

**MINUTES OF THE MUSWELL HILL, ALEXANDRA, FORTIS GREEN AND HIGHGATE
AREA FORUM AND COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, 13 JUNE 2013**

Councillors Allison, Beacham, Bloch, Engert (Chair), Erskine, Hare, Newton, Scott and Solomon

Apologies Councillor Davies and Jenks

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
MH75.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Davies and Jenks and for lateness from Councillor Allison.</p> <p>The Chair advised that the Forum part of the meeting would on this occasion firstly consider an item in respect of the Committee agenda – Deputations and petitions. In practical terms the first three Committee items would be considered first.</p> <p>The Chair also on behalf of Area Committee Councillors, and the community as a whole, expressed shock and distress over the burning down of the Al-Rahma Islamic Centre and Bravanese Centre on 5 June 2013. The Centre had provided advice, education, and support to the Somali Bravanese community, and the Committee’s heart went out to them. The Chair also advised that there had been many offers of support and help from many groups in the local community which showed a standing together spirit in adversity of which the Chair stated she was immensely proud of. The Chair also advised that there was a statement from the Council on chairs.</p> <p>NOTED</p> <p>The Chair also advised that an officer from the Council (Alex Fraser) was present in respect of the Borough tree strategy and was happy to talk to attendees at the back of the room. Also there was information at the back of the room relating to the changes to permitted development from 30 May 2013. This included the size of house extensions allowed, although this did not apply to conservation areas.</p> <p>The Chair also referred to the Health Service Clinical Commissioning Group Public meeting on 19 June 2013 commencing at 6pm to 7.30pm at the Moravian Church Hall, Priory Road.</p>	
MH76.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</p> <p>Councillor Engert declared a personal interest in respect of the deputation and item on 20mph as she was a member of the London Road Safety Council.</p>	

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	NOTED	
MH77.	<p>QUESTIONS, DEPUTATIONS OR PETITIONS : TO CONSIDER ANY QUESTIONS, DEPUTATIONS OR PETITIONS RECEIVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 4, SECTION B29 OF THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION</p> <p>The Chair welcomed representatives of WalkSafe N10 Jenny Poirier, Catherine Haigh, Melanie Grange and Ingrid Wassenaar. The Chair advised that the deputation had 5 minutes to present their deputation followed by questions from the Committee members.</p> <p>Ms Poirier from the group WalkSafe N10 – advised the meeting that the Group were a local campaign made up of parents, residents, teachers and governors. More than 600 people had signed the online and paper petitions, and letters had been received in support from the governors of two local primary schools – Coldfall in Haringey and Coppetts Wood in Barnet, as well as from Hollickwood school.</p> <p>Ms Poirier advised that WalkSafe N10 were calling on Barnet and Haringey councils to make the streets around these schools safer for children. The campaign was concerned about the number of near misses and accidents on these streets, and had carried out a survey which provided evidence of these incidents.</p> <p>Ms Poirier advised that in respect of the 20 mph issue the Campaign wanted Barnet and Haringey councils to introduce a 20 mph speed limit on the streets around Coldfall, Coppetts Wood and Hollickwood primary schools in North Muswell Hill. There were more than one thousand children attending these schools. Many currently walked to school on streets with cars doing speeds of 30 mph or more. Many had to cross roads where there were no pedestrian crossings or where the crossings that existed were inadequate. Ms Poirier commented that the campaign believed that 20 mph could largely be achieved by signage, but that some streets would need additional traffic calming measures, such as speed humps. It was felt that a proper survey done by both Councils would establish what needed to be done.</p> <p>Concerning more pedestrian crossing on Colney Hatch Lane, Ms Poirier advised that this was a fast road with only one crossing, which was only a zebra, between St Peter le Poer and Alexandra Park Road. This was woefully inadequate, and every morning parents had to weave their children through the traffic, which was totally unsafe. In recent years there had been several serious injuries to pedestrians on Colney Hatch Lane and at least one fatality. Ms Poirier advised that many parents supported two new pedestrian crossings – one next to Greenham Road (Haringey) and one next to St Peter le Poer church (in Barnet).</p> <p>Ms Poirier advised further that the Campaign wanted the Council to listen to the concerns about other road safety problems. The campaign</p>	

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carried out an online survey, and people who answered listed their top priorities. Some of these were relatively quick and cheap to fix – such as an extended railing on the pavement near Coldfall school on Coppetts Road.

