

# **SOUTH WEST AREA COMMITTEE**

## **MINUTES**

**THURSDAY 11TH JULY 2019**

**ST PETER'S CHURCH HALL, STOKE PARK DRIVE  
IPSWICH IP2 9TH**

**6.30 PM**

**Present:** Bridge Ward Councillors: C Allen and P Smart  
Gipping Ward Councillors: D Ellesmere and P Gardiner  
Sprites Ward Councillors: H Armitage, C Smart and J Smith  
Stoke Park Ward Councillors: N Cenci, T Grant and B Hall

There were 20 members of the public in attendance.

**19. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Rudkin, Councillor Hughes County Councillors Abbott and West.

**20. Unconfirmed Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 May 2019**

20.1. That 'pavement' be amended to read 'Highway' under the Sprites Ward Update.

20.2. That at 9.2 Hollyruse Close be amended to read 'Holyrood Close'

**Resolved:**

**that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 30 May 2019, with the amendments above, be signed as a true record.**

**21. To Confirm or Vary the Order of Business**

**Resolved:**

**That Item 11 'Ed Sheeran Concerts Preparations – Presentation' be moved to Item 6.**

## **22. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **23. Police Priorities**

- 23.1. The Officer reported that County Lines continued to be a priority for the whole of Ipswich and a new team had been set up in Capel St Mary who would be responsible for Automatic Nameplate Recognition on cars. It was hoped that this would enable Officers to intercept drugs coming into Ipswich and would be carried out over the Summer. Operation Parkland also continued to tackle antisocial behaviour in parks and around the town centre and this would include high visibility patrols.
- 23.2. Following a small spike in June of robberies in and around the town centre, patrols would be undertaken both covertly and with high visibility officers. Residents were advised to report any problematic behaviour to the team so that specific areas could be incorporated into their patrols.
- 23.3. Councillor Cenci asked for further information regarding the progress which had been made on the County Lines initiative. It was confirmed that various gangs had been disrupted however, this was an ongoing and fluid situation which relied heavily on 'supply and demand'. Progress continued to be made and patrols, raids, etc. would be undertaken where intelligence allowed.

## **24. Ed Sheeran Concerts Preparations - Presentation**

- 24.1. Mr Mark Whiting, Commercial Development Operations Manager, provided a presentation regarding the preparations which had been put in place for the Ed Sheeran Concerts taking place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August and Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2019.
- 24.2. Mr Whiting confirmed that Ipswich Borough Council would be responsible for the delivery of all aspects of the events outside the boundary of the park. Due to the size of the concerts, there would be some effect on the surrounding roads and both IBC, the promoters and production company had been in discussions with Safety Advisory Groups to ensure necessary assessments had been undertaken which would enable both the safety of those attending the event and minimise the effects on the local area as much as possible.
- 24.3. There would be no car/taxi access to the site (apart from parking for blue badge holders) and only coach access would be provided via the top gate on London Road. Traffic lights would be situated to help manage the flow of coaches entering and leaving the site. The Hadleigh Road entrance would be used for production vehicles to enter and this would be done one vehicle at a time, and no production HGV vehicles would be permitted to use Dickens Road as a route to the park and signage would be in place to advise drivers of this.

- 24.4. A Hadleigh Road closure would be in place from 12 noon on Friday 24 August until 1am on Tuesday 27 August. All access would be maintained for residents and businesses (including food deliveries) during this time, and residents would be provided with an identifiable tag for their cars and should it be required, visitor tags if requested. Blue light services would also continue to have access at all times.
- 24.5. A dedicated Road Traffic Management scheme had been designed for London Road of which the same closures would be in place as above (with identifiable tags again provided to any affected residents and businesses). A contraflow system would be in effect and advance warning signs would be placed on the A12 and A14 to inform people travelling of any possible delays. All information regarding road closures would be circulated to affected residents prior to the concerts. It was requested that a copy of the letters sent to households be forwarded to the Gipping and Sprite Ward Councillors for information.
- 24.6. A no waiting/no parking order would be in place across all residential areas surrounding the park and IBC had acquired tow trucks to move any vehicles should there be a direct adverse effect on residents. A phone number would be provided so that residents could speak directly to an officer who would then assess the situation further. Trinity Park would be used as a Park & Ride site, with premium parking also available at the Copdock Interchange. All travel options would be advertised to ticket holders.
- 24.7. Shuttle Busses would be in operation between the town centre, rail station and Chantry Park. A drop off and pick up site had been designated at Hadleigh Road Sainsbury's and both security and traffic management would be in place. Pedestrians would be directed to use well lit, public routes with street lighting, and security guards would be strategically placed along these routes to ensure both pedestrian safety and minimal disruption to residents.
- 24.8. Councillor Allen asked if the pedestrian entrances to Chantry Park would be closed. The Officer confirmed that due to the steps, the London Road entrance would be closed for safety reasons. All other entry points into the park, whether vehicle or pedestrian, would remain open as the concert area had been built to allow others to access the park.
- 24.9. It was confirmed that contingency plans had been arranged for coaches and busses should there be an event in which the Orwell Bridge closed and the Council would work with Highways to find alternative routes.

