

CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES

**WEDNESDAY 15 JANUARY 2020
CHRIST CHURCH - LANGSTON HALL,
TACKET STREET, IP4 1AU
7.00 PM**

Present: Alexandra Ward Councillors: A Rae and J Riley
St Margaret's Ward Councillors: O Holmes, I Lockington and T Lockington
Westgate Ward Councillors: J Gibbs, C Jones and C Kreidewolf
SCC Councillors: M Gaylard and I Lockington

There were 8 members of the public in attendance.

41. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor John Cook and County Councillor Jack Abbott. The Chair welcomed Councillor Adam Rae to his first Central Area Committee meeting.

42. Unconfirmed Minutes of Previous Meeting

42.1. Re: Minute 34.6: Councillor Jones clarified that the main issue was vehicles illegally driving straight over into Upper Brook Street, which was a busy pedestrian shopping street.

Resolved:

that, subject to the above amendment, the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2019 be signed as a true record.

43. To Confirm or Vary the Order of Business

Resolved:

that the Order of Business be confirmed as printed on the Agenda.

44. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Jones, as the Portfolio Holder for Museums, declared an interest in Agenda Item 11 (report CAC/19/15).

45. To Confirm the Venues of Future Meetings

Resolved:

that the meetings and venues be confirmed as follows:

- **Wednesday 11 March 2020, 7pm – The Key, 15 St Margaret’s Plain, IP4 2BB**
- **Wednesday 10 June 2020, 7pm – Westgate ward**
- **Wednesday 15 July 2020, 7pm – Alexandra ward**
- **Wednesday 9 September 2020, 7pm – St Margaret’s ward**
- **Wednesday 11 November 2020, 7pm – Westgate ward**
- **Wednesday 6 January 2021, 7pm – Alexandra ward**
- **Wednesday 3 March 2021, 7pm – St Margaret’s ward**

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

- 46.1. The Chair introduced Inspector Vicky McParland of the Ipswich Central Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT), who provided the following policing updates:
- 46.2. Maple Park – tackling ASB: the strategy deployed in this area, with increased visibility, would be replicated in Alexandra and St Margaret’s wards where similar ASB was being experienced.
- 46.3. The Police Community Engagement Officer, PC Woodmansee, had been attending local schools and community events and would be introduced at the next Central Area Committee meeting.
- 46.4. There had been an increase in the number of burglaries in St Margaret’s and Westgate wards mostly due to poor security, i.e. doors left open or keys left in the door. There had also been a number of thefts from vehicles in Surrey Road and St Margaret’s ward, with vehicles often left unlocked with possessions on view. Crime prevention advice would be put out on social media to advise people to lock their homes and vehicles and hide possessions from sight.
- 46.5. Drug dealing on Broomhill Road: One piece of intelligence had been reported since the last meeting. Discarded drug paraphernalia could be reported through the Council’s Cleaner Ipswich Hotline (Ipswich 433000) or via the website, and drug-related activity should be reported to the Police or anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.
- 46.6. Anglesea Road 20mph speed limit: As a rule, the Police did not enforce 20mph speed limits as they should be self-enforcing by design, but Inspector McParland would look at how issues of speeding in 20mph zones had been dealt with elsewhere. Inspector McParland would liaise with SCC Highways

about the road markings and twisted road sign on Anglesea Road.