Ms Poirier handed the Chair a copy of the survey (a copy of which will be interleaved with the minutes), which expressed concerns.

Ms Poirier asked that the Area Committee :

1. to agree to recommend that our points were looked at by Cabinet. It was great that Haringey were consulting on a borough-wide 20 mph zone – but WalkSafe N10 would like discussion about how that might be enforced in the area, and when, request that Cabinet consider the other issues, which included safer crossing points on Colney Hatch Lane.
2. to request an on-site meeting with Haringey traffic engineers so that they could be walked through the area. Barnet Council had already done this. Haringey has not so far agreed – despite the Campaign's requests. The Campaign would like Haringey to commission a report to establish what could be done to make the streets safer.
3. To ask for a commitment that Haringey would work with Barnet on these issues, and that as the area crosses both councils, it was important that there was a co-ordinated approach.

Ms Poirier advised that in respect of the survey carried out – this was completed by up to 40 people online and the results told the campaign the main concerns about road safety. Those who completed the survey were teachers, parents and local residents.

The results were:

91% supported having a 20 mph zone in North Muswell Hill

91% wanted to have at least one more pedestrian crossing on Colney Hatch Lane

Other specific concerns raised eg the quality of the crossing on Coppetts Road

40% had been involved in an accident or a near miss in the area. Details of these incidents were horrifying.

Some of the comments show how terrified people were:

1. "We live on Greenham Road, and the cars go extremely fast down our road. There are very few passing points, so if drivers see there is no oncoming traffic, they will race down the road to get to the other end before a car comes in the opposite direction. I believe that measures need to be taken to prevent speeding, and signs that flash up when cars are speeding are a very effective way of dealing with this problem."

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2. "One out of every three cars fails to stop at the crossings on Colney Hatch Lane. Probably a similar number are going over 50 mph when it's quieter on the road (evenings and weekends)."

Ms Poirier concluded by advising of the petition organised earlier in 2013 which said:

We the undersigned petition the council to work with Barnet Council to introduce a 20 mile per hour speed limit on the streets around Coldfall primary school and Coppetts Wood primary school, and to create more pedestrian crossings on Colney Hatch Lane. We want our local streets to be safer for all pedestrians, especially our children when they are walking to and from school.

There were 107 persons signed the Haringey petition on line, 133 signed the Barnet petition online, 430 signed the paper petition (TOTAL 670).

The Chair thanked Ms Poirier for her succinct presentation and following points of clarification which were answered, asked that Mr Tony Kennedy – Transport Policy and Projects Manager LB Haringey to give a brief response to the points raised by the deputation.

Mr Kennedy advised that in respect of the requests and sentiments of the deputation, these would be considered at Cabinet on 18 June 2013 and addressed by the Cabinet Member for Environment – Councillor Canver in conjunction with the item on that agenda in respect of the proposed adoption of a 20mph borough-wide speed limit. Mr Kennedy further commented that the proposals from the deputation would be likely to be taken into account during the consultation period that would happen across the Borough during the period July to September 2013 and the findings of the consultation would be further reported to a future meeting of the Area Committee. Mr Kennedy commented that there would be considerable publicity anticipated widely to all part of the Borough including schools, business, and all residents, with clear information on the proposals. It was also intended to review all existing 20 mph zones, and look at speed prevention measures currently in operation. It was intended that officers would work closely with interested groups including WalkSafe N10 to ensure that all views/requests were taken account of during the wider consultation exercise.