## **25. Chair's Update and Actions from the Previous Meeting**

- 25.1. There were no updates to provide from the previous meeting.

## **26. Ward Councillor's Feedback from their Communities**

- 26.1. Stoke Park Ward

Councillor Cenci confirmed that the Stoke Park Ward Councillors had made a request to use MAD funding to provide another bench in Bourne Park. A Fun Day event in the park would take place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019 which all residents were invited to attend.

It was confirmed that the noise caused by Anglian Water appeared to have improved since the previous meeting.

Councillor Hall confirmed that he had received some complaints regarding trees however, due to bird nesting season, it was unlikely that solutions could be considered before September.

## 26.2. Bridge Ward

Councillor Allen confirmed that unfortunately the works in Maidenhall Approach had overrun and she had been informed by the firm that notice of this kind was not required. With regards to discussions online about thefts from gardens in Stoke Park, the Police had reassured that there had not been an increase in theft of this kind and were confident that Stoke had not been targeted in particular.

Councillor Allen confirmed that Stoke Academy held a Community Café open to the public on Friday afternoons between 2pm and 4pm in which pupils made cakes/hot drinks/etc. and provided table service.

Councillor P Smart advised that following an engineers report undertaken on the Anglian Water noise, a number of possible sources for the noise had been identified and work to solve these had been undertaken. It was requested that a special thanks to the Environmental Health Team at Ipswich Borough Council be placed on record for their work in resolving the noise issues for residents.

The fly tipping problem in the Austin Street area had been investigated further and following information that the 'stub ends' of each footpath were owned by the property owners, both stubs had been sealed off by the owners, and the situation appeared to have improved however, the site would continue to be monitored.

## 26.3. Sprites Ward

Councillor Armitage confirmed that maintenance of Stone Lodge Park (such as clearing the area) continued to be considered and asked residents to inform her of any complaints/issues. With regards to Bridgwater Road and the vibrations caused by traffic, a map had been put together of the properties affected to present to Highways. An offer to hold Zumba Classes for elderly/less mobile residents had been made and Councillor Armitage asked that anybody interested inform her so that they could assess how much potential there would be for this going forward.

Councillor C Smart confirmed that consultation with residents who lived in Robin Drive and Bridgwater Road continued and it was hoped that a survey would be carried out shortly on traffic measures within the area. A local surgery would be held on Saturday 13 July 2019 at 11.00am for Sprites Residents to attend.

Councillor Smith confirmed that both herself and Councillor Armitage had visited Stone Lodge Park following complaints from residents about antisocial behaviour and this would be considered further.

### Gipping Ward

Councillor Ellesmere reassured residents that any tree cut down by the Council would generally only be done as a last resort for diseased trees. The Council had a '2 for 1' tree replacement policy which meant that for any tree cut down, two trees would be planted in its place. Although effort would be made to situate the trees in the same area, this would not always be possible and notices would be put up whenever a tree was cut down to notify people of this.

There had been some queries regarding the maintenance of Chantry Park and a bid for Heritage Lottery Funding for the refurbishment of the park had been made. A £1.5m contribution towards the Chantry Park lottery scheme had been set aside by IBC and should the bid be unsuccessful, this would still be retained for improvements to the park. It was confirmed that the pond in Chantry Park would be dredged within the next few weeks.

## **27. Suffolk County Councillors Update**

- 27.1. Councillor Armitage, in her capacity as a Suffolk County Councillor, advised that a consultation on the Green Access Strategy would be in place until 20 September 2019. This would be used to collect feedback from walkers, cyclists and those with mobility issues to consider ways of which right of way and access paths could be improved and could be completed online.
- 27.2. Another consultation which would potentially be opened shortly was with regards to the potential loss of full time services at two children's centres in the South West. This matter was due to be considered by SCC Cabinet the following week.
- 27.3. Councillor Gardiner, in his capacity as a Suffolk County Councillor, reported that although the vibration issues on Hawthorn Drive had been raised to the County Council, their response had remained the same and no work would be undertaken in this area as the problem hadn't met the criteria for reactive repairs under their operational plan. Instead, they had suggested that residents seek legal advice in order to file a formal complaint for damages.