- 46.7. Illegal access of restricted areas in town centre: Inspector McParland commented on the poor signage along Falcon Street into Dogs Head Street, towards Upper Brook Street and out of Buttermarket. The situation was not helped by roadworks a while ago when the use of these signs was suspended, and drivers had continued in the habit of using these roads after the works were complete. To prevent access would require a considerable penalty fine ticketing operation and the Police did not have the resources to do this. One option to explore could be a fixed post camera as deployed on bus lanes, but there would be a cost associated with this.
- 46.8. Councillor Jones understood that this was not a priority for the Police, but added that the illegal access by vehicles of Upper Brook Street/Northgate Street was putting pedestrians and cyclists at risk.
- 46.9. Inspector McParland commented that too many signs could cause visual overload and it was important for signage to be clear and appropriate.
- 46.10. County Councillor Gayland commented that there were also issues on Fore Street, where the use of a camera was also suggested, but the situation needed to be reviewed across the town centre as a whole. Inspector McParland commented that aside from the cost of installing a camera, there was the issue of who would manage the issuing of tickets. Other places had installed raisable bollards and barriers for bus only use. Inspector McParland suggested that the basic signage could be improved.
- 46.11. Councillor T Lockington reported that the drug dealing on Broomhill Road had been 'pop up' in nature and local residents were encouraged to report patterns of when this activity was happening to the Police; similar reporting had worked well in tackling this issue in Cemetery Road. Inspector McParland reported that the Link Officer would explore this with local residents.
- 46.12. Mr Fairclough reported that enforcement of traffic offences by ANPR cameras was a complex procedure and could take as long as 18-24 months to implement as it would require Government approval and would need to meet many criteria.
- 46.13. Local resident: Vehicles use Tacket Street and Upper Brook Street as a rat-run and this, together with the County buses, was adding to air pollution. There needs to be a push to get cars out of the town centre and policing this area would help the situation. Inspector McParland commented that the Police only had finite resources available and had to prioritise where these resources were allocated.
- 46.14. Local resident: There have been 2 recent changes to traffic light sequencing that have had a detrimental effect on traffic flow. Firstly, the traffic lights on the junction of Argyle Street/Grimwade Street with St Helens Street were now allowing the left lane and filter lane to run together, with vehicles racing ahead to crossover lanes, which was dangerous. It was also creating longer queues

and traffic was using Palmerston Road as a rat-run to avoid this junction. Secondly, the traffic lights controlling the junction with St Helens Street/Warwick Road/Grove Lane had been changed to operate as a 4-way traffic control sequence instead of a 3-way sequence and this was causing additional traffic delays. The Chair reported that these issues would be referred to County Councillor Paul West to follow up with Suffolk Highways.

- 46.15. Local resident: There has been increased Police presence in Clarkson Street. Recently a car was stopped for drunk-driving, but the car was left in a one-hour stay parking bay for 4 months, as it was not within their authority to move the vehicle. If the vehicle has been ticketed for a parking offence, but there was no registered owner, the vehicle cannot be moved.

47. Project Update: Ipswich Museums Workshops for School Visits

- 47.1. Ms Hollis, Collections and Learning Curator, gave a presentation on the outcomes of the Ipswich Museums Workshops for School Visits with the following key points:

- The aims of the project were to increase the number of schoolchildren visiting Ipswich Museums and to review the offer for school visits to make it more relevant to the school curriculum, in particular the core STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) subjects
- A freelance education specialist was employed to develop workshops that could use the Museums in innovative ways
- 4 new sessions were delivered as part of the schools offer:
 - Discover in a Day (art)
 - Maths at the Mansion (mathematics)
 - Why is that in a museum? (history)
 - Looking after things in a museum (science)
- These sessions were piloted in the last term of the school year to 250 schoolchildren from Clifford Road Primary School, Handford Hall Primary School and St Margaret's Primary School
- A new e-newsletter was created for teachers, which now had 198 teachers subscribed to it across Ipswich and Suffolk
- There has been an 83% increase in school visits to Ipswich Museums over April to December 2019
- The piloted workshops were now being advertised for future school visits

- 47.2. Councillor I Lockington asked whether schools would pay for future sessions. Ms Hollis confirmed that the workshops would form part of the schools offer and there was a charge for school visit tours.

48. Presentation: Connect for Health

- 48.1. Ms Louise Hardwick, Head of Partnerships at Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), gave a presentation on the 'Connect for Health'

Social Prescribing initiative with the following key points:

- Social prescribing or 'community referral' provided another option for GPs and other health professionals to help patients tackle non-medical issues by addressing social, emotional or practical needs.
- Social prescribing can help with issues such as managing debt, finding a job or housing, tackling social isolation, by signposting people onto social groups, leisure activities/hobbies and to a range of services offered by various organisations and community groups.
- Patients would be referred to a Link Worker to arrange a face-to-face 45-minute meeting to discuss their individual issues and develop a personally tailored action plan or 'social prescription'.
- The service was available to people over 18 who might have multiple non-medical needs, be socially isolated or have emotional needs, be living with long-term health conditions or who frequently attend primary care services.
- Referrals to a Link Worker could be made through a GP or other health professional, social care professional, mental health link worker, or other organisations such as housing providers and community organisations; alternatively, self-referrals could be made by individuals or their families/carers.
- The Connect for Health Social Prescribing provider in Ipswich was Citizens Advice and a community chest of £20,000 was held by Suffolk Community Foundation, which was available to voluntary and community sector organisations to address any gaps in provision.
- Social prescribing was a free and confidential service providing personalised support to help people live independently and improve their health outcomes.
- For further information, email:
louise.hardwick@ipswichandeastsuffolkccg.nhs.uk

48.2. Councillor Rae noted that 30-35% of patients consulted their GP for social problems and asked whether there were enough Link Workers in place to cater for the number of referrals.