The Chair asked if there were any point/comments from Members.

Councillor Bloch questioned why the request of WalkSafe N10 had not been taken up and responded to by officers and he expressed his concern and dismay that such requests were being ignored. He

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emphasised the need for good community engagement and that in his view this had certainly been lacking on LB Haringey's part.

Mr Kennedy responded that the Council was keen to establish contact with groups who had expressed an interest and this would certainly be taken account of during the consultation process to be embarked upon. There was a substantial work programme and resources had been allocated based on need and priority for road traffic schemes. Officers would be more than happy to engage with the public on these issues but stressed that it was an issue of priorities and funding availability.

Following further points raised Councillor Newton MOVED and it was :

RESOLVED

- i. To support the requests of the deputation and forward the WalkSafeN10 petition to the cabinet and request that 20mph with signage in Haringey roads around Coldfall and Coppetts Wood Primary schools should be given early consideration for implementation prior to and not dependent on a decision on a borough-wide 20mph speed limit, as this would make it safer for young people and encourage walking to and from local schools.
- ii. In addition to (i) above that LB Haringey should fully consider the other aims of WalkSafe N10 including a new pedestrian crossing on Colney Hatch Lane at the junction with Barnard Hill and Greenham Road.

N.B

During further discussion later in the Committee part of the proceedings where a summary of Forum issues was discussed it was agreed that in addition to the above resolution the Chair would also raise the following points at Cabinet on 18 June 2013:

- That the consultation period be extended in terms of the Borough-wide consultation period beyond September 2013 for approx 1 month or longer to allow for a better response from local schools who would have only just returned from Summer School holidays in early mid September 2013
- That the issue of including A & B roads be clarified and explanation be given in the consultation

MH78. MINUTES - 11 APRIL 2013

RESOLVED

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That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 April 2013 be approved and signed by the Chair as an accurate record of proceedings.

Matters Arising

MH 70 – MINUTES – 24 JANUARY 2013

- MH56 and 55: (i) the use of LED bulbs.
 - (i) LED lights - The Chair advised that since she had been informed that the business case was still being looked at and investment in this area was undecided, there was no further update. The Chair agreed to write further to the service to seek clarification.

ACTION : Chair

- MH57: Devolved Funding – The Area Champion advised that he had written to the Chief Executive on 12 April 2013 on this matter and following discussions at Director's Group the advice given had been that there would be no devolved funding to Area Committees in 2013/14.

The Chair advised that at the Area Chairs meeting on 10 June 2013 there had been concerns expressed about this by all area chairs and they had asked that the Cabinet Member for Communities look into this issue further.

NOTED

- MH58: Muswell Hill Library disabled access and use of space behind the Library - the Chair advised that this had been raised together with associated issues as part of the Muswell Hill Ward Walk on 1 May 2013. Feedback on this issue was expected at the end of June 2013 and she would report back to September 2013.

NOTED

- MH64 – Issues pertaining to nursery places – the Chair advised that information had been received from the service and circulated to Members. Councillor Allison had noted that the figures supplied for primary only related to state sector children. The Chair had also questioned why the 0-4 numbers were higher for the Ward Walk information supplied.

Following a brief discussion it was AGREED that the Area Champion would seek clarification from the service and relay the information to Committee members.

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ACTION : Area Champion to liaise with service

MH 72 – LOCAL POLICING

- Councillor Newton advised of the circulated letter from MOPAC (Stephen Greenhalgh) which had responded to the concerns expressed by the Committee. There had been some hope regarding a commitment to keeping front counter staffed by local volunteers for the the same amount of hours to those currently. However there was disappointment that there would be no local base for the 3 SNTs. He further added that Councillors would be meeting the Borough Commander the following week to hear final plans.

NOTED

MH73 – AREA PLANS

- The Chair reported that following the budget cut which deleted the engagement team in P & S directorate there would be no officer support for managing and updating the area plans. The decision taken by the Governance Review Delivery group had been that if Area Chair as wished to continue with the plans then they would need to populate/mange these themselves.

