

Minutes of the meeting of the **Rayleigh Town Centre Sub-Committee** held on **26 July 2002** when there were present:-

Cllr C J Lumley
Cllr J M Pullen
Cllr P K Savill
Cllr Mrs M J Webster

OFFICERS ATTENDING

S Scrutton	Head of Planning Services
S Worthington	Committee Administrator

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Resolved

That Councillor Mrs M J Webster be appointed Chairman of the Rayleigh Town Centre Sub-Committee.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors C J Lumley and J M Pullen declared a personal interest in items 5 and 6 of the agenda by virtue of being members of Rayleigh Town Council.

Councillor Mrs M J Webster declared a personal interest in items 5 and 6 of the agenda by virtue of being an Essex County Councillor.

3 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Head of Planning Services setting out proposed terms of reference for the Sub-Committee.

During debate, the Sub-Committee endorsed the view of the Chairman that the Rayleigh Chamber of Trade and the Rayleigh Town Council should be asked to give their opinion on specific issues when required, rather than becoming advisers to the Sub-Committee. There should be a further meeting of the Sub-Committee in September when progress would be reviewed and a decision taken as to the need for future meetings.

Resolved

That the Sub-Committee's terms of reference be to consider the outstanding issues in respect of Rayleigh Town Centre, with a view to resolution of all matters by December 2002 at the latest.

4 RAYLEIGH TOWN CENTRE – OUTSTANDING ISSUES

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Head of Planning Services updating Members on the Rayleigh Town Centre outstanding issues discussed at the Environmental Services Committee on 12 March 2002.

The Sub-Committee undertook item by item consideration of the outstanding issues relating to Rayleigh Town Centre set out within the report.

The Sub-Committee agreed the following revisions to the list of outstanding issues relating to Rayleigh Town Centre:-

1. Reinstatement Quality Control Process	<p>The paving outside the mobile 'phone shop had been replaced and was beginning to look more weathered. This should be re-examined at the next meeting of this Sub-Committee.</p> <p>County Officers would check that grouting had been completed outside the library.</p>
2. General Condition of Town Centre is Looking Poor – Particularly Street Furniture	<p>The painting of the lamp columns had to be carried out by Essex County Council contractors, as a result of an electrical safety issue.</p> <p>The County Council would be replacing the railings shortly.</p> <p>The bollards and railings could be painted more frequently, provided that Rayleigh Town Council entered into an agreement with the County Council that such work be conducted by approved contractors.</p> <p>Cllr C J Lumley would report this to Rayleigh Town Council, but was concerned that there might be an issue relating to insurance for such contractors.</p>

3. Bollard Opposite the Superdrug Store at the Junction of the High Street and Eastwood Road	<p>It was the consensus of the Sub-Committee that the roundabout was situated in such a way that it was difficult for larger vehicles to manoeuvre safely around it. The junction was problematic and should be included in the traffic review of Rayleigh Town Centre.</p> <p>County Officers should report back to the Chairman of this Sub-Committee on a paramix model of Rayleigh Town Centre.</p>
4. Junction of Church Street and Websters Way	<p>Members suggested that moving the pedestrian crossing further down Crown Hill where the pavement is narrower might improve crossing facilities.</p> <p>A County Highways report on crossing facilities at this junction should be brought back to the next meeting of this Sub-Committee.</p>
5. Taxi Shelter – Boots Lagoon	<p>It was the consensus of this Sub-Committee that this was a matter for the taxi trade and the Rayleigh Chamber of Trade. The item should therefore be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
6. CCTV	<p>The Sub-Committee endorsed the Police view that money would be better spent elsewhere than on CCTV. The item should therefore be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
7. Love Lane Car Park – Exit Survey	<p>The Sub-Committee considered that this issue should be included in any traffic review of Rayleigh Town Centre.</p>
8. Flowers	<p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
9. Update on Traffic Regulation Order	<p>The traffic regulation order has now been implemented. This item should therefore be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
10. Paving at Millennium Clock	<p>This work was completed in December 2001. The item should therefore be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>