Social prescribing had been offered in some GP practices for a year, but it had been a staggered implementation. NHS England was keen to invest in this new way of working and the CCG had also invested into this scheme. Funding was available until March 2021 and NHS England would be providing more Link Workers.

48.3. Councillor Rae asked what the waiting time was to see a Link Worker. The waiting time at the Burlington Road surgery was 3 weeks, but another Link Worker had since been deployed.

48.4. Councillor T Lockington commented from his previous experience of working with patients with Parkinsons disease that referrals were already being made to social networks and asked whether information had been gathered in relation to existing networks.

When the Connect for Health program was procured, the first month was spent looking at what services were already available and a directory of services was built up; the CCG was also part of the procurement of Suffolk InfoLink. The

Community Chest would allow voluntary and community sector organisations to apply to deliver services to support existing networks or provide new activities; this funding was administered by Suffolk Community Foundation.

- 48.5. Councillor I Lockington asked whether Link Workers had identified any missing services.
It was too early in the process to be able to comment; a lot of the issues in Ipswich were already being addressed through Citizens Advice. There would be an evaluation of this initiative after 2 years.
- 48.6. Local resident: ActivLives already provided services offering social activities and had set up various groups, but they had since lost their funding. The CCG and Ipswich Hospital work closely with ActivLives and have commissioned them to provide services to tackle frailty in the elderly.
- 48.7. Councillor Gibbs reported that the Council supported many organisations through its Cash Grants process, including ActivLives. Councillor Kreidewolf added that ActivLives originally received a 3-year grant from Sport England and it was this funding that was not renewed; however, Ipswich Borough Council continued to support ActivLives.

49. CAC/19/13 Area Committee Budget Update

- 49.1. Mr Fairclough reported that at the start of the meeting the Central Area Committee had an unallocated budget of £6,692.92 available to spend on its priorities.
- 49.2. Mr Fairclough reported that £199.77 had been approved from the Making a Difference budget for Alexandra ward towards a 'Window Wanderland' event to be held in January 2020.
- 49.3. The Committee was asked to consider the budget surplus of £4,577 arising from the Alley Gates Fund following the installation of an alley gate on Wellesley Road, and agreed that this outstanding commitment be returned to the Central Area Committee unallocated budget, resulting in an unallocated budget of £11,269.92.
- 49.4. Councillor Riley noted that funding had been paid in relation to the Norwich Road Carnival that had not gone ahead in 2019.
Mr Fairclough reported that clarification would be sought in relation to this project.

Resolved:

- (i) that the financial statement of the Central Area Committee in Appendix 1 to the report be noted;**

Reason: To provide an audit trail of funding that has been spent from the Central Area Committee budget.

(ii) that the following outstanding budget commitment be returned to the unallocated Central Area Committee budget:

- **CAC/17/19 – Alley Gates Fund: £4,577**

Reason: To release any Central Area Committee budget funding where there is no further expenditure anticipated.