Following some discussions recently with the Area Champion it had been AGREED that the Chair would populate/update with the Area Champion's assistance in chasing officers for responses.

NOTED

(i) Lighting Columns

Noted that Cllr Allison advised that in respect of the heritage lighting at The Miltons and the replacement of the cast iron columns – she had spoken further with the Chief Executive on this matter, and also had had support from Cllr Goldberg regarding the lighting, and following further investigation with a contractor working in Camden, the comparative cost of refurbishment as opposed to modern replacement had been exceedingly favourable. Cllr Allison advised that she would keep the Area Committee updated of progress.

The Chair asked that Members be kept updated of progress.

NOTED

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	SEE MH80 BELOW	
MH80.	FEEDBACK FROM AREA FORUM PART OF THE PROCEEDINGS The Chair asked for feedback on items raised during discussions in the Area Forum part of the proceedings. i. Deputation from WalkSafe N10 and 20 MPH issue Councillor Bloch reiterated his earlier concerns as regards the failure of officers to engage with the representatives of WalkSafe N10 and expressed his concerns that this should have happened as a matter of course. Councillor Bloch MOVED, SECONDED BY Cllr Allison that officers arrange as soon as possible to visit the roads in question in N10 and to meet with WalkSafe representatives to discuss the matter as soon as possible. Councillor Hare also referred to his comments in the Forum part of the meeting and he MOVED an addition, seconded by Councillor Allison, that in addition to the deputation resolution the Chair be requested to raise the following points at Cabinet on 18 June 2013: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• That the consultation period be extended in terms of the Borough-wide consultation period beyond September 2013 for approx 1 month or longer to allow for a better response from local schools who would have only just returned from Summer School holidays in early mid September 2013• That the issue of A & B roads be clarified	
	ii. Bus Route Information Following concerns raised by Councillor Scott in respect of conflicting messages as to the supply of information pertaining to regulation of bus routes being available to the public, and such information being lodged with the Council, the Chair agreed to write to Tony Kennedy to clarify where the information from TfL was shown and if it was readily available. Councillor Scott particularly commented in respect of recent diversions on the 234 bus route which had not been conveyed to local Ward Councillors although the TfL representative had made reference to this and that LB Haringey had been informed.	

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	<p>Councillor Allison also commented that the Highgate Society had been aware of the changes and also the document referred to by TfL in respect of bus routes and views etc, and Councillor Hare commented that as this document had been referred to by the TfL representative numerous times during the Forum part of the proceedings then it should be readily available.</p> <p>The Chair summarised and it was AGREED that the Chair would write to both TfL and LB Haringey to clarify the status of the document and ask that it be readily available on the Council’s website, and sent to all Cllrs.</p> <p>ACTION: Chair</p> <p>Councillor Scott also referred to the recent Ward Walk where the issue in regard to the traffic lights at Colney Hatch Lane and Alexandra Park Road junction had been raised and that the CE had said that the more local concern and lobbying about such issues raised its profile and that this should assist the Council in its cause to TfL.</p> <p>iii. Local Road Improvements</p> <p>The Chair commented that there had been little information gleaned from the discussions in regard to the mechanism for LIP influence/how to prioritise works within the future programmes.</p> <p>Following clarification it was</p> <p>AGREED</p> <p>That the Chair seek clarification with the Chief Executive as to how Area Committees were able to have input/influence with regard to the 2014/15 LIP and indeed the longer term 2014-17 plan.</p>	
<p>MH81.</p>	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT</p> <p>NIL</p> <p>The Chair advised that the next meeting would take place on 23 September 2013, The Committee agreed that the venue would be the Royal British Legion, Muswell Hill.</p> <p>Items for discussion</p> <p>The Chair asked that Members respond to her by 30 July 2013 with items.</p>	

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	NOTED	
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COUNCILLOR GAIL ENGERT

CHAIR