for 2011/12 be noted and £500 be transferred from each ward councillor allocation into a central fund to defray costs associated with issues which were 'cross-committee', rather than area specific in nature;**
- (2) that the Area Manager submit a further report to a future meeting of the Area Committee showing an itemised balance of 2009/10 monies.**

**Katrina  
Curnow**

**Katrina  
Curnow**

**ACTION****(b) Area Capital Resources 2011/13**

Funds available to wards comprising the Area Committee under the Area Capital Programme during the period 2011/13 were reported as £67,544 (£135,088 in total) and the criteria for the allocation of funds for spending set out.

**RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

**14 WARD MEMBER ALLOCATIONS - ACTIONS TAKEN**  
**UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY FEBRUARY TO APRIL 2011**  
 (Director of Local Communities)

**RESOLVED that financial allocation made from individual Ward Member allocations toward those schemes detailed in the appendix to the report, be noted.**

**15 FUTURE MEETING ARRANGEMENTS**

Mrs Marshall referred to the arrangements for the current meeting and a wider discussion ensued.

Whilst the Committee accepted the need for the City Council to maximise income generation and that use of the Council House by the Civic and Coronial Service for marriages could play a significant role in this, the value of the venue as a resource for the wider local community was in danger of being lost.

The desire of the Area Committee to manage the wish of its members and Community Representatives to continue to meet at the venue because of its central accessibility to all and reliable transport links, with its wish to minimise unnecessary expenditure by holding meetings between 5.00 pm and meetings by 6.30 pm so as to avoid room charges and additional security costs, had resulted an unwelcome air of constraint on debate and discussion, which meant that the Area Committee was in danger of not fulfilling its wish to be an effective link between the City Council and its residents for the discussion and resolution of local matters of interest.

Minute 6 dated 21 June 2011 recorded the Committee's earlier views on the matter and a further difficulty had since been identified in constraints which meant that it was difficult for participants to begin meetings earlier than 5.00 pm. This, in turn, meant that it was felt that business needed to be unfairly contained in order to conclude by 6.30 pm, which was a frustration.

The minute had also presented the latest position regarding charging for meeting accommodation and it was requested that this should be clarified further so as to provide a basis for understanding by the Area Committee and that the Chief Executive should be invited to attend the next meeting to explain the position

**ACTION**

Future meeting arrangements were discussed again, but no firm decision reached on a consistent cycle. It was agreed that possibilities should continue to be explored and the matter discussed again at the September meeting, which should be re-arranged for 5.00 pm on Thursday, 22 September 2011 (from 21 September).

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the next meeting of the Area Committee be re-arranged for 5.00 pm on Thursday, 22 September 2011;**
- (2) that options for an amended cycle of regular meetings continue to be evaluated and recommendations be reported to the September meeting of the Committee.**

**Martin  
Parker**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Re-arranged to 22 September 2011 beginning at 5.00 pm:-**