50. CAC/19/14 Funding Request: Ginnel Foto Fest & PHOTOEASTfringe 2020

- 50.1. Mr Turnbull, Community Engagement Officer, reported that £2,400 was requested by the Ginnel Foto Community towards the costs of running the Ginnel Foto Fest in May 2020 and the PHOTOEASTfringe event in May/June 2020.
- 50.2. Mr Mike Chen, founder of the Ginnel Foto Fest, reported that following on from events held in 2016 and 2018, the Ginnel Foto Fest would be returning to Clarkson Street in May 2020, with exhibitions, street food/drink and workshops. Additionally, PHOTOEASTfringe events would be held across the town in May-June 2020, involving local independent businesses. The events would offer vegan food and would avoid the use of single-use plastics. 2,000 copies of the Ginnel Foto Fest magazine would be printed and distributed at various venues. A Ginnel Foto Community website had already been established and QR scan codes would be created to enable details of exhibits to be downloaded on smart phones.
- 50.3. Councillor I Lockington asked how the large banners and other equipment would be re-usable for future events. Mr Chen reported that all the frames from previous events were already in store to be reused and added that the vinyl banners would be made available to other organisations to use.
- 50.4. Councillor Rae asked how this year's costs compared with previous years' costs. Mr Chen commented that there were higher costs when the event first took place in order to pay for equipment, but this equipment would be used again this year; however, the event would be branching out this year and the main costs were associated with printing/banners. The Ginnel Foto Community had also received support from other organisations.
- 50.5. Councillor Jones asked where the vinyl banners would be located. Mr Chen reported that the original idea was to hang the banners from the handrail of the subway on Civic Drive, but this would have required planning permission, which would have bumped up the costs. New locations have been agreed on London Road, the passageway that runs alongside St Matthews Church and on the fencing around the Unitarian Meeting House (opposite the Willis building).
- 50.6. Councillor Jones questioned the suitability of the alleyway by St Matthews Church as it was not much frequented and there had been some ASB issues in this area, and requested that another location be considered that would be more visible. Councillor Jones asked whether there was any opportunity to get the local community more involved in the event rather than most of the funding

being spent on banners. Mr Chen reported that there would be activities and workshops for people to get involved with as in previous years, but this did not require any additional funding. Mr Chen added that the banners were important as they would be included in the catalogue and would draw attention to the events.

- 50.7. County Councillor Gaylard asked about the relationship between the proposed PHOTOEASTfringe and the PHOTOEAST organisation, and whether PHOTOEAST had been contacted about the proposed fringe event. Mr Chen reported that PHOTOEAST was launched at the same time as the Ginnel Foto Fest in 2016, and in 2018, Ginnel Foto Community had offered PHOTOEAST free advertising, which was taken up; however, PHOTOEAST had not been willing to advertise the Ginnel Foto Fest as part of their promotion. Mr Chen added that the PHOTOEASTfringe branding was legitimate as the events would not just be on the Waterfront, but in other parts of the town as well.
- 50.8. Councillor Gibbs commented that PHOTOEAST and PHOTOEASTfringe were different entities and not associated with each other, and was concerned about potential legal issues from using the PHOTOEAST brand.
- 50.9. Councillor Riley asked whether PHOTOEAST events would be held this year. Mr Chen commented that he had spoken with people at the University of Suffolk, but there was no indication of whether this event would be going ahead this year. Councillor Riley asked if the proposed fringe event could be promoted under the Ginnel Foto Community branding instead.
- 50.10. In light of the concerns raised in relation to the use of the PHOTOEAST brand for the PHOTOEASTfringe element of the bid and the potential locations of vinyl banners, Councillor Jones proposed that 2 conditions be attached to the funding agreement:

That the proposed PHOTOEASTfringe event should not use the PHOTOEAST brand and should be promoted under the Ginnel Foto Community brand;

That Ginnel Foto Community liaise with Ipswich Borough Council to ensure that the vinyl banners are installed in appropriate locations and in a manner that would not require planning permission;

and this was agreed.

Resolved:

that the Central Area Committee approve funding of £2,400 from the Central Area Committee budget to the Ginnel Foto Community towards the overall cost of hosting Ginnel Foto Fest and 'PHOTOEASTfringe' in 2020 subject to the following conditions:

- (i) that the proposed PHOTOEASTfringe event should not use the PHOTOEAST brand and should be promoted under the Ginnel Foto**

Community brand;

- (ii) **that Ginnel Foto Community liaise with Ipswich Borough Council to ensure that the vinyl banners are installed in appropriate locations and in a manner that would not require planning permission.**

Reason: To support the Ginnel Foto Community in delivering a local arts project that intends to engage the whole community in a deprived and diverse area of the town, to educate, entertain and bring people together.

51. CAC/19/15 Funding Request: Rock Paper Scissors 'Twisted History' Experience at Ipswich Museum

As the applicant was not present to answer any questions on this funding bid, it was agreed that this report be deferred to the next meeting of the Central Area Committee.

Resolved:

that the funding request for the Rock Paper Scissors 'Twisted History' experience at Ipswich Museum be deferred to the next meeting of the Central Area Committee.

Reason: To enable the applicant to attend the meeting in case clarification of the funding bid was required.