## 28. Responses to Public Questions Received and Open Discussion on Local Issues

28.1. The following question had been received prior to the meeting.

**I am a member of the Holyrood Neighbourhood Watch and we carry out a monthly litter pick along the Greensward and footpaths along the Belstead Road area. Following our monthly litter pick I send a report to Glynis Wood at IBC Wastesavers. During the last month, post mounted bins along the footpath from Belstead Road to Stoke Park Drive, along the footpath from Downing Close to Belstead Road and along the footpath backing onto Sandringham Close (near St Joseph's College) have all gone missing. This will increase litter and leaves just one metal upright bin on Belstead Road.**

**Glynis Wood at Waste Operations had informed us that Waste Supervisors are investigating alternative strapping to the black plastic ties presently being used. Timescale is an issue. What does the Council know about these bins being removed, could CCTV cameras be used or trackers placed inside the bins under the plastic lining bags to ascertain who is responsible?**

The Chair confirmed that a response had been received to the question as per the below:

***Waste Services have not removed the bins along this route. The bins must have been removed by an unknown third party or vandalised. Where budget and stocks permit the bins would be replaced. Waste Services would be trialling a stronger metal band fixing to make it more challenging for the bins to be removed/kicked off the post. It would not be financially viable to fit tracking devices or to use CCTV.***

The resident who submitted the question advised that since writing, the bins had now been moved around to different streets by unknown persons. It was suggested that any new changes be reported to the Chair.

28.2. A resident asked if the dog foul bin could be moved further away from the entrance of Bourne Park. It was agreed that this request would be considered.

## 29. Ipswich Northern Route Consultation - Presentation

29.1. Katherine Potts, Consultation Officer at Suffolk County Council, provided a presentation to the South West Area Committee regarding the Ipswich Northern Route Consultation. The project had begun following a number of long standing challenges regarding the reliability and quality of the A14 and to accommodate the effect of economic and housing growth.

29.2. In 2016 the Public Sector Leaders Group provided £200k funding for an initial study into the road network, in May 2017 the Group provided a further £550k for the development of a strategic outline business case and then in November 2018 the scope of the work was updated to include the future expected growth

- of 10-15,000 new homes. In February 2019 the Leader of Suffolk County Council confirmed that a consultation regarding the Ipswich Northern Route would be held over the Summer.
- 29.3. Some early option assessment work had been undertaken for what would be a long term project and this consultation had been agreed to allow feedback and input from the public. The strategic outline business case would then be completed in the Autumn and, should it be agreed that the project be progressed further, funding would be sought from the Government and the next stages would commence.
- 29.4. The overall objectives of the route included the improvement to businesses and people's experience of the A14 and the provision of additional travel options to optimise traffic. With regards to the environmental objectives, the aim of the route would be to relieve traffic within the town and all environmental constraints had been considered when planning of the potential routes had been undertaken.
- 29.5. Three routes would be consulted: an outer route, a middle route and an inner route (all of which could be viewed in more detail on the Suffolk County Council website). All routes had been modelled on the basis that the road would be opened, at the earliest, in 2027.
- 29.6. The consultation would run until 13 September 2019 and many information events had been programmed around Suffolk, East Suffolk and Ipswich of which residents were welcome to attend. The consultation questionnaire was available to ensure that the public could provide their views on the objectives, alternate routes and to raise any concerns.
- 29.7. Ms Potts confirmed that a Q&A page was available online which would provide further information on areas such as the cost, traffic model, routes and next steps. A full report on the consultation findings would be published following the results.
- 29.8. Councillor C Smart asked for clarification on the inner route and the junctions. It was confirmed that the junctions would be not be grade separated and instead would most likely be roundabouts however, the plan showed very early stage alignments and changes could be made in the future. It was confirmed that the type of junction used along the route would not have a great affect on the figure for the expected amount of time saved for using a particular route.

### **30. Area Action Plan Agreement - Chair Update**

The Chair confirmed that the Area Action Plan had been agreed by the South West Area Committee following the presentation which was received at the previous meeting. The Committee had agreed to continue to work to alleviate deprivation in the domain of Education, Skills and Training and Health and Disability. Action would be prioritised in line with the following Council aims and activities: A Healthy Community, Quality Homes for All and Safe Communities.