11.Laybys	The tegula blocks have been replaced. The item should therefore be removed from the list of outstanding issues.
12.White Lines	The white lines on the way into town from Rayleigh Weir have been re-painted. The item should therefore be removed from the list of outstanding issues.
13.Fly Posting	Members were concerned about the resources issue with respect to the removal of fly posters. A report on monitoring officers' resources should therefore go to the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
14.Brooklands	This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.
15.Advertising Hoarding – Junction of Castle Road/High Street	It was difficult to establish ownership of the board, but Officers were pursuing this. This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.
16.Free Shopping Bus	<p>Notwithstanding the fact that J Sainsbury have confirmed that they will ensure that the bus does not park in this lay by, it has been observed there recently.</p> <p>The Sub-Committee endorsed the view of the Chairman that the free bus provided a valuable service to the community, but that the situation should be monitored.</p> <p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
17.Half Moon	<p>The Sub-Committee believed that placing planters in this area could create accessibility difficulties for wheelchairs and pushchairs.</p> <p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
18.Tackling Graffiti	This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.

19.20 MPH Zones	<p>A report on residential zones would be considered at the next meeting of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
20.Private Footpath Adjacent to Sansoms	<p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
21.Oriental Inn	<p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
22.Planning Appeals	<p>This information is now published in hard copy and on the Council's website.</p> <p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
23.Pavement Between Rayleigh Hi-Fi and Home Regal House	<p>The Sub-Committee considered that this issue should be referred to the Environmental Services Committee for inclusion in the budget estimates at the time of the budget cycle.</p> <p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
24.Cleaning Under Waste Bins – Update	<p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
25.General Condition of Town Centre	<p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
26.Dead Trees Outside Sansoms and Iceland	<p>Over half the trees originally planted in the town centre have had to be replaced.</p> <p>The Sub-Committee endorsed the view of the Chairman that the situation should be monitored carefully.</p>

<p>27. Mechanical Sweeper – Town Centre</p>	<p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p> <p>Members were concerned about the problem of removing chewing gum from pavements. A report on removal options, with costs, should be considered by the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>County Officers would provide the Chairman of this Sub-Committee with further information about a Colchester Borough Council initiative for the removal of chewing gums.</p>
<p>28. Skateboard Nuisance</p>	<p>There would be further discussion of this issue after the Community Services Committee meeting on 2 October 2002.</p>
<p>29. Flowers</p>	<p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
<p>30. Crossing – Traffic Lights Outside Civic Suite</p>	<p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
<p>31. Temporary Poles</p>	<p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
<p>32. Clean Up Areas to the Rear of Websters Way</p>	<p>Members considered that there was merit in considering a range of environmental enhancements proposed by G L Hearn Planning in their study of Websters Way.</p> <p>Furthermore, Members were interested in obtaining more information about the compulsory purchase of a piece of land behind Websters Way by the County Council for the provision of a footpath.</p> <p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>
<p>33. Graffiti</p>	<p>This work was completed in October 2001.</p> <p>This item should be removed from the list of outstanding issues.</p>

Resolved

That a report on crossing facilities at the Church Street junction be considered at the next meeting of this Sub-Committee. (County Highways)

It was further:-

Recommended

- (1) That a report on monitoring officers' resources with respect to the removal of fly posters be considered at a meeting of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee. (CD (F&ES))
- (2) That the upgrading of the pavement between Rayleigh Hi-F and Home Regal House be included in budget estimates at the time of the budget cycle. (CD(F&ES))
- (3) That a report on options for the removal of chewing gum from the pavements in Rayleigh Town Centre, together with costs, be considered at a meeting of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee. (CD(F&ES))
- (4) That a report on a range of environmental enhancements proposed by G L Hearn Planning for Websters Way be considered at a meeting of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee. (HPS)
- (5) That a report on a piece of land behind Websters Way compulsorily purchased by the County Council be considered by a meeting of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee. (County Highways)

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and closed at 3.40 pm

Chairman: _____

Date: _____