52. CAC/19/16 Spending Proposal: Fly-Tipping and Graffiti Removal Budget

52.1. Mr Turnbull reported that £3,000 had been allocated in January 2018 to establish a dedicated budget for the removal of fly-tipping and graffiti in the Central Ipswich area where land ownership and responsibility for the fly-tipping/graffiti could not be determined. There had been 18 instances of fly-tipping and 2 of graffiti being removed and recharged back to this budget, which now had only £453.20 remaining. It was requested that a further £1,000 be allocated for this purpose.

52.2. Councillor T Lockington commented that there had recently been some racist graffiti that needed the business owner to paint over and added that this funding was important to enable action to be taken promptly.

52.3. Councillor Kreidewolf commented that if fly-tipping was on Council-owned land then this would be dealt with automatically by the Council's Cleansing Team; the proposed funding would only be used to tackle graffiti and fly-tipping on non-Council owned land where it was not possible to determine ownership and responsibility.

52.4. Councillor I Lockington reported that any racist graffiti would be dealt with by the Council regardless of who owned the land/property.

52.5. Councillor Jones proposed that the funding for the removal of fly-tipping and graffiti be increased to £2,000, and this was agreed.

Resolved:

that the Central Area Committee approve £2,000 from the Central Area Committee budget to provide a dedicated budget for the removal of fly-tipping and graffiti within the Central Ipswich area.

Reasons:

- To enable the prompt response to reports of fly-tipping and graffiti in the Central Ipswich area.
- To enable the effective and efficient removal and clearance of waste and graffiti in areas that would not normally be attended.
- To reduce the impact of such nuisance on the environment.
- To improve the appearance of the Central Ipswich area for residents and visitors.

53. Chair's Update on Actions from Previous Meetings

53.1. The Chair provided the following update in relation to grit bins located in the Central Ipswich area:

The Council currently provided a number of grit bins in various locations across Ipswich as part of a self-help community volunteer gritting scheme, whereby members of the local community could apply grit to roads that were not gritted by the County Council during periods of severe winter weather. Grit bins tend to be placed on cul-de-sacs and other residential roads, usually those with a steep hill.

Suffolk County Council fill the grit bins and provide insurance cover to volunteers registered with the Borough Council. Volunteers were co-ordinated in their streets by a lead community volunteer. The Borough Council were seeking to find members of the local community in a number of roads to act as the lead community volunteer for their street. The role of a lead community volunteers was to act as a contact point with the Borough Council and with the volunteers on their streets who carry out the gritting, and to seek more volunteers where necessary. Lead community volunteers could carry out gritting themselves, but provided they have at least 2 volunteers for their street then they did not have to, meaning that this role could be suitable for all members of the community.

Anyone interested in acting in this capacity should contact the Council's Integrated Transport Officer on: (01473) 432064 for further information. The Council would prefer to avoid having to remove any existing grit bins, but regrettably if no-one was willing to act as a lead community volunteer for the following streets, then this might be necessary:

- The Albany
- Belle Vue Road (near junction with Woodbridge Road)
- Brookfield Road

- Jefferies Road
- 53.2. The Chair provided the following SCC Highways updates received from County Councillor West:
- St Helen's Street Corridor/Kings Avenue improvements: the public consultation had taken place and discussions were ongoing with the Highway Engineers;
- Silent Street – reinstatement of public highway as a result of historic utility works: County Councillor West had met with Councillor Cook and was following up those reinstatement works that were still outstanding.
- 53.3. The Chair reported that Officers from the Planning Policy Team were present to answer any queries about the public consultation on the Final Draft Local Plan Review that would be open until 11.45pm on Wednesday 26 February 2020.

54. Community Intelligence - Verbal Update from Ward Councillors

- 54.1. Councillor Kreidewolf highlighted that The Greyhound Public House held 'Meet up Monday' events every Monday morning to help address social isolation and these had been very successful. Councillor Kreidewolf reported that the owners of the former Rose and Crown Public House had been taken to court and had been ordered to complete works required to make this building safe.
- 54.2. Councillor Rae reported that the former Grinning Rat Public House would be opening this week as a vegan public house, selling vegan food and drink.
- 54.3. Councillor I Lockington reported that works had commenced inside the former Mulberry Tree Public House and the external areas had been tidied up.
- 54.4. County Councillor Gaylard reported that the Ipswich Arts Centre had received HLF funding last year to capture living memories of St Clement's Church, a medieval church that was no longer in use as a church. The information gathered had been exhibited at the University of Suffolk and was now being displayed at the Tourist Information Centre for 4 weeks.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm

Chair