### **31. SWAC/19/08 Proposed Bus Stop Clearway - Broomhayes**

- 31.1. Mr Michael Newsham, Integrated Transport Officer at Ipswich Borough Council, presented a report on the Proposed Bus Stop Clearways at Broomhayes.
- 31.2. The Officer confirmed that Ipswich Borough Council had a responsibility to provide bus stops in Ipswich and had been working jointly with Suffolk County Council to complete a previous project to install raised bus stop kerbs on the route of Service 16. Raised bus stop kerbs were deemed important as they helped make it easier for bus passengers to get on or off busses by removing the gap between the floor of the bus and the kerb. This was especially important for passengers who were elderly, had physical disabilities, mobility problems or with prams/buggies.
- 31.3. When a raised bus stop kerb had been installed, the Council also chose to install a bus stop clearway restriction which made it an offence to stop or park at the bus stop during the times that the clear way was enforced. These restrictions were considered important because without them, busses may not be able to pull up flush to the raised kerb and would have to stop in the middle of the road, which made it difficult or impossible for people with mobility problems to board busses safely.
- 31.4. Earlier this year, a proposal had been made for a raised kerb to be installed at the bus stop outside 17 Broomhayes with a clearway restriction between 7am and 7pm Monday to Saturday. This had also included the proposal to remove the bus stop outside 31 Broomhayes as Ipswich Buses had complained that the two bus stops were too close together. As no formal written objections that had not been withdrawn were made against this proposal, it was not included in the report to the Committee at its March meeting. Following this proposal, a resident affected by it met with the Portfolio Holder for Environment & Climate Change to file a complaint, and the Portfolio Holder requested that a further consultation be carried out on an alternative options which would be to remove the bus stop outside 17 Broomhayes and put the clearway restriction and raised bus stop kerb at the bus stop outside 31 Broomhayes.
- 31.5. The Officer confirmed that several objections had been lodged regarding this alternate proposal and therefore it was up to the Committee to determine which, if any, of the proposals it wished to authorise.
- 31.6. The resident who had complained about the original proposal advised that due to personal circumstances he would suffer from this proposal. He explained that he had no drive and therefore would find it difficult if he could no longer park outside his house. He advised that the bus route was not particularly busy and that it was rare for push chairs to be used. He asked that the Committee consider leaving the bus stop, not installing a raised kerb and not adding a yellow line.
- 31.7. The Officer confirmed that with regards to the number of passengers using the bus stop, the removal of one of the bus stops meant that this could increase. Although, the residents claimed that people with mobility issues etc. had not



been observed using the bus stop, it was important for the Council to ensure that anybody who had mobility problems had the same rights to access the services which able-bodied people could.

31.8. Two residents in the audience who had submitted objections to the alternative proposal confirmed that they agreed that both bus stops could be retained however, they advised that due to increased parking in the street during school pick up times, it was much more likely that the bus would get stuck at the bus stop outside 31 Broomhayes than it would at the other. There would also be issues with visitor parking etc.

31.9. Councillor P Smart confirmed that he had requested that the alternative proposal be considered due to the problems raised by the resident who had complained about the original proposal however, there had been a greater number of objections to the second proposal.

**It was RESOLVED:-**

**that the bus stop be removed outside 31 Broomhayes and a 23 metre bus stop clearway restriction be installed in force from 7am to 7pm Monday to Saturday at the bus stop outside 17 Broomhayes together with the installation of raised bus stop kerbs.**

Reason: in order that this matter and the objection and complaint received could be determined and in order to ensure that bus passengers can easily and safely board and alight from buses.

**32. SWAC/19/09 Funding Request: Black History Month Celebration Event**

32.1. Mr Cedric McSheen, Chair of Ipswich African & Caribbean Cultural Development, presented a funding request to the Committee which sought £226.20 funding towards a cultural celebration event on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at the Manor Ballroom as part of Black History Month.

32.2. Mr McSheen confirmed that attendance had improved since the first event in 2017 and the event continued to grow successfully. Local businesses would be involved, and there would be arts and crafts stalls and musical performances. In response to a question, it was confirmed that fundraising events had been held by the group to acquire funding and sponsorships would also be considered.

**It was RESOLVED:-**

**that £226.20 funding be provided toward a cultural celebration event on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2019 as part of Black History Month**

Reason: to determine the merit of providing funds to the Ipswich African & Caribbean Cultural Development Association for the costs of a celebration day as part of Black History Month.

**33. SWAC/19/10 Area Committee Budget Update**

33.1. Shirley Jarlett, Head of Governance, confirmed that the South West Area Committee had an unallocated budget of £23,195.50 available to spend on the priorities of the Area Action Plan for the South West Ipswich.

33.2. Following the funding request granted for Black History Month, the remaining budget was £22,969.30.

**It was RESOLVED:-**

**that the financial statement in Appendix 1 of the report be noted.**

Reason: to provide clear and transparent details of the amount of funds available to the Area Committee to deliver the priorities in its action plan.

**34. Dates of Future Meetings 2019/20, all to be held at 6.30pm**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019 – Shepherd Drive Baptist Church, Laburnum Close, Pinewood, Ipswich IP8 3SL**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 – Stoke Green Baptist Church, Halifax Road, Ipswich IP2 8RE**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – Gipping Room, Grafton House, Ipswich Borough Council, Russell Road, Ipswich IP1 2DE**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Venue to be Confirmed**

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm

**Chair**