

**MINUTES OF THE MUSWELL HILL, ALEXANDRA, FORTIS GREEN AND HIGHGATE
AREA FORUM AND COMMITTEE
MONDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2013**

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

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
MH82.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>There were no apologies for absence.</p>	
MH83.	<p>MINUTES - 13 JUNE 2013</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2013 be approved and signed by the Chair.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p><u>MH78 – Minutes – 11 April 2013</u></p> <p>MH55 and 56: In response to a question regarding the business case for LED lighting, Tony Kennedy advised that a borough-wide decision had been taken to adopt LED lighting. The work programme for the roll-out would depend on the yearly funding allocation, but it was initially proposed to focus on the three wards of Crouch End, Tottenham Hale and Northumberland Park. An approach with regards to cast-iron columns was being developed, and it was intended that a full asset review be undertaken within the next 18 months, subject to confirmation from the new contractor regarding their timetable. The Committee requested that it be kept up to date with progress on these areas.</p> <p>Action: Single Frontline</p> <p>MH58 – Muswell Hill Library disabled access and use of space behind the Library: The Chair had written to Cllr Watson for an update on the space to the rear of Muswell Hill Library. The Chief Executive had advised that Property Services were looking at the possibility of selling this space, but there was concern that the resultant loss of space would prevent the creation of a lift to provide disabled access in future. These concerns had been raised with Stephen McDonnell and a response was awaited.</p> <p>NOTED</p> <p>MH64 – Issues pertaining to nursery places: Clarification on this matter had been obtained by the Area Champion and circulated to Committee Members.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	

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MH73 – Area Plans: The intention was to review the Area Plan on a half-yearly basis; this was planned for next month.

NOTED

MH80 – Feedback from Area Forum – 13 June 2013

MH80i) – Deputation from WalkSafe N10 and 20 mph issue: The Chair was delighted to report that following the last Forum, officers and local Ward Councillors had met with residents and the Council is now consulting on extending an existing 20mph zone to include Coppetts Road. It is also proposed to carry out some resurfacing and installing some new and more evenly-spaced speed cushions along the road. Letters were due to go out to local residents in the vicinity the week beginning 23 September 2013.

The Chair had attended Cabinet and made the requests regarding the extension of the consultation period on the borough-wide 20mph speed limit and clarification of the A and B roads, as agreed at the previous meeting. The consultation period on the 20mph proposal had been extended to October following that meeting.

Work on the improvements connected to the new W7 bus stop was underway. The pavement was now greatly improved, and it would be wonderful for all of Muswell Hill Broadway to be of such high quality. There were still works to be completed on new traffic islands and raised tables at the entrance to Dukes Avenue and the northern arm of the Broadway, and it was hoped that these would make it easier for pedestrians to cross. Completion of the works was scheduled for the first week in November at the latest.

NOTED

MH80ii) – Bus Route information: A number of issues that were brought up with TfL had been followed up by the Chair, as follows:

- 1) The countdown had been reinstated at the bus stop at the Muswell Hill Road junction with Archway Road (Highgate Wood side).
- 2) Suggestions regarding resident involvement in bus consultations had been taken back for discussion. TfL had assumed that Councils consulted residents, and the Council had now forwarded the latest TfL consultation, including routes 234 and 102 to local Ward Councillors. Local Liberal Democrat Councillors had consulted local residents via email and over 100 responses had been received, which Councillors had collated and forwarded to TfL.
- 3) TfL had undertaken a loading survey in response to concerns regarding overcrowding on the 134 and 43 bus routes during the morning rush-hour, such that people were unable to board buses. The findings of the survey did not evidence the concerns raised,

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	<p>and local residents had been asked to submit emails regarding this matter to their local Councillors so that these could be passed on to TfL.</p> <p>4) The Chair had forwarded the document provided by TfL in respect of bus routes on to Highgate Ward Councillors as requested at the previous meeting.</p> <p>NOTED</p> <p>MH80iii) – Local Road Improvements: A discussion had been held at the previous meeting regarding ways in which the Forum and Committee could have local transport priorities incorporated in the Local Implementation Plan, the funding bid to TfL for 2014-17. A list of long-standing transport issues in the wards covered by the Area Forum had been compiled by local Councillors on the basis of local residents’ concerns, but when the submission went to Cabinet earlier in the month, a majority of these requests had been omitted. Local Liberal Democrat Councillors had challenged the decision by Cabinet to approve the Local Implementation Plan and referred the matter to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as it was felt that transport and highways funding should be distributed to all parts of the borough, and local residents would be advised of progress with this matter.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	
<p>MH84.</p>	<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>There were no questions, deputations or petitions for the Committee to address.</p>	
<p>MH85.</p>	<p>FEEDBACK FROM AREA FORUM PART OF THE PROCEEDINGS</p> <p><u>Police Issues</u></p> <p>Concern was expressed regarding the review of contact point arrangements, as raised by Insp. Shaw in her presentation. It was agreed that Cllr Newton would write to the Borough Commander to seek a response on this issue, and also to seek clarification around whether the reported shortfall in police numbers was a recruitment or a funding matter.</p> <p>Action: Cllr Newton</p> <p>Concern was also raised regarding the tone of the presentation with regards to Police Officers’ concerns around working late shifts, when this was when the majority of concerns for local residents arose.</p> <p>Licensing matters had been suggested by local residents as a key topic for the January meeting, and it was felt that the Police should be in attendance for this item. It was suggested that Mark Greaves, Police</p>	

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Licensing officer, should be invited to attend the meeting.

Action: Clerk

The Committee had welcomed the suggestion around sharing resources, for example with St John's Ambulance, in order to facilitate a space for police presence in Highgate. It was agreed that this should be discussed at the Highgate Neighbourhood Forum to consider ways of taking this suggestion forward.

Action: Highgate Ward Councillors

Parking – MH Shopkeepers view

It was agreed that the Chair of the Committee write to the new Cabinet Member for Environment, Cllr Bevan, to request a reduction in stop and shop parking rates, as had been requested in the recent petition to Full Council made by Chris Ostwald, and to request the introduction of 30 minutes of free parking, in order to support trade in local town centres. It was noted that a formal response to the petition, signed by 5,500 people, had not been received and the matter had now become urgent.

It was reported that further steps regarding this issue were available under the Localism Act, but that it would be appropriate to write to the Cabinet Member in the first instance.

The Committee additionally:

RESOLVED

Given the concerns raised by traders in local town centres and as the run-up to the Christmas period begins, to call on the new Cabinet Member for Environment, urgently, to grant thirty minutes free parking in all pay and display bays across the Area Forum area and that in addition parking charges be reduced from the current high level of £3 per hour.

Parking – Crossovers for parking

It was agreed that the Chair of the Committee write to the Service regarding what evidence there was that the Council enforces compliance with its own planning requirements on crossovers, in particular figures for enforcement action for crossover infringements in each of the Area Forum Wards over the past three years.

Action: Chair

Road Safety

It was noted that Tony Kennedy had mentioned the possibility of the removal of lights at the junction between Colney Hatch Lane and Alexandra Park Road. It was agreed that Cllr Solomon would discuss this matter further with Tony Kennedy outside the meeting, in liaison with Fortis Green Ward Councillors. It was further suggested that this matter be raised with TfL.

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	<p>Action: Cllr Solomon</p> <p>The Committee discussed the impact of both behavioural issues and physical road layout issues on accident statistics. It was noted that while behavioural issues may have a greater impact in certain areas of the borough and measures to address these may need to be more targeted, physical issues needed to be addressed in a fair and equal way across the borough and this should be reflected in the funding bid to TfL. It was emphasised that it was important to draw the distinction between these two different factors.</p> <p>NOTED</p> <p>The Chair had advised those attending the Forum of an offer by the Mayor of Haringey to attend the meeting in March 2014 to discuss the work of the Mayor, and asked for the Forum’s view on whether they wished to take up this offer. Those attending the Forum had indicated that they did not wish to take up the offer by the Mayor to attend the March 2014 meeting.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	
<p>MH86.</p>	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT</p> <p>The date of the next meeting of the Area Forum was Thursday, 30 January 2014 and was due to be held in Highgate Ward. Possible venue options included the Murugan Temple, Jacksons Lane and St Michael’s School, and it was agreed that the clerk would contact each venue regarding their availability on this date and seek further details.</p> <p>Action: Clerk</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.25pm.</p>	

COUNCILLOR GAIL ENGERT
CHAIR

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