

**MINUTES OF THE WOOD GREEN AREA FORUM AND COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 5 JULY 2011**

Councillors Christophides (Chair), Egan, Gibson, Stewart and Strickland

Apologies Councillor Cooke, Demirci, Meehan and Waters

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTON BY
WGAC47	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Cooke, Demirci, Meehan and Waters.</p>	
WGAC48	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
WGAC49	<p>TERMS OF REFERENCE</p> <p>The Area Committee terms of reference approved by Full Council in May were considered. It was noted that the Committees were properly constituted decision making bodies of the Council and as such needed to comply with relevant legal and procedural rules setting out how they should operate and their function. Responsibilities included developing an Area Plan for the locality identifying key priorities, building on partnership working approaches and making proposals for improvements to the physical environment of the area and variation to standard service delivery.</p> <p>The Chair provided clarity on the role of the Committee in relation to licensing and planning applications. Although formal Planning and Licensing Committees were in place as the designated decision making bodies for these type of applications, Area Committees would be consulted informally and able to make representations on proposed schemes in their area.</p> <p>Concerns were raised on the potential for the Committee part of the evening to serve as a repeat of the earlier public Area Forum meeting with local residents. The Chair stated that the distinction between the two different meeting formats would become clearer over time, particularly as work in relation to the Area Plans was progressed thereby requiring formal decisions to be made by the Committee. It was emphasised that the Area Committee was classified as a formal meeting which although held in public wouldn't involve active participation from local residents as the Area Forum earlier in the evening provided the opportunity for local people to get involved and give their views to their ward Councillors. This would then allow informed decisions to be made by the Committee.</p> <p>The terms of reference were noted.</p>	

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	<p>The next stage of the process would be the drafting of the Area Plan from September to December including identifying the accompanying monitoring arrangements with a view to adoption from January. Members requested that the Action Plan be written in Plain English to ensure it was clear and easy to understand.</p>	<p>Claire Kowalska</p>
WGAC52	<p>POTHOLE REPAIR FUNDING</p> <p>A summary was given of the discussions during the Area Forum part of the evening in relation to pothole funding which was a particular area of focus at the current time due to the increased level of deterioration following the bad weather over the winter. In recognition of this, additional one-off funding had been allocated to the Council which it was proposed would be split between the Area Committees to allow local input into selecting which roads in the area the repair money should be targeted. It was requested that the report on this additional funding be circulated to the Ward Councillors.</p> <p>A number of residents had raised issues during the Area Forum with potholes located on pavements, in one of the local parks and also in relation to drains. It had been clarified that the additional funding was only available to repair potholes on highways and that any issues with potholes on other surfaces needed to be reported to the relevant Council department which would be done in this instance for the particular issues raised.</p>	<p>Tunji Oladejo</p> <p>Tunji Oladejo</p>
WGAC53	<p>TO NOTE DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND DISCUSSION ON VENUES AND AGENDA ITEMS</p> <p>The Committee noted the dates of the future meetings and agreed that the venues should where possible be rotated to cover each ward in the area.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
WGAC54	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE</p> <p>The Chair advised that Making the Difference funding allocation for 2011/12 had been set at £25K per Area Committee area and had to be spent by the end of this financial year. Although bids were being sought for local projects, it was emphasised that applications would only be accepted from properly constituted groups. Guidance and criteria to support the application process would be put up on the Council's website in the near future. It was planned that the funding applications would then be discussed and approved at the next meeting.</p> <p>Items proposed for future Area Forum meetings included a soapbox item, an update on Haringey Heartlands and Coronation Sidings, blocked drains and the width restriction bollards on Courcy and Coleraine Roads.</p>	

Cllr Christophides

Chair