

Central Area Committee – 6 January 2009

Minutes of the meeting of the **Central Area Committee** held on **6 January 2009** when there were present:-

Chairman for the meeting: Cllr Mrs L A Butcher

Cllr J R F Mason

Cllr D G Stansby
Cllr M G B Starke

ALSO PRESENT

Cllr Mrs M A Weir - Hawkwell Parish Council
Cllr B Hazlewood - Hockley Parish Council
Cllr Miss A Marriott - Hullbridge Parish Council
A Hilsdon - County Highways

OFFICERS PRESENT

R Evans - Head of Environmental Services
J Bostock - Committee Services Manager

1 AREA COMMITTEE – INITIAL BUSINESS

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs R Brown, P A Capon, M R Carter, Mrs L M Cox, Mrs H L A Glynn, M Maddocks and J Thomass.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2008 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

At this point the Committee adjourned the formal meeting to move into the Community Forum to hear contributions from members of the public.

2 COMMUNITY FORUM

One request for information had been received and a document on this and the response given is appended.

At this point the Committee reconvened into formal session.

3 SPOTLIGHT ISSUE – HIGHWAY MATTERS WITHIN THE CENTRAL AREA

Andrew Hilsdon reported on highway works programmed within the Central Area, notably along the length of the Ashingdon Road.

Responding to questions, Andrew advised that:-

- Whilst the technique used for the making up of Ferry Road, Hullbridge had been similar to that used successfully in Abbey Road, it could be accepted that the work had not gone as well and that there were a number of complaints to be picked up.
- A Highways Officer would review the state of repair of Beech Road, Hullbridge.
- If there was an issue with large commercial vehicles parked at local shops reducing the parking available to residents it may be that this could be addressed through waiting restrictions. Officers would need to consider the specific situation.

It was noted that there would have been a specific reason if the District Council had removed a tree as part of its urban tree planting project. Officers would be happy to advise on any individual cases raised.

4 CENTRAL AREA UPDATE

The Committee received the Central Area update.

Replacement of Footpaths 8 and 9 adjacent to Brandy Hole on the River Crouch (11/07)

It was noted that horse riding interests were to be included in considerations. It was also noted that, separately, the District was to supply Hockley Parish Council with landowner details.

Route for horses on the western side of Clements Hall (12/07)

It would be useful to have confirmation as to when the decision on funding will be made.

Traffic Flow Statistics for the B1013 main road (17/08)

It was noted that the associated statistics could be interpreted in a number of ways and that volumes had gone up and down over the last 5 years.

The Number 7 Bus (20/08)

It was observed that the District Council's Review Committee was considering issues around the Number 7 and 8 bus services. It was noted that references in comments received from Arriva about no objections being lodged did not appear to be consistent with indications that the District had objected. It would be useful if officers could look into this aspect.

Christmas Tree on land at White Hart Common (26/08)

It was noted that Hawkwell Parish Council was financing the tree and preparing the ground and that the tree planting would be arranged by Environmental Services.

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The meeting closed at 7.54pm.

Chairman

Date

If you would like these minutes in large print, braille or another language please contact 01702 546366.

Appendix

Question	Response
<p>Mr E Lochner, Rochford</p> <p>Can we get something done about the persistant speeding and school parking in Boswell Avenue and Spencer Gardens Rochford (main offenders seem to be school students, staff and visitors).</p>	<p>The parking issue has been looked at previously. As a result, double yellow lines were introduced at various junctions. It was proposed to implement a 1 hour restriction during the day to help reduce all day parking but this was not taken forward due to objections from residents.</p> <p>Enforcement of speed limits is undertaken by Essex Police. From experience, the number of vehicles present at school times makes it difficult for vehicles to exceed 30mph. Also, a review of injury accidents in the area has highlighted that there have been none in the past five years – the nearest recorded are in Brays Lane and Ashingdon Road. Diverting enforcement from other areas, such as Ashingdon Road which does have an accident history, would be difficult to justify on this basis.</p> <p>Andrew Hilsdon would be happy to discuss the waiting restrictions that have been implemented already with residents and if anything further can be achieved but we must be conscious of the views of all residents, many of whom have objected to additional restrictions.